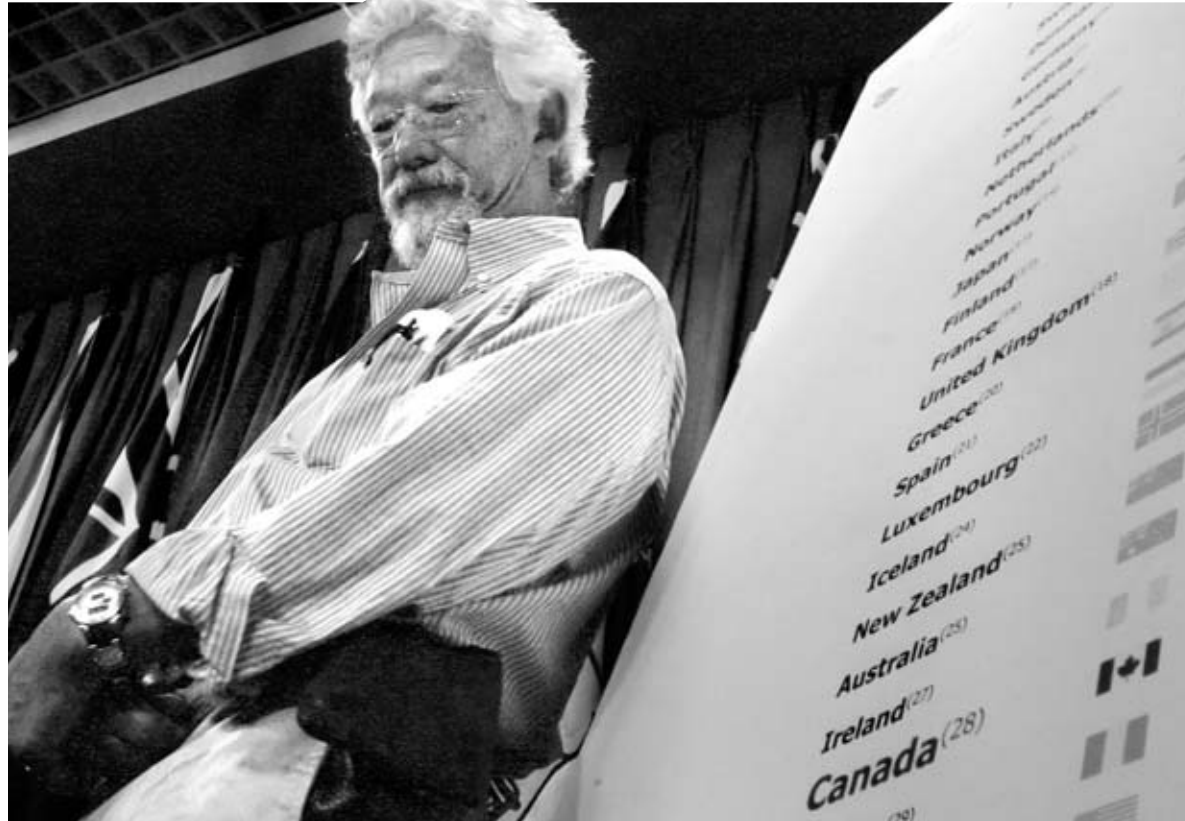




# findingsolutions

David  
Suzuki  
Foundation



REUTERS

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## BACK OF THE PACK

### Canada still lags on sustainability

BY DOMINIC ALI

From our coins to our flag, Canadians place a high value on nature as part of our cultural identity. Most Canadians expect our country to be a leader on environmental issues. Unfortunately, we're not.

A new study, commissioned by the David Suzuki Foundation, found that Canada ranked 28th out of 30 industrialized nations on key indicators of environmental performance. These indicators include energy consumption, water consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, air pollutants, pesticide use, and amount of protected areas.

*The Maple Leaf in the OECD: Comparing Progress Toward Sustainability* reports the findings of an independent team of multidisciplinary researchers at Vancouver's Simon Fraser University under the direction of Dr. Thomas Gunton.

"Our research found Canada's environmental performance to be surprisingly low," said Dr. Gunton. "Canada lags behind in almost every performance indicator."

Perhaps the most embarrassing finding to emerge from the report is that Canada has shown no improvement over the last decade. Canada's rank today is the same as it was in 1992: 28th out of 30. (Only Belgium and the United States performed worse.) Why hasn't there been any improvement? It seems the lack of strong environmental policy is the answer.

