

ISSUE 2

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| DECEMBER 2025

# BLOOM

A MINIMAL NEWSLETTER FOR NATURE LOVERS



**BLOOM NATURE**

NATURE FOR TOMORROW

SARASAVI NATURE CLUB - RAJARATA UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA



**Sarasavi Nature Club**  
**Department of Environmental Management**  
**Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**

**“NATURE FOR TOMORROW”**



**Sarasavi Nature Club**  
**Department of Environment Management**  
**Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**  
**Mihintale**  
**2025**

Sarasavi Nature Club  
Department of Environmental Management  
Rajarata University of Sri Lanka

## NEWSLETTER 02

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**Message of the Department Head  
Department of Environmental Management**



I am pleased to convey my sincere congratulations on the publication of this 2nd issue of Bloom Nature. This initiative reflects the dedication, creativity, and environmental consciousness of our students and stands as a testament to their commitment to promoting sustainability. Such contributions are instrumental in strengthening environmental awareness within the academic community.

The chosen theme, “Nature for Tomorrow,” is highly relevant in today’s context, underscoring the necessity of collective effort in responding to pressing environmental concerns. The articles included in this issue demonstrate thoughtful perspectives, originality, and a clear focus on environmental protection and sustainable development.

I extend my appreciation to the Sarasavi Nature Club for their continued efforts in advancing environmental stewardship through this publication. I am confident that Bloom Nature will remain an important forum for exchanging ideas, encouraging discussion, and inspiring positive action toward a more sustainable and environmentally responsible future.

**Prof. P. S. K. Rajapakshe**  
**Head**  
**Department of Environmental Management**  
**Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities**  
**Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**

**Message of the Senior Treasurer  
Sarasavi Nature Club  
Department of Environmental Management**



As the Senior Treasurer of the Sarasavi Nature Club, I am pleased to extend my heartfelt greetings to all our readers on the occasion of launching the second issue of "Bloom Nature," our esteemed Nature club's newsletter for the year 2025.

Under the theme "Nature for Tomorrow," this issue is filled with enriching and insightful content. It highlights crucial environmental challenges, celebrations of nature, and features articles written by the talented undergraduates of Rajarata University of Sri Lanka. This publication reflects our collective efforts in promoting environmental sustainability, as we continue our journey toward a greener, healthier planet.

May this newsletter encourage further awareness, foster positive action, and deepen our commitment to the protection and conservation of our environment. Let us continue to work together and embrace the lessons of sustainability as we strive to build a brighter future for generations to come.

**Dr. M.M.S.A. Marasinghe**  
**Senior Treasurer**  
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**Message of the Academic Editor  
Sarasavi Nature Club  
Department of Environmental Management**



In a world where every action counts, we must open our eyes and hearts to the urgent need to protect our environment. With the release of this second issue of Bloom Nature, themed "Nature for Tomorrow", we are reminded that the future of our planet depends on the choices we make today.

This issue reflects the voices of our talented students, whose dedication and passion shine through in their thoughtful explorations of environmental issues. Through their work, they remind us that safeguarding nature is not just a responsibility; it is a collective journey toward a sustainable and thriving world.

Congratulations to the Sarasavi Nature Club and all contributors for bringing this vision to life. Your hard work and commitment to nature are the driving force behind this meaningful publication. Let us continue to inspire and lead the way toward a brighter, greener future.

**Ms. H.M.Y.L.P. Herath**  
**Academic Editor**  
**Sarasavi Nature Club**  
**Department of Environmental Management**  
**Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities**  
**Rajarata University of Sri Lanka**

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## World Population Day

Population issues and their impact on life are marked every year on July 11 as World Population Day. The United Nations established the day in 1989 with the aim of bringing forth the problems associated with population growth and encouraging solutions aimed at sustainability.

Discussions about population numbers often lean towards its social and economic repercussions ; however, the environmental consequences of these factors are equally important. The natural resources and ecosystems are put under tremendous strain as there are already over 8 billion people living in the world. Food, water, energy, and land are some resources that are undergoing increasing demand as the population continues to grow. Consumption results in deforestation, habitat destruction, as well as pollution, which, alongside greenhouse gas emissions, makes climate change worsen.



World Population Day stands as a reminder that maintaining population growth without limits can threaten the delicate relationship humans and nature share. Moreover, the faster-growing population also suffers from resource depletion. Overpopulating cities, alongside industrial advancement or agricultural development, encroach on wildlife, habitats, and forests. This biodiversity loss not only affects many species but also exacerbates the risk of environmental problems.

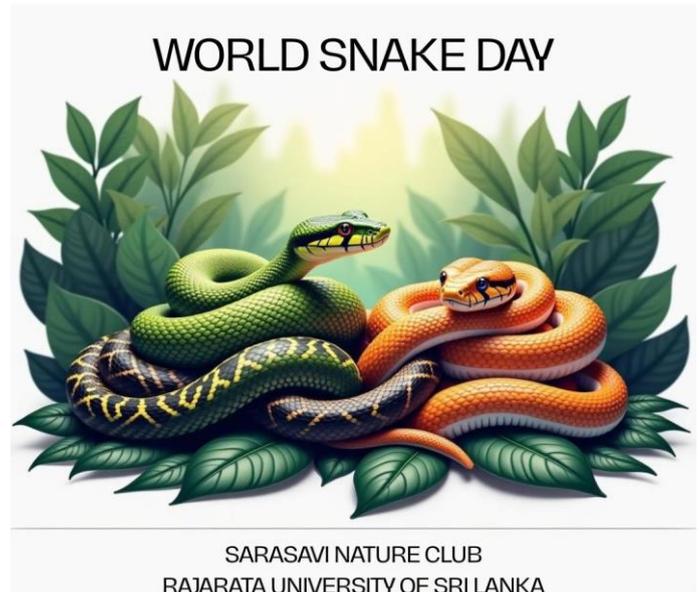
Article by : KDH Weerawardhana  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## World Snakes Day

