

REAPS READER



Have you helped the environment today?



November 21 is World Fisheries Day! The purpose of this annual event is to think about how we can maintain the world's fisheries. Many of the world's fish stocks have been in rapid decline because of over fishing, pollution and lost

habitat due to near by human activity. It is important to ensure the health of our fish populations for their involvement in local ecosystems, traditions and as a food source.

You can help out the fish by ensuring that you do not pollute their habitats (make sure nothing harmful goes down our storm drains!), follow fishing guidelines and make sure you do not waste anything that you catch. Finally, when buying fish this winter make sure that you buy fish that has been caught sustainably. How can you tell the fish that you are about to buy is not causing any harm? Look into which species are currently over fished or are being caught through improper methods and buy alternatives instead. Some suggests are:



Wild Alaskan Salmon instead of Atlantic Salmon
 Alaskan Pacific Halibut instead of Chilean Sea Bass
 BC Albacore Tuna instead of Bluefin Tuna
 NS Shrimp (trap caught) instead of

Farmed shrimp

For more information on sustainable



fish to buy look into SeaChoice which provides guides about sustainable sea-

It might be hard to find amongst all of the snow and ice but have you ever seen a fish on or near a storm drain? Do you know why those fish mean? They are there to remind us that these pipes lead directly to fish habitats.



None of the water that is collected in these drains will be cleaned so it is important that it stays clean. If anything harmful ends up down these drains it can harm the fish and the other animals that rely on these ecosystems. This means that we need to be careful about what we put on our lawns, what we wash our cars with and how we clean our driveways in the winter. Even something that we use in January can



end up going down the drain once all of the snow melts and the rain comes, picking up contaminates along the way. Use materials that do not have harsh chemicals to ensure that we have healthy fish!



Its that time of year again. REAPS' annual Toy Drive is happening Nov. 22nd! All quality used toys are accepted and will be donated to local children in need during the holiday season. If you would like more information or are interested in helping out give us a call at 250-561-7327.