"Other highly industrialized countries such as

In October, Dr. Suzuki helped launch a new report ranking Canada's environmental performance among 30 OECD countries.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

SOLUTIONS ARE  
IN OUR NATURE

[www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)

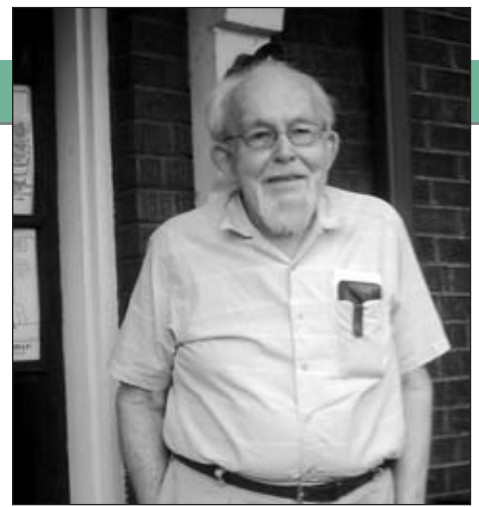
Retired school teacher, **Oscar Rogers**, 91, is a grandfather of four who keeps busy drawing cartoons on his computer. We reached him at his Toronto home to get his thoughts on the environment and the David Suzuki Foundation.

**What's your favorite experience in nature?** I used to go on canoe camping trips with my sons to Algonquin Park. I really liked the contact with nature, the experience of improvising, and living simply. While I was growing up, my family had a cabin and when I was a boy we spent every summer there.

**How did you get involved with the David Suzuki Foundation?** I served three years in the armed service, and after the war I became a member of Veterans Against Nuclear Arms. I saw

nuclear war as a chief threat to the survival of humanity. As time passed I became aware of the threat to the environment, and I saw that as an even bigger threat.

**What's Canada's biggest environmental challenge?** Climate change. We should be much more active in cutting down on greenhouse gases. The degradation of the environment is reaching the point of no return. Consideration for my grandchildren is what got me into the anti-nuclear war movement and the conservation movement.



Oscar Rogers in Toronto.

**How has being a member changed you?** It's given me hope that something can be done in time. The Suzuki Foundation does a good job of analyzing and studying the dangers and proposing remedies and educating the public about these issues. I think public education is the only thing that will save us. 🌱

**You can join** a group of special individuals who are taking action to protect nature by leaving a gift to the Foundation in their wills. This type of gift enables you to leave a generous legacy to future generations without affecting your current income. For more information, contact Katie Loftus at (604) 732-4228 or <kloftus@davidsuzuki.org>.

## memberswrite

### BORN TO BE WILD

Thank you for the update in your last newsletter on farmed and wild salmon. It is information to be heeded and shared. I try to share this wonderful newsletter and practice recycling although age and health limit some of my actions. We're blessed to have such watchdogs at the Foundation.

**Myrtle Blair**

### PLANT-BASED DIET THE ANSWER

I think the only way we can treat fish in a sustainable way is to be vegetarian. I fail to see how killing fish for large human populations can ever be sustainable, since we are talking about killing large numbers of fish for a species (ours) that

has devastated the Earth.

Eating fish might be healthy for us, but it is not healthy for the fish. Why can't we just allow them to live? Must we forever be killing members of other animal species? Let's build our health on a plant-based diet while trying to heal the Earth.

**Shloime Perel**

### PAYING FOR BETTER DESIGNED PRODUCTS

I support the principle of having manufacturers take responsibility for their goods. This will create incentives for them to design products that are cheap, recyclable, or biodegradable. However, there are no free lunches, even in ecological economics.

Legislated "take back" rules

are the equivalent of a commodity tax on products. That might well be okay (I think it is), but it may raise manufacturing costs which are then passed on to the consumer.

I suggest acknowledging these points, so that the proposed legal reform is not so easily sloughed off as unwelcome "cost raising". Make it clear that as a consumer you are prepared to pay a bit more for the environment, for other species and for future generations.

