

World Environment Day

Belmont Human Rights Commission

World Environment Day on June 5 is the largest international recognition for the environment. Held annually since 1974, this event is led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). For 2022, the theme for the globe is "Only One Earth." The goal is to inspire positive change among all sectors: governments, businesses, civil society, schools, and communities.

This year is historic because it is the 50th anniversary of the 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, after which environmental protection and the alleviation of poverty were clearly understood as linked.

Human rights and the environment are inseparable. Where there is degradation of the environment, due to pollution or climate change, for example, human rights are directly affected. A safe, clean, and healthy environment is necessary for human rights to be validated. Most often it is the poor and marginalized who are affected by environmental degradation and (therefore) suffer also a degradation of their human rights.

World Environment Day seeks to inspire the global change necessary both to care for the environment and to care for those who live in it.

The Belmont Human Rights Commission is dedicated to fighting discrimination in all forms and increasing visibility and awareness of issues regarding diversity and discrimination in our community. If you have experienced discrimination in Belmont, please contact us at belmont.hrc@gmail.com or call 617-993-2795.