Every year on July 16, people around the world come together to celebrate World Snake Day. This special day helps raise awareness about snakes, their role in nature, and the importance of protecting them. Though many fear snakes due to myths and media, they are vital to ecosystems.

Snakes play a significant role in maintaining the balance of nature. They control pests like rats and insects, which helps farmers protect crops and reduce the use of chemical pesticides. Without snakes, food chains would be disrupted, and pest populations could grow out of control, affecting human health and agriculture.

Additionally, World Snake Day encourages people to learn facts rather than believing myths. Many snakes are non-venomous and pose no threat to humans. Even venomous species usually avoid contact with people. Understanding different snake species helps reduce fear and promotes respect for them



In addition, this day reminds us of the need for snake conservation. Habitat loss, illegal pet trade, and the killing of snakes are major threats. Wildlife organizations and conservationists use this day to educate the public and promote protective laws and practices.

Accordingly, World Snake Day is a chance to learn, appreciate, and protect these fascinating creatures. Let's replace fear with knowledge and help preserve the planet's natural balance.

Article by : MDK Jithmi

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## Mangrove Conservation Day

The International Day for the Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems is observed on 26 July. The day is designated to highlight the immense value of mangroves. Designated in 2015 and first celebrated in 2016, the day highlights the important role of mangroves in coastal resilience, biodiversity and climate change mitigation. The 2025 theme, "Protecting Wetlands for Our Future", highlights the importance of mangroves as essential wetland habitats.

Mangroves are a distinctive coastal ecosystem found in tropical and subtropical regions. Mangroves, which act as green barriers along the coast, serve as nature's frontline defense against storm surges, tsunamis, erosion, and rising sea levels. They also provide protection for coastal communities. Mangroves provide essential resources for millions of people around the world. It is no secret that mangroves are a wonderful gift from Mother Nature, storing carbon at a rate that exceeds that of many terrestrial forests



Despite these benefits, we have lost almost half of the world's mangrove cover in the past 40 years, and humans are to blame. Deforestation, coastal development, and inappropriate activities are putting this ecosystem at serious risk. It is our responsibility to protect this highly biodiverse mangrove ecosystem.

Article by : WMD Geethanjalee

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka



## World Nature Conservation Day

On celebrating World Nature Conservation Day on 28th July, we are once again reminded of the imperative necessity to conserve the world's precious natural resources. The day serves as a clarion call to the entire world regarding the importance of conservation and sustainability in ensuring the wellness of the ecosystems.

The significance of World Nature Conservation Day is in bringing to light the immediate environmental issues in our world. Climate change, deforestation, biodiversity loss, and pollution are a few among the many pressing concerns that must be faced and dealt with on a community level. Nature conservation will avert climate change, preserve the long-term sustainability of our ecosystems, and see to it that our future generations live well.



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This day reminds us to adopt sustainable practices, reduce our footprint on nature, and maintain environmental stewardship. This day encourages individuals, communities, and governments to work together to protect and conserve nature. By doing this, we can help maintain the delicate balance of our ecosystems, conserve biodiversity, and make our planet a better place for all.

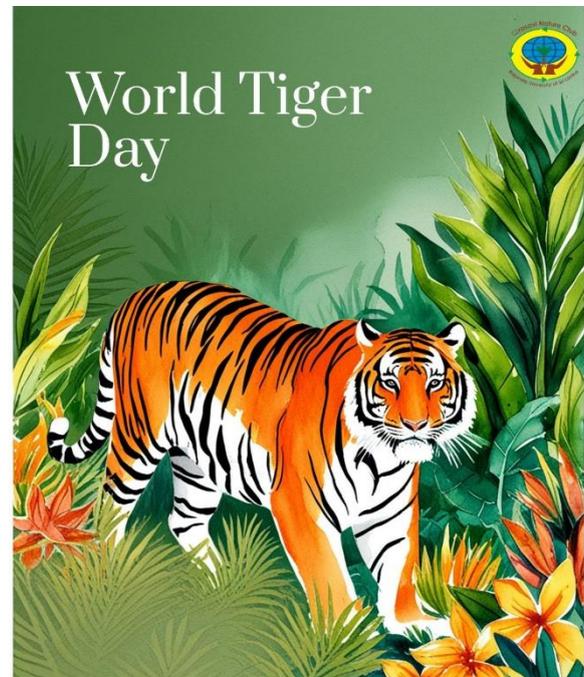
Moreover, World Nature Conservation Day is a solemn reminder of the need to take measures to preserve the planet. Let's seize this opportunity to reflect on our affinity with nature and make conscious decisions to live sustainably. Together, as a collective, we can contribute to a better future for our world and all its beings.