**Michael Barkusky, CGA**

### SMART HOME

This past summer my wife and I started our biggest project to date, building a passive solar house. We will be downsizing from our current 2200 square-



Last issue's article on salmon attracted lots of reader mail.

foot home to one that's 1700 square-feet. The house will be made from a variety of recycled and environmentally friendly products such as cotton insulation, a recycled aluminum roof, and FSC lumber. We don't have a contractor... we are building it on our own. The house will outlast current stick frame homes and require less maintenance.

**Mike & Carol Gundlach**



# GIVE YOURSELF SOME CREDIT

## Offsetting greenhouse gas emissions is easier than you think

BY SARAH MARCHILDON

Organizations like the David Suzuki Foundation, and individuals across Canada, are taking action on climate change by going “carbon neutral.”

As part of its commitment to sustainability, and to demonstrate that taking responsibility for greenhouse gas emissions is straightforward and inexpensive, the David Suzuki Foundation recently implemented a carbon neutral program in its offices.

Although the best thing to do for the environment is to simply reduce greenhouse gas emissions instead of offsetting them, going carbon neutral is a step in the right direction. The Foundation offsets all of its emissions, including those from air travel, by buying renewable energy certificates from the Pembina Institute.

The Foundation isn't the only organization embracing carbon neutrality. Companies, governments, and even entire cities are buying credits to offset their greenhouse gas emissions. High-profile rock bands like the Rolling Stones and the Dave Matthews Band are also offsetting the emissions from their concert tours. Even

Olympics organizers and wedding planners are going carbon neutral to help raise awareness about climate change.

The concept is simple. If you add emissions to the atmosphere, you can subtract them by buying credits for projects that help cut emissions. Going carbon neutral means creating an inventory of one's greenhouse emissions, reducing these emissions wherever possible, and then purchasing “carbon offsets” to mitigate any emissions that remain. The result is net-zero emissions.

Carbon offsets are credits that eliminate greenhouse gas emissions and can be anything from a methane gas capture from a landfill to a rooftop solar energy installation. Carbon neutrality is achieved when the amount of offsets is equal to the amount of greenhouse gases emitted.

Carbon neutrality fills a gap in existing regulations, as many sources of emissions – including private households, public administrations, most small and medium sized businesses, air travel and public events – are currently not addressed, or only inadequately addressed, by climate policies such as the Kyoto Protocol. 🌿

**If you add emissions, you can subtract them by buying credits.**

## briefs

### New website connects salmon stewards

The David Suzuki Foundation and the Sierra Club of Canada's B.C. Chapter recently launched **Salmonopolis.ca**, a new website connecting volunteer-based salmon conservation groups throughout B.C. The site enables salmon stewards to share resources and connect with local and national organizations to better protect salmon habitat. There are also expert opinions on salmon issues, funding information, tips on how to deal with the media, advocacy resources, and a step-by-step guide on how to report a fisheries violation.

### B.C. forest practices still damage habitat

A David Suzuki Foundation investigation of **logging practices in B.C.'s Kalum Forest District has found many apparent violations of the Fisheries Act.** In May 2005, Foundation biologists conducted a series of watershed inspections in the forest region near Terrace, B.C., to assess the impact of recent and historic logging on fish habitat. Field staff noted inadequate drainage systems, road surface erosion and landslide debris within stream channels. All of the problems pose a serious threat to salmon survival. Although the findings were reported to the B.C. Ministry of Forests and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, little has been done to address the issues. Read the full report online at [www.davidsuzuki.org/Oceans/Publications.asp](http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Oceans/Publications.asp).

### Sea lice threaten pink and chum salmon stocks

It's time for the government of B.C. to temporarily halt the operations of open-net cage fish farms and provide a safe migration route for salmon. Recent **estimates of pink and chum salmon returns in the Broughton Archipelago show another decline.** Sea lice is believed to be the root of the problem, with fish farms being responsible for the overwhelming increase in sea lice. Sea lice affect salmon health and increase the susceptibility to diseases. Learn more at [www.farmedanddangerous.org](http://www.farmedanddangerous.org).





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1


Denmark, Sweden, and Germany rank ahead of Canada because they have strong environmental policies,” responded Dr. Gunton. “These are the countries that Canada should emulate.”

