# [***Earth Day Network: The Importance Of Mangrove Forests***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:67JM-DSN1-DYG2-R48B-00000-00&context=1516831)

Targeted News Service

February 15, 2023 Wednesday 10:15 AM EST

Copyright 2023 Targeted News Service LLC All Rights Reserved

**Length:** 651 words

**Byline:** Targeted News Service

**Dateline:** WASHINGTON

**Body**

(TNSpp) -- Earth Day Network issued the following news:

Lining the calm, blue water, green trees with intricate roots stand out and dig deep, pointing to the fish swimming by and guiding the way to a forest full of an array of animals. Sounds like the opening shot of a movie, but this is a reality. The beautiful ***mangrove*** forests, found in various continents, are a critical source for communities and are home to a vast number of species.

***Mangroves*** are trees and shrubs with characteristically intricate, exposed roots that form a type of tropical forest typically located near bodies of water. More importantly, ***mangroves*** host the most diverse, beautiful, and resource-abundant ecosystems in the world. However, the rise in deforestation and the looming danger of sea-level rise have threatened the ***mangroves*** habitat, putting the area's biodiversity as well as local communities at risk.

Here are five reasons as to why ***mangrove*** ecosystems are important along with the consequences that can occur if these areas are lost.

1. ***Mangroves*** act as carbon sinks.

Due to ***mangroves***' roots which anchor the plants into underwater sediment, nutrients and organic material from the tidal waves enriches the soils, giving ***mangroves*** the ability to store carbon, otherwise known as ***blue carbon***. ***Mangrove*** forests are able to store up to four times more carbon than other tropical forests. Cutting down ***mangroves*** will only result in a mass release of carbon into the atmosphere.

2. ***Mangrove*** forests are biodiversity hotspots.

***Mangrove*** ecosystems are home to a myriad of species from marine life (fish, crab, shellfish, sea turtle, etc) to birds. The habitat serves as a nesting, breeding, and nursing ground for the plethora of local wildlife. As more and more ***mangrove*** forests are cleared, valuable habitat is lost and species such as the Bengal tiger are at risk of extinction.

3. ***Mangroves*** improve and maintain local water quality.

***Mangroves***' network of roots and lush vegetation filters pollutants and traps sediments, preventing contamination of the waterways and protecting the habitats and the species within them. Local groups and those that live near the rivers, lakes, or other bodies of water nearby are also protected by the trees' maintenance of the water quality.

4. ***Mangrove*** forests double as coastal protection.

***Mangrove*** forests act as a physical buffer between marine and terrestrial communities. The trees protect the coastlines from severe weather events as well as slow down erosion. The ***mangroves*** provide valuable protection for those nearby communities that are prone to storms and are at risk of sea-level rise.

5. ***Mangroves*** provide essential resources for people.

The ***mangrove*** forests hold a variety of resources ranging from leaves used in tea and livestock feed to plant extracts used as medicine. Millions of people rely on the ***mangroves*** for food, income, and wellbeing, particularly, the forest waters provide an abundance of fish for local fishermen to sell and maintain financial stability. To estimate, 80% of the global fish catch relies on ***mangrove*** forests either directly or indirectly through the support of terrestrial and marine food webs.

The ***mangrove*** forests are a beautiful gift of nature. Not only are the forests a wondrous sight to behold, the benefits and resources provided are immeasurable. EARTHDAY.ORG's campaign, The Canopy Project, works towards safeguarding the ***mangrove*** forests in Bangladesh and India by planting trees, strengthening the local communities, and rehabilitating the areas directly affected by the effects of climate change. By donating to The Canopy Project, you can help protect these important ***mangrove*** ecosystems as they are a safe haven for the wildlife and local people who call the forest their home.

\* \* \*

Original text here: [*https://www.earthday.org/the-importance-of-****mangrove****-forests*](https://www.earthday.org/the-importance-of-mangrove-forests)/

[Category: Environment]

Copyright Targeted News Services

MSTRUCK-8073405 MSTRUCK

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newswire

**Subject:** ECOSYSTEMS & HABITATS (90%); FORESTS & WOODLANDS (90%); SALTWATER ECOSYSTEMS (90%); BIODIVERSITY (89%); COASTAL AREAS (89%); CONSERVATION (89%); WATER RESOURCES (89%); FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS (88%); WATER QUALITY (88%); COASTAL CONSERVATION (87%); BLUE ECONOMY (78%); DEFORESTATION (78%); FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT (78%); FORESTS & WOODLANDS CONSERVATION (78%); LIFE FORMS (78%); POLLUTION (78%); WATER POLLUTION (78%); WETLANDS CONSERVATION (78%); WILDLIFE (78%); ANIMALS (77%); MAMMALS (77%); MARINE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (74%); NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS (74%); POLLUTION & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS (74%); SEA LEVEL CHANGES (74%); HABITAT CONSERVATION (73%); LAKES (72%); REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS (72%); EROSION CONTROL (71%); WEATHER (69%); NEGATIVE NEWS (68%); SEVERE WEATHER (60%)

**Industry:** BLUE ECONOMY (78%); CANALS & WATERWAYS (78%); DEFORESTATION (78%); FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENT (78%); FORESTS & WOODLANDS CONSERVATION (78%); MARINE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (74%); LIVESTOCK (73%); LIVESTOCK FEED (61%)

**Load-Date:** February 15, 2023

**End of Document**