Article by : TGAU Thannage  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## World Tiger Day

World Tiger Day is Celebrated annually on 29<sup>th</sup> of July. The day is dedicated to raising awareness about the plight of tigers and to promoting efforts to protect the species. The day aims to raise awareness about the threats facing wild tigers, including habitat loss, poaching and illegal trade. This year's theme for World Tiger Day is "Harmonious Coexistence between Humans and Tigers."

International Tiger Day was launched in 2010 with a conference in St. Petersburg in Russia. Thirteen countries, including Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, China, Vietnam, Bhutan, Russia, India, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Laos and Nepal, joined the conference to pledge their support for tiger conservation. At the conference, participants adopted the St. Petersburg Declaration on Tiger Conservation, pledging to double the number of wild tigers by 2022 under the banner of Tx2.



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About A century ago, tigers numbered around 100,000 in Asia, and today there are fewer than 4,000 tigers left in the wild. There are six tiger subspecies left in the world, and three have already become extinct in the past century. They are the largest wild cats in the world and the third largest land carnivores. They can weigh up to 300 kilograms. The tiger is currently listed as endangers on the IUCN Red List.

Tiger conservation depends on the conservation of forests and biodiversity, and on human activities such as non-poaching and prevention of wildlife trafficking. Therefore, legal measures can be taken to protect the tiger species.

Article by: GDSIM Wijesinghe and HMARGT Herath  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## Clean Air Day for Blue Skies

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Since its adoption by the United Nations in 2019, the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies has been celebrated on 7 September every year. The day highlights the need to address air pollution, which is not only a public health issue but also a major environmental threat. Air pollution is often called a "silent killer" because its effects are not always immediately visible but can cause long-term harm. Millions of people worldwide die prematurely every year from diseases related to polluted air, including respiratory infections, heart disease and lung cancer.

The theme of the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies changes every year, focusing on different aspects of the fight against pollution, from climate change linkages, sustainable transport, renewable energy or the role of communities. These themes aim to encourage action at all levels, from government policies to individual lifestyle choices. Citizens can contribute to this by using public transport, planting trees, avoiding open burning and promoting environmentally friendly practices in their daily lives. In turn, governments and industries must commit to strict regulations, technological innovation and sustainable policies to protect the atmosphere.



Finally, the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies serves as a reminder that the air we breathe unites us all. Protecting it requires collective action, from individuals to international organizations. Clean air is not a privilege, but a necessity for life, health and future generations. By all of us working together, we can make the vision of blue skies and healthy communities around the world a reality.

Article by : SDM Sirisena.

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka.



## World Zero Emissions Day

An annual commemoration of Zero Emissions Day (ZeDay) on September 21 serves as a reminder globally of the urgency of minimizing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and moving towards sustainable energy consumption. Based on the 2008 launch, the campaign emphasizes granting the planet a "day off" from the consumption of fossil fuels, with a focus on the role of individual and combined actions in mitigating climate change.

The significance of this day is underscored by the increasing evidence of man-made climate change. Already, global surface temperatures have risen by approximately 1.1°C compared to pre-industrial times mainly due to the burning of coal, oil, and gas, reports the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This has amplified extreme weather, biodiversity loss, and sea-level rise, with island countries such as Sri Lanka facing disproportionate impacts.



Although one emission-free day cannot reverse the impact of climate change, it brings awareness of the impact of human activities on the environment and causes long-term change in behavior. Furthermore, it contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), namely SDG 13: Climate Action, by creating a culture of sustainability and wise consumption of energy.

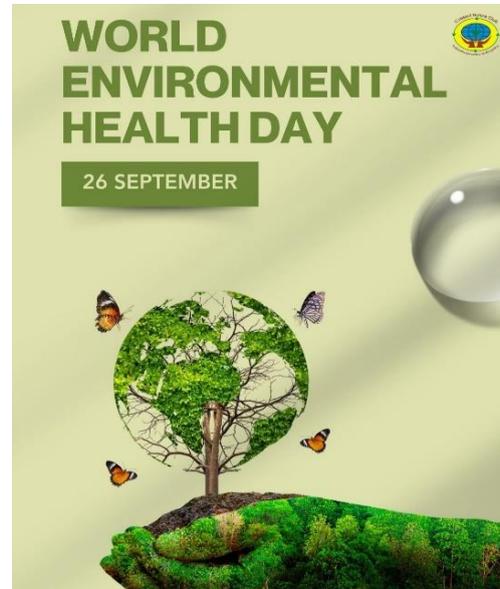
Article by : TGAU Thannage

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## World Environmental Health Day

World Environmental Health Day is commemorated on 26th September every year to raise global awareness about the critical interlink between the environment and human health. It was initiated by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) in 2011 with a dream to highlight the significance of clean air, safe water, sanitation, waste, and healthy living conditions. While the world is experiencing issues like pollution, climate change and urbanization, this day serves as a reminder that the environment must be protected to ensure public health.

The significance of World Environmental Health Day lies in its role in promoting public understanding of how environmental factors directly affect human well-being. Poor air quality, unsafe water, toxic chemicals, and improper waste disposal lead to millions of preventable health issues every year. By marking this day, governments, organizations, and communities are encouraged to take collective action to create a healthier environment.



The main aims of World Environmental Health Day include raising awareness about the relationship between the environment and health, encouraging governments to implement stronger policies for pollution control, sanitation and waste management, promoting research and innovation for sustainable environmental health solutions, educating communities about safe practices such as clean water use, vector reduction, and eco-friendly lifestyles and inspiring global cooperation to achieve environmental sustainability and protect future generations.