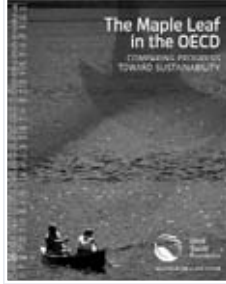
The report made international headlines when it was released in Ottawa in October, and was covered by media around the world. It also caused some controversy upon its release. Environment Minister Stéphane Dion criticized the report because it ranked countries such as Mexico and Turkey ahead of Canada. However, Dr. Gunton explained that countries with weak economies place less stress on nature.

At the press conference, Dr. Suzuki called on the federal government to pass a National Sustainability Act, which would require Canada to establish a plan with clear targets, timelines and measurements to improve our environmental performance.

“It is obvious that Canada will not improve its performance unless we enact specific legislation that lays out clear targets and timelines,” says Dr. David Suzuki. “Prime Minister Martin and Environment Minister Dion have said they’re committed to making Canada a world leader in sustainability, but talk must be followed with action.”

After the report was officially released in Ottawa, Jim Fulton, Executive Director of the Foundation, personally delivered a copy to Prime Minister Martin. “This isn’t a Liberal issue, or an NDP issue, or a Conservative or Bloc issue” said Mr. Fulton. “This report transcends political agendas. We all agree that Canada is rich in natural wealth but according to this report, we are squandering it.”

Download a free copy of *The Maple Leaf in the OECD* in English or French by visiting <[www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)>. 



## CANADA: ENVIRONMENTAL SLACKER

*The Maple Leaf in the OECD* ranks Canada’s environmental performance among 30 nations. Here’s how Canada placed on some key indicators:

- Energy consumption: 28th
- Greenhouse gas emissions: 26th
- Water consumption: 29th
- Sulfur oxides pollution: 27th
- Nuclear waste and carbon monoxide: 30th
- Distance traveled by road vehicles: 29th
- Protected areas: 16th

Canada did not place first in any of the indicators. Even worse, Canada has shown no improvement relative to OECD countries over the past decade. Canada was 28th overall in 1992 and 28th in 2002.

*The Maple Leaf in the OECD* is a companion piece to *Sustainability within a Generation*, which outlines a plan to make Canada a world leader in conservation by the year 2030. Download the report at <[www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)>

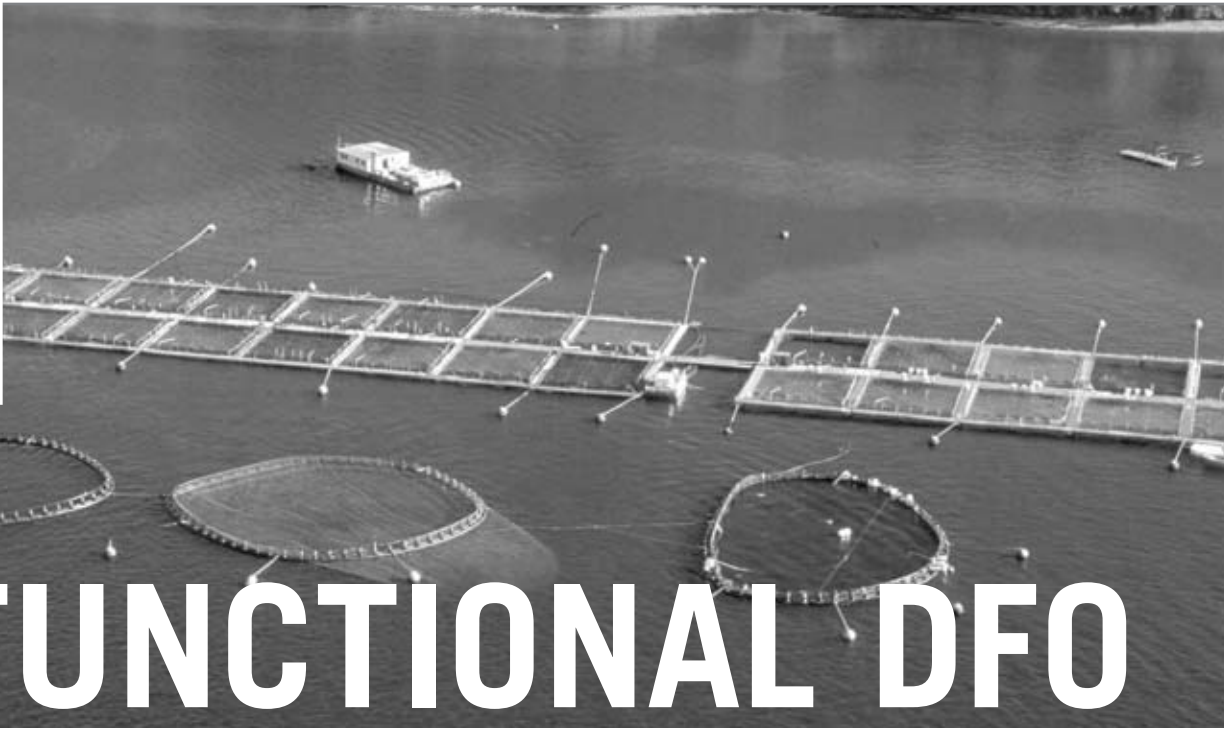


## Environmental Performance Rank of OECD Nations

The Performance Rank shows how 30 industrialized nations perform on key indicators of environmental performance, including energy consumption, water consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, air pollutants, pesticide use, and amount of protected areas.

1	Turkey	10	Netherlands	20	Greece
2	Switzerland	11	Portugal	21	Spain
3	Denmark	12	Czech Republic	22	Luxembourg
4	Poland	13	Mexico	23	Korea
5	Slovak Republic	14	Norway	24	Iceland
6	Germany	14	Hungary	25	New Zealand
7	Austria	16	Japan	25	Australia
8	Sweden	17	Finland	27	Ireland
9	Italy	18	France	28	Canada
		18	United Kingdom	29	Belgium
				30	United States

A country’s rank is based on the average rank for all 29 environmental indicators.



# DYSFUNCTIONAL DFO

## Urgent reform is needed to save Pacific fisheries

BY LORENA DEXTER

A new report commissioned by the David Suzuki Foundation reveals bureaucratic dysfunction is strangling the federal government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). The report also found that political interference, shrinking budgets and dramatically conflicting mandates within the DFO have put salmon and other marine life at greater risk than ever.

The report, *An assessment of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific region's effectiveness in meeting its mandate*, is the most in-depth analysis of DFO's Pacific operations to date. It was based on extensive interviews with a panel of respected fisheries experts, House and Senate Committee reports and testimony, Auditor-Generals reports and analysis of internal DFO records and budgets. The report identifies key problems and solutions to improve DFO's effectiveness.

"Collapsing fish stocks, mismanaged salmon and polluted aquatic environments are clear signs that DFO is failing in its conservation mandate," says Bill Ware-

ham, acting director of the David Suzuki Foundation's marine conservation program. "Canadian fisheries will continue to decline until DFO admits there is a problem, and commits to a process of long-overdue reforms."

The report exposes DFO's steady decline in effectiveness over the past several decades and describes a complex bureaucracy that is unable to live up to its mandate to protect fish stocks and the marine environment. There are several key challenges within DFO, such as political interference, especially the promotion of aquaculture that directly contradicts DFO's responsibility to protect wild fisheries; an overly complex bureaucracy that

**West Coast fish stocks are in deep trouble, and the world is watching how Canada manages.**

contains a "universe of only partially-responsible departments"; and an inadequate budget with a misallocation of existing funds.

"West Coast fish stocks are in deep trouble, and the world is watching how Canada manages its imperiled salmon runs," says Mr. Wareham. He points to a recent article in *The Economist*, which suggests that DFO is in "denial" about its failings, and hints that B.C.'s wild salmon stocks "seem to be heading towards the same fate" of the east coast cod fishery.

**A new report reveals problems and suggests solutions for the federal government's Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO).**

Based on the report's findings, the Foundation is urgently calling on government to make the following changes:

- Ensure departmental accountability, with clear conservation objectives and targets that can be measured and publicized annually.
- Implement a user-pay system to ensure that those affecting fish, fish habitat and fisheries (including land developers, forestry and polluting industries) are held financially responsible.
- Ensure that funds are allocated to programs that directly support conservation, such as science and research, as well as enforcement.

"DFO has the strong mandate, internal expertise and untapped potential to protect Canadian fisheries and ocean environments for future generations," says Mr. Wareham. "It's time for them to start actually doing it."