The importance of the day cannot be overstated because environmental health is directly linked to sustainable development. Clean air, water, and soil are basic requirements for life. If these resources are polluted, human societies face severe health threats such as respiratory diseases, cancers, and malnutrition. By observing World Environmental Health Day, we recognize that investing in environmental protection is also an investment in human health, poverty reduction, and economic stability.

Article by : WALKS Kumari.

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka.

## World Vegetarian Day

Celebrated on October 1<sup>st</sup>, World Vegetarian Day was the first day dedicated to the awareness of Vegetarian Month.

October 1<sup>st</sup> was the first day dedicated to raising awareness about a plant-based diet. It was the first day that awareness was dedicated to the environmental issues of the diet. This day encourages individuals to explore the many benefits of vegetarian, not only for health but also for animal welfare and sustainability. Events and activities are organized worldwide to promote the positive impact of reducing meat consumption on the planet. It was the first day: awareness was dedicated to the impact.

When you take the environmental issues of a diet into consideration, particularly the production of meat, the effects are astonishing. Producing meat contributes to greenhouse gases, especially the production of livestock. It also contributes to the deforestation of land for grazing pastures and for the feed crops. This eradicates habitats and diminishes biodiversity. It also uses and abuses a large quantity of water to produce meat and pollutes it as well.



World Vegetarianism Day highlights the benefits of adopting of adopting a plant-based diet for a sustainable and healthy environment. Even a small difference makes an. impact.

The environmental impacts a of vegetarian diet provide sustainability and lessen the environmental assault. World Vegetarian Day is a beautiful reminder that thoughtful actions and a plant-based diet, even for one day, can change the world for the better.

It strengthens the protection of human life and other species on Earth.

Article by : Hiranya Dewmini  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## World Animal Day

World Animal Day is also known as World Animal Welfare Day or World Animal Protection Day. It is celebrated annually on 4 October, coinciding with the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology and animals. World Animal Day was officially established internationally on October 4, 1931, at an animal protection conference held in Florence, Italy.

The theme for World Animal Day 2025 is "Save Animals, Save the Planet!". This theme focuses on the connection between animal welfare and the health of the planet. This year also marks the 100th anniversary of World Animal Day.

Today, humanity continues to face environmental challenges such as climate change, deforestation, and urban sprawl.



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In Sri Lanka and other South Asian countries, World Animal Day is marked with special campaigns that highlight local issues such as the protection of elephants, leopards, and sea turtles. World Animal Day is celebrated in various ways around the world. Organizing awareness and educational events like conferences and workshops, supporting animal shelter open days or pet adoption events, organizing fundraising programs, organizing school programs to educate the younger generation at an early age, using animal-related competitions, seminars, and films, organizing workshops with owners of working animals, organizing spay & neuter campaigns or veterinary treatment camps and organizing media interviews to raise awareness about World Animal Day and its mission, etc. are some of them.

Because the survival of humans and the planet is closely tied to the well-being of other species, protecting wildlife means protecting our future. The choices we make today through policies, conservation efforts, and lifestyle decisions will directly affect the fate of animals and the health of ecosystems.

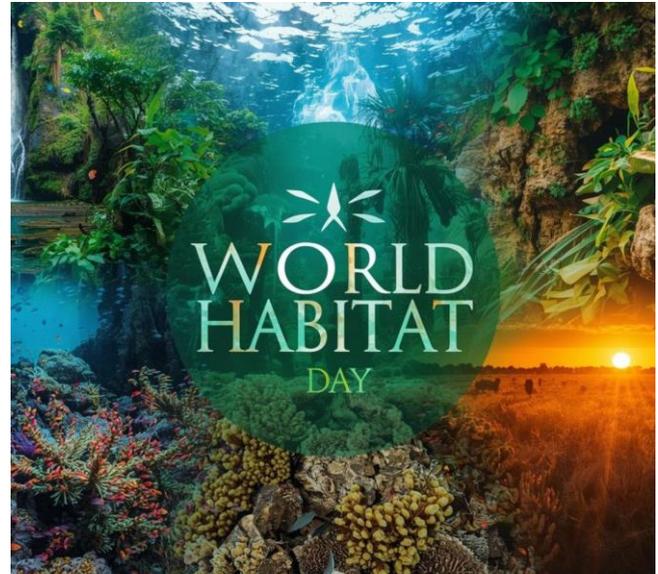
Article by : HNAWNTS Kumarihami  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## World Habitat Day

World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of October every year. Accordingly, in 2025, this day falls on October 6. The United Nations Human Settlements, which met in Kingston, Jamaica, West Indies, in 1985, proclaimed an annual World Habitat Day at its annual session.

This year's theme is "Inclusive, Safe and Sustainable Cities for All". This day focuses primarily on housing, which is a fundamental element of human life.

Every human being has the right to decent and secure housing, which is essential for reducing social inequality, sustaining family life, and building healthy urban development.



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With the rapid increase in the world's population, the number of people living in cities is also increasing. With this, challenges such as inadequate urban resources, waste management, epidemics, landslides and water scarcity arise. This highlights the urgent need for safe, environmentally friendly and sustainable urban planning and housing.

The 2025 theme focuses specifically on building a city that belongs to everyone. Despite various economic and social setbacks, building a city that provides housing and basic amenities for all has become a challenge of the age.

Article by : Member of Sarasavi Nature Club  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

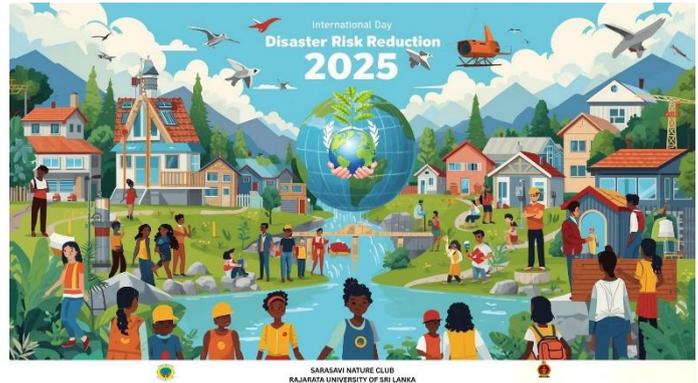
## Disaster Risk Reduction Day

The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed annually on 13 October. The day was established in 1989 following a request by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for a day to promote a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction.

This year, the theme of the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is "Fund Resilience, Not Disasters.". The theme highlights the urgent need to address the rising costs of disasters by shifting the focus from reactive responses to proactive investments in disaster risk reduction.

Direct disaster costs are estimated at \$520 billion annually, with the broader economic impact reaching \$2.4 trillion. Developing countries are the ones who suffer the most.

The 2025 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction calls for a decisive shift in the way societies approach disaster preparedness and response. It advocates for increased funding for disaster risk reduction in public budgets and international aid, and calls on governments and organizations to prioritize resilience measures.



The Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 serves as the guiding international instrument for disaster risk reduction. It provides Member States with concrete actions to protect development gains from disaster risk.

The 2025 International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction also coincides with major global initiatives, including the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, both emphasize the importance of financing for resilience, and this year's theme reminds us of the need for proactive measures and strategic investments in building a disaster-resilient future for all.

Article by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

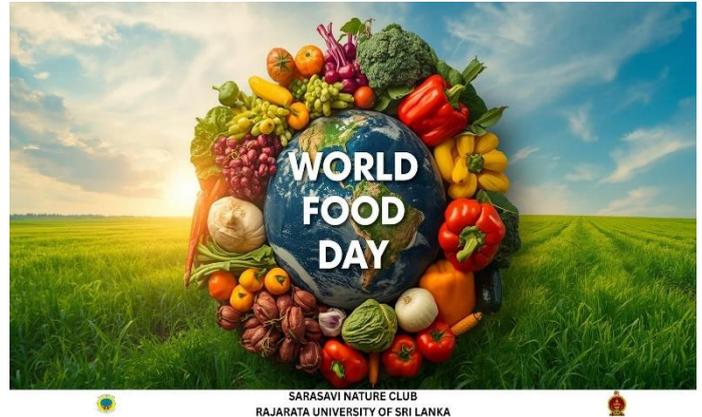
## World Food Day

Every year, World Food Day celebrates the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945. Its main goal is to raise global awareness about hunger and highlight the importance of ensuring healthy diets for all.

It serves as a global platform to draw attention to hunger, malnutrition, and sustainable food systems. Sadly, 1 in 12 people worldwide still face hunger.

Theme for 2025: "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future". This theme reminds us that collaboration—across food systems, borders, and generations—is key to creating sustainable and inclusive food systems, especially in times of climate change, conflict, and economic challenges.

Food systems depend on our land, water, biodiversity, and climate. But intensive farming has caused deforestation, soil degradation, water overuse, and greenhouse gas emissions. Agriculture uses 70% of global freshwater and contributes nearly 26% of total emissions, making it both a cause and a solution to environmental issues.



To achieve sustainable food security, World Food Day promotes:

- Climate-smart agriculture.
- Organic farming
- Composting & waste reduction
- Circular food practices

Universities and research institutions play a big role by creating eco-friendly technologies and educating people about the environmental impact of food systems.

Let's all join hands this World Food Day to build a healthier, greener, and hunger-free world!

Article by : HSPS Hathursingh  
Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