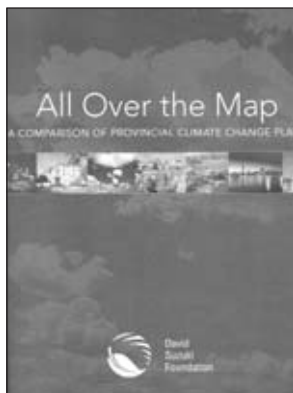
To learn how the DFO is failing to conserve and protect Canada's marine resources and what we can do to protect them, visit [www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org). 🌿

# Provincial climate change plans need work

## ■ THE GOOD ■ THE BAD ■ THE UGLY

CLIMATE CHANGE IS ONE of the biggest environmental challenges facing Canada. Yet a new David Suzuki Foundation analysis of provincial climate change plans has found that most provinces are doing little or nothing to address the issue.

BY SARAH MARCHILDON



The Foundation's report focuses on provincial inaction on climate change.

"Despite the urgency of reducing the threat of climate change, and the economic and environmental benefits of taking action, many provincial governments have no plans to cut greenhouse emissions," says report author Dale Marshall, an Ottawa-based climate change policy analyst with the Foundation.

The Foundation's report, *All Over the Map*, looks at provincial and territorial action on climate change, compares their greenhouse gas emissions, assesses their climate change plans and evaluates their records. Although the federal government signed the Kyoto Protocol, the provinces are responsible for delivering many climate change programs on the ground.

But the Suzuki Foundation found provincial and territorial action on climate change is scattered, piecemeal and, in some cases, almost non-existent despite a \$5-billion federal fund estab-

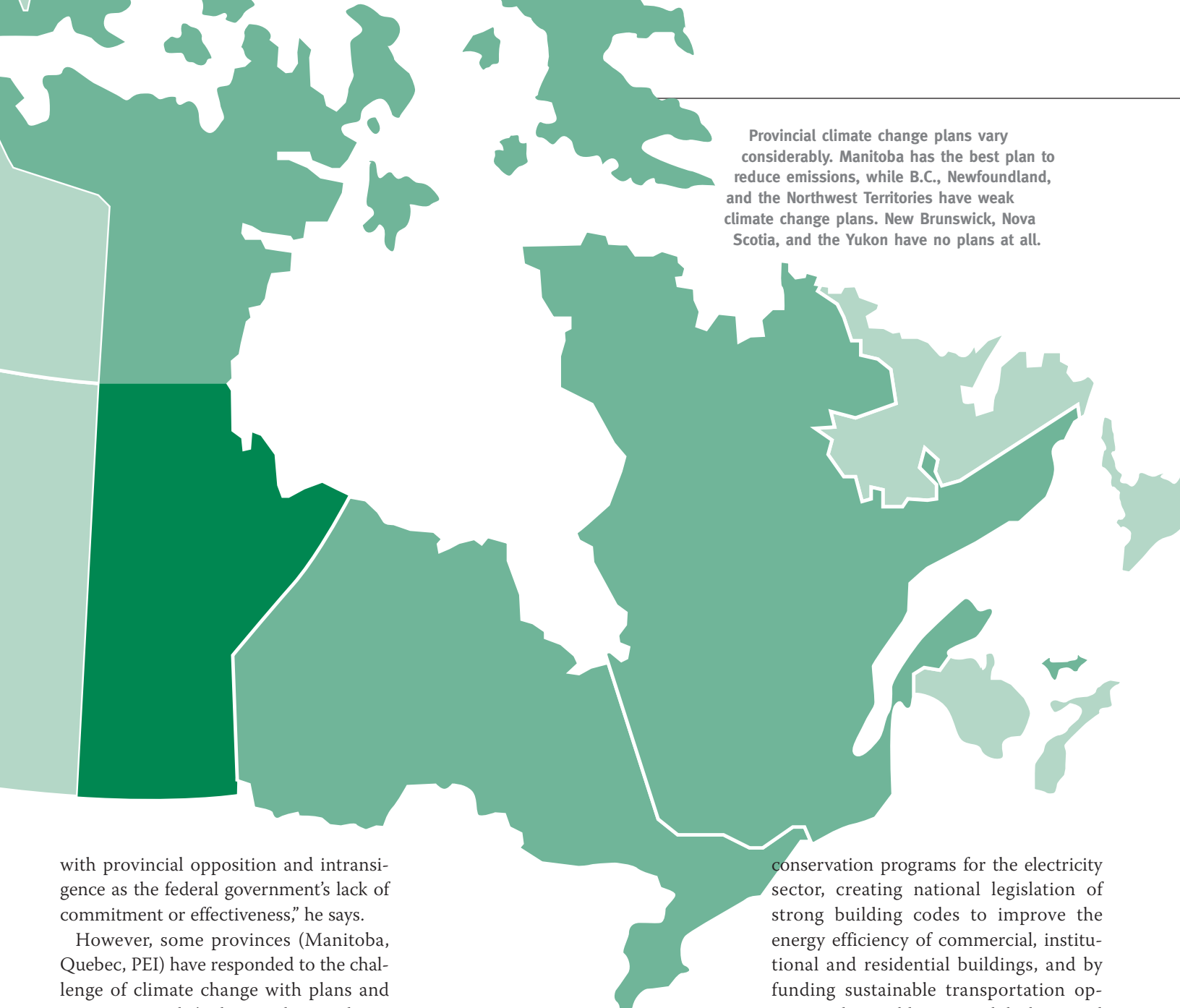
lished in April to accomplish the goal.