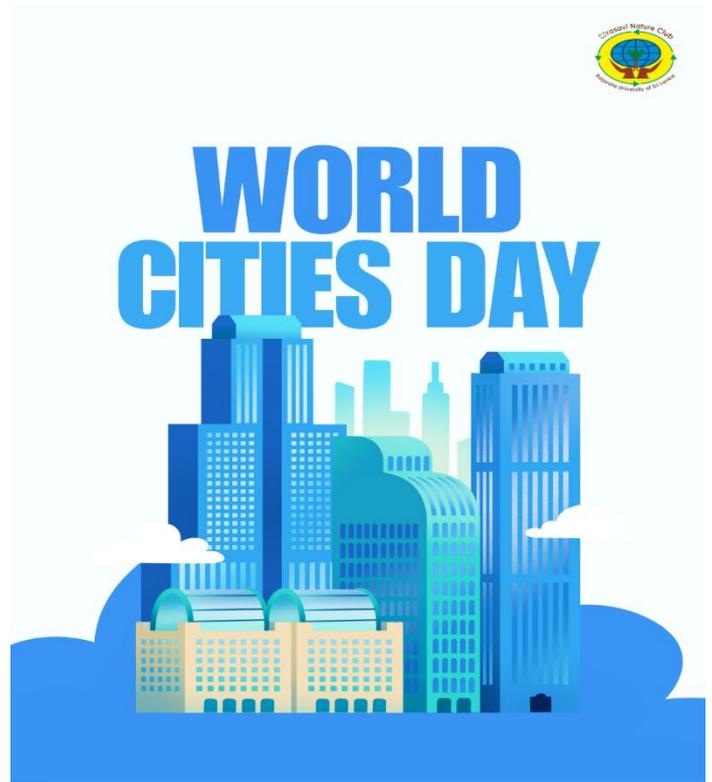
## World Cities Day

World Cities Day is celebrated every year on 31st October, as announced by the United Nations, to mark sustainable urbanization and heighten people's awareness of issues related to urbanization.

The celebration in 2025 will be held in Bogotá, Colombia, under the theme "People-Centered Smart Cities.". The theme this year focuses on placing people, not technology alone, at the forefront of city building. Main aims of World Cities Day 2025 are threefold:

First, to put people at the center of urban innovation, such that smart technology, artificial intelligence, and digital systems serve to make daily life better through better living, safe streets, efficient transport, and accessible public services.

Second, to promote inclusive and resilient cities through overcoming inequality issues, pollution, and housing shortages. Intelligent solutions should not only render cities more advanced but also more just, safe, and sustainable.



Third, to encourage international cooperation, encouraging city officials, UN organizations, the private sector, and societies to exchange best practices and ideas regarding how people-oriented smart cities can be achieved around the world.

As individuals, we can do our part by backing local innovation, speaking out to ensure citizens know about inclusive city planning, and pushing for policies that guarantee people access to housing, public services, and digital opportunities.

World Cities Day reminds us that technology must serve humanity a truly 'smart city' is one that improves people's quality of life, promotes equality, and builds a sustainable urban future for everybody.

Article by : TGAU Thannage

Flyer design by : HMNW Bandaranayaka

## Flood Awareness Day

# FLOOD

### *Rising Water, Resilient Communities: Understanding Floods and Their Impact*

#### What is Flood?

A flood is a natural event where water overflows onto land that is normally dry. It usually occurs due to heavy rainfall, overflowing rivers, storms, or poor drainage systems. Floods can damage homes, roads, farms, and infrastructure, and they can also threaten human lives. They vary in speed and intensity, from slow-rising water to sudden, dangerous flash floods. Overall, floods are one of the most common natural disasters and require proper preparedness and response to reduce their impact.



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Article and design by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

# Types of Floods



## Riverine (Fluvial) Floods

Riverine floods occur when rivers overflow their banks. This usually happens after long periods of heavy rainfall or upstream water release. The water spreads across nearby lands and affects villages, farms, and roads. These floods can last for days or even weeks because the water recedes slowly. Riverine floods often cause huge damage due to their wide coverage area.

## Urban Floods

Urban floods happen in cities and towns when heavy rain overwhelms drainage systems. Concrete surfaces prevent water from being absorbed into the soil. Even a short rainfall can cause severe waterlogging in densely built areas. These floods disrupt transport, electricity, and daily activities. Urban floods are becoming more common due to rapid, unplanned development.



## Flash Floods

Flash floods are sudden floods that occur within minutes or hours of intense rainfall. They happen quickly, leaving very little time for warning or evacuation. Mountainous and urban areas are especially vulnerable to flash floods. The speed of water flow can be extremely powerful and dangerous. Flash floods cause the highest number of flood-related deaths because of their rapid onset.

## Coastal Floods

Coastal floods occur when seawater flows inland from high tides, storm surges, or cyclones. Strong winds push seawater toward the land, raising water levels above normal. These floods damage houses, roads, and agricultural lands near the coastline. Coastal floods also increase soil salinity, affecting long-term farming. They are common during tropical storms and extreme weather events.



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Article and design by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

# Early Signs of Floods



**Intense or continuous rainfall is a major early warning sign. When rain does not stop for hours or days, flood risk increases. Monitoring rainfall helps predict danger.**

**Rising river levels indicate possible flooding. Water may creep over banks gradually. Continuous monitoring is essential.**



**Blocked drains and overflowing gutters show poor drainage. When water collects quickly, urban flooding becomes likely. These signs signal immediate risk.**

**Rapid water flow in streams and canals is a warning. Even small waterways can overflow suddenly. People should stay alert in such conditions.**



**Saturated soil indicates the ground cannot absorb more water. Any additional rainfall will turn into runoff. This increases flood chances.**

**Dark, heavy clouds and thunderstorm patterns can signal potential flooding. Such weather increases rainfall intensity. This creates dangerous conditions.**



**Rumbling sounds or sudden water flow from upstream can indicate fast-moving floodwaters. This is common near mountains. Evacuation may be necessary.**

**Unusual animal behavior, such as animals moving to higher ground, can also indicate danger. Animal's sense environmental changes earlier. Their behavior is often a natural warning.**



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Article and design by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

# How to Prepare Before Flood



**Families should make emergency flood plans. These plans guide actions during danger. Preparation reduces panic.**

**Emergency kits should include food, water, medicine, and flashlights. These items support survival for several days. Kits should be stored safely.**



**Communities should know evacuation routes. Clear routes help people escape quickly. Signboards and maps must be visible.**

**Authorities must conduct regular flood drills. Drills prepare people for real emergencies. They also test response systems.**



**Weather updates should be monitored frequently. Accurate information guides decisions. Alerts allow early evacuation.**

**Homes should be elevated in flood-prone areas. This protects belongings from water damage. Simple adjustments can reduce loss.**



**Important documents should be kept in waterproof bags. This prevents permanent damage. It also helps during recovery.**

**Community volunteers should receive basic training. They assist in rescue and aid distribution. Their support strengthens preparedness.**



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**Evacuate immediately when authorities instruct. Delaying evacuation increases danger. Safety must come first.**

**Move to higher ground quickly. Avoid low-lying or flooded areas. Fast action prevents accidents.**

**Avoid walking or driving through floodwaters. Hidden currents and debris can cause injury. Water can also carry disease.**

**Listen to official updates. Rumors create misinformation. Verified announcements help save lives.**

**Help children, elderly, and disabled persons first. They need extra support. Community cooperation is essential.**

**Turn off electricity when leaving home. Water and electricity are a deadly combination. This step prevents accidents.**

**Carry essential items only. Heavy luggage slows evacuation. Essentials ensure survival.**

**DURING THE FLOOD**



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Article and design by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

# How to Recover After the Flood



**Return home only after authorities confirm safety. Floodwaters may weaken buildings. Early entry can be dangerous.**

**Clean homes using safe disinfectants. Floodwater contains harmful bacteria. Proper cleaning protects health**



**Inspect electrical systems before use. Wet wiring can cause fires. Professional help is recommended.**

**Seek medical checkups if exposed to floodwaters. Waterborne diseases spread easily. Early treatment prevents complications.**



**Document damages for insurance or government support. Photos and records are helpful. These speeds up compensation.**

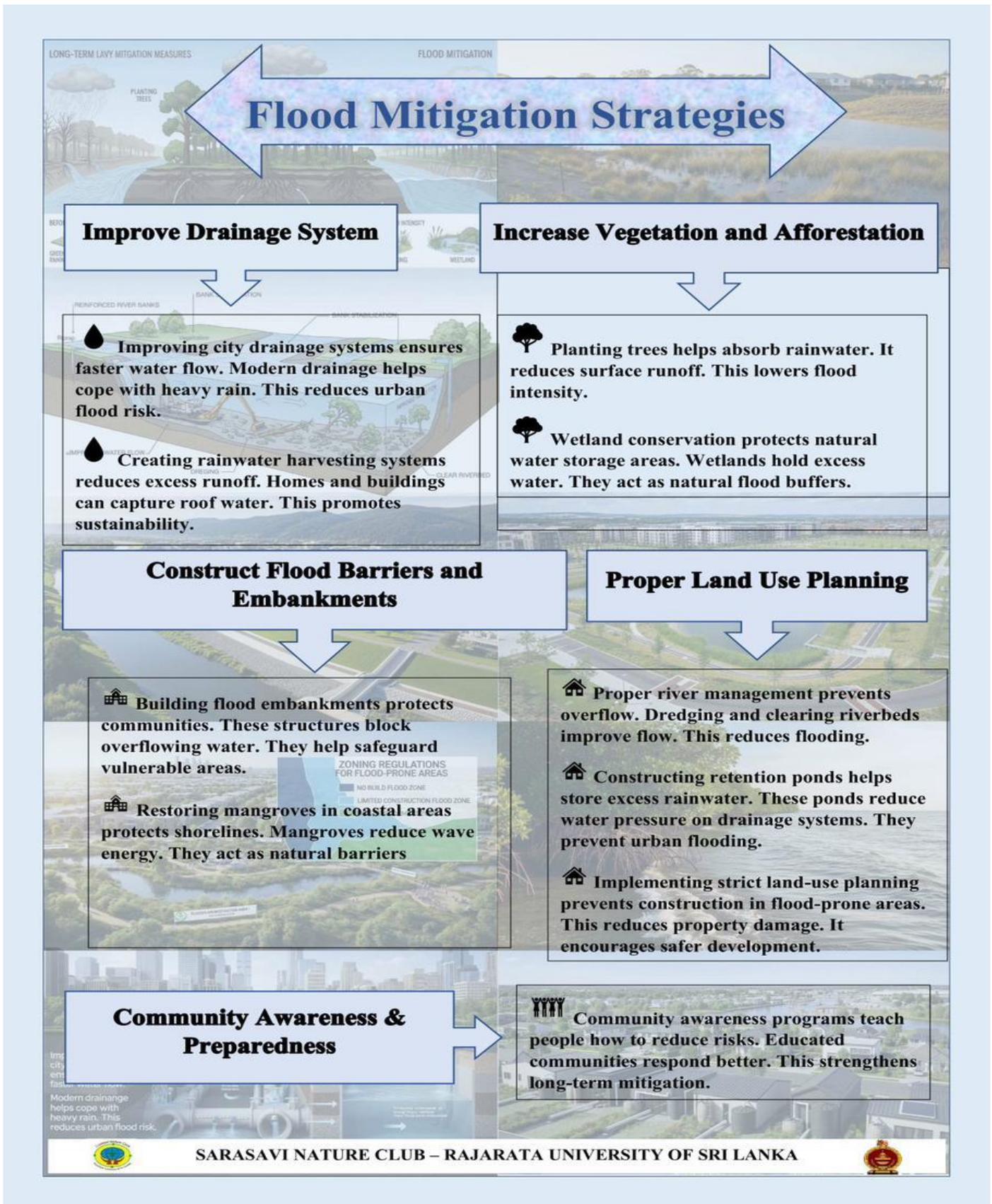
**Rebuild homes using flood-resistant designs. Improved structures reduce future risks. This strengthens resilience.**