The report shows some provinces and territories (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Yukon) have no climate change plans at all, while others (B.C., Newfoundland, NWT) have weak and vague climate change plans. Some of the worst offenders (Saskatchewan and Alberta) have skyrocketing emissions and no plans to decrease them.

Greenhouse gases in Canada are now up 24 per cent compared to 1990 levels. Under the terms of the Kyoto Protocol, Canada is supposed to lower emissions to six per cent below 1990 levels between 2008 and 2012.

Mr. Marshall says that while Ottawa has been "rightly criticized" for delays in putting out its own effective climate change plan, the same scrutiny hasn't been applied to provinces and territories.

"Canada's stalling on reducing greenhouse gas emissions has as much to do



Provincial climate change plans vary considerably. Manitoba has the best plan to reduce emissions, while B.C., Newfoundland, and the Northwest Territories have weak climate change plans. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the Yukon have no plans at all.

with provincial opposition and intransigence as the federal government's lack of commitment or effectiveness," he says.

However, some provinces (Manitoba, Quebec, PEI) have responded to the challenge of climate change with plans and action. Manitoba's climate change plan is the best of all the provincial and territorial plans. The province has set a goal to reduce emissions in line with the Kyoto Protocol.

Other examples of provinces already using progressive policies include:

- B.C.'s long-standing commitment to protect agricultural land and stem urban sprawl.
- Quebec's commitment to decrease electricity demand and use renewable power for any additional electricity needs it might have.
- PEI's commitment to eventually have

**SOME OF THE WORST OFFENDERS  
HAVE SKYROCKETING EMISSIONS  
AND NO PLANS TO DECREASE THEM.**

100 per cent of the province powered by renewable energy.

- Manitoba's target for large emission reductions, which will be achieved partly by a program to train technicians in installing ground source heat pumps.

though they could learn from each other, said Mr. Marshall. He pointed out that they could share resources on activities such as implementing aggressive energy

conservation programs for the electricity sector, creating national legislation of strong building codes to improve the energy efficiency of commercial, institutional and residential buildings, and by funding sustainable transportation options such as public transit, bike lanes and rail infrastructure.

"Provinces and territories should learn from one another, adopt strong policies implemented elsewhere, and put together cohesive, integrated climate change plans with firm emission reduction targets," says Mr. Marshall. "That would signal that they are taking their global responsibility seriously." 🌱

**Download *All Over The Map* by visiting [www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org).**






# Make 2006 the year of the Nature Challenge

BY LORENA DEXTER

With the holiday season fast approaching, many of us are looking ahead to 2006 and starting to plan our resolutions. If you're thinking about losing weight, eating better, exercising more or saving money, why not combine these goals by joining the Nature Challenge?

The Nature Challenge is a list of 10 simple ways you can help protect our environment. It all comes down to making simple changes around the way you live, what you eat and how you get around. The best part is that you'll be improving your quality of life for today and for the future. What could be a better New Year's resolution?

By signing up online at <[www.david-suzuki.org](http://www.david-suzuki.org)>, we'll send you a monthly newsletter with tips and information to help you stay motivated about the Challenge. You'll also join a growing list of more than 180,000 Canadians who are making a difference and showing that they care about the environment. 