**Support community recovery efforts. Helping others rebuild creates unity. Strong communities recover faster.**

**Attend counseling if needed. Floods can cause emotional trauma. Mental health is important for recovery.**





Article and design by : GDSIM Wijesinghe

## Cyclone “Ditwah” Awareness Day

Cyclone or “Ditwah” has become a word that we hear and see often these days. Even though it is just a word in the dictionary or in news articles, almost everyone experienced the real environment of these cyclonic storms and has been moving all over the country, leaving a lot to think about causing serious consequences. But its darkest consequences have been those that people might never have experienced. The severe cyclonic storm that occurred on the 10th of May, 2022 was described as the most brutal cyclone since the cyclone that occurred on November 17, 1978, with winds of about \$140\$ kilometers per hour.

Before talking about Cyclone “Ditwah”, let's examine what factors affect the formation of a cyclone. Rising sea surface temperatures. As warm air masses rise in the atmosphere, a low pressure turn forms in the middle of the ocean, which allows more air masses to rise upwards. This process is called the "tropical cyclone" stage. This is caused by the monsoon conditions on land as well as the Earth's rotation. The high temperature in the surface of the sea causes the surface of the ocean to become a low pressure area, which is essential for the Earth's surface. The Earth has been experiencing an increase in natural disasters in recent times. Cyclone “Ditwah” was first formed as a weak low pressure area in the Dikwa-Tunga region near the Bay of Bengal in the Indian Ocean. By 27 November 2025, it had intensified into a cyclonic storm and was named “Ditwah” by the Meteorological Department. At that time, many people were killed, about 600 people, about one hundred and twenty kilometers southeast of Batticaloa, was expected to move north. Nevertheless, it arrived on the Bay of Bengal and on the west side of the Indian Ocean. Cyclone “Ditwah” was centered about 40 kilometers southwest of Trincomalee on 28 November. It was later centered about eighty kilometers west of Trincomalee. Finally, the cyclone then explored the coast of Sri Lanka, moving northwards and then towards Tamil Nadu, India.

Cyclone Ditwah, which passed close to Sri Lanka, brought heavy rains and strong winds to many parts of the country. This included the Central Province, the Western Province, and the Southern Province. Among the districts in the Central Province was the worst affected area, with a large number of identified and unidentified deaths reported. The coastal areas of the Western and Southern Provinces also experienced strong winds and heavy rainfall. Similarly, after the storm, mainly in the Eastern, North Central, and Sabaragamuwa provinces, floods, landslides, and loss of communication and electricity were reported, causing huge damage and fear.

Preventing future catastrophic storms requires a dual focus on climate action and environmental protection. We must reduce carbon emissions by limiting the use of fossil fuels and plastic, while simultaneously planting more trees and practicing efficiency (recycling, reuse). Equally vital is the conservation of natural systems like mangrove forests, coral reefs, and coastal wetlands, which act as crucial natural shields against strong winds and sea level rise. Furthermore, responsible planning, guided by the Meteorological Department, is essential, which includes strictly avoiding construction in vulnerable or waterlogged areas to prevent loss of life and property.



Article by : TGAU Thannage

## Landslide Awareness Day

# “Stop Landslides, Save Lives!”



### What is a Landslide?

“A landslide is a form of mass movement where soil, rock, or debris moves down a slope due to gravity, often triggered by rainfall, slope instability, or human activities. It poses a significant threat to lives, infrastructure, and the environment, especially in mountainous and hilly areas.” - Disaster Management Centre (SL)

### Causes of landslides:

- Heavy Rainfall
- Earthquakes
- Deforestation
- Steep Slopes
- Soil Erosion
- Human Activities
- Volcanic Activity

### Impacts of landslides:

- Loss of Life and Injury
- Damage to Property
- Displacement
- Transportation Disruption
- Economic Losses
- Environmental Damage
- Soil Degradation

### What To Do?



### Before a Landslide:

- Identify landslide-prone areas in your region.
- Avoid construction near steep slopes or hilltops.
- Grow vegetation to hold soil in place.
- Build proper drainage to control rainwater flow.
- Stay updated with weather alerts and early warnings.
- Prepare an emergency kit
- Make an evacuation plan with your family.

### After a Landslide:

- Stay away from the affected area to avoid further risk.
- Check for injured people
- Report broken utilities
- Avoid driving unless necessary.
- Watch for signs of more landslides.
- Cooperate with emergency services and local authorities.

### During a Landslide:

- Move away from the path of the slide quickly.
- If indoors, stay inside and move to a higher floor if possible.
- If outdoors, run to higher ground immediately.
- Avoid river valleys and low areas.
- Do not cross flooded or moving water.
- Listen to emergency broadcasts and follow instructions.



Article and design by : MDK Jithmi

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# BLOOM

*Discover the natural beauty  
concealed in the remote corners  
of the world, ranging from  
verdant tropical forests to  
tranquil beaches that provide  
genuine serenity.*