## THE TEN MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS YOU CAN CONSERVE NATURE AND IMPROVE YOUR QUALITY OF LIFE

- 1 Reduce home energy use by 10%
- 2 Choose an energy-efficient home & appliances
- 3 Don't use pesticides
- 4 Eat meat-free meals one day a week
- 5 Buy locally grown and produced food
- 6 Choose a fuel-efficient vehicle
- 7 Walk, bike, carpool or take transit
- 8 Choose a home close to work or school
- 9 Support alternative transportation
- 10 Learn more and share with others



## THE NATURE CHALLENGE IN ACTION


Gene Graham of Bala, Ontario, joined the Nature Challenge in 2003 and hasn't looked back. "I decided to take part in the Nature Challenge after the massive power outage that hit southern Ontario a couple of years ago. The experience made me more aware of our connection to nature, and why it is important to protect our resources. I felt I was ready to adopt a philosophy of conservation, so that's what I did."

Ms. Graham and her husband have stopped using

chemicals for cleaning and lawn maintenance, and have replaced outdated appliances with energy efficient models. They are also seeking new ways to reduce the amount of heat and electricity they consume. The couple prepares vegetarian meals at least once a week and tries to walk instead of using their car.

"I consider the Nature Challenge my step-by-step guide for improving my life," she says. "At first it seemed a bit arduous to make changes,

but now I feel like I am in greater control of things now. It gives me an adrenaline rush to think of how far I've come!"

Ms. Graham says once she got on to the Nature Challenge, she started to see everything differently. "I can't go back to the way I used to do things now. The Nature Challenge has opened my eyes to greater possibilities." 

**Gene Graham: "I consider the Nature Challenge a step-by-step guide for improving my life."**





# COUNTDOWN TO MONTREAL

## U.N. climate change conference comes to Canada

BY SARAH MARCHILDON

For the past few months, the David Suzuki Foundation's climate change program has been hard at work preparing for the United Nations Climate Change Conference, scheduled to take place in Montreal between November 28 and December 9.

This international conference looks at how well the Kyoto Protocol is being implemented by countries that signed the agreement, and promises to focus international attention on what Canada is doing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

It's the first meeting of more than 140 countries who have signed the Kyoto Protocol since it came into force in February. It's also the first time the conference – held annually since 1992 – will be held on

North American soil. More than 10,000 climate scientists, government officials, journalists and activists from more than 180 countries are expected to attend.

The David Suzuki Foundation is sending several observers to the conference to monitor the negotiations and influence the Canadian delegates. The Foundation will be drawing attention to Canada's

**This international conference looks at how well the Kyoto Protocol is being implemented**

weak record on climate change and urging the federal government to show strong leadership by setting a mandate in Montreal for deep emission cuts.

It's hoped that one of the conference's main outcomes will be an agreement to find a way of bringing in key developing nations, like China and India, that are not



The climate change program prepares for Montreal. Front (LEFT TO RIGHT): Dale Marshall, Nick Heap, Morag Carter, Brian Yourish. BACK: Ian Bruce, Paul Lingl.

currently bound by the Kyoto Protocol.

Some of the key issues expected to come under discussion at the conference are whether smaller jurisdictions – such as U.S. states or cities – could become signatories to the Kyoto Protocol, what will happen in 2012 when the Protocol expires, and what penalties will be brought against countries that fail to meet their Kyoto targets. 🌱

# Get working

## Make your workplace environmentally aware

BY DOMINIC ALI

The David Suzuki Foundation does its best to reflect its beliefs in sustainability. Aside from going carbon neutral (see page 3), the Foundation's employees have incorporated several ideas to conserve energy. We hope these ideas will inspire you to make changes in your workplace:

- Our laser printers are outfitted with attachments that allow for double-sided printing. This saves paper and space in filing cabinets. Our printers and photocopier use only 100 per cent post-consumer recycled paper.
- Most of the Foundation's printed reports are available in PDF format from our website. Not only does this save money on printing and mailing, it also cuts down on the amount of paper we consume. After readers have downloaded the documents, they can print out the pages they need and read the rest onscreen.
- Our Vancouver office building is heated and cooled using geothermal energy. Keep renewable energy in mind if your organi-



The Foundation reduces paper consumption by making online versions of its reports available.

zation is shopping for new office space.

- We use a courier company that has several hybrid cars and natural gas vans in its fleet for local deliveries. We also work with our printers to ensure the documents we produce are printed with minimal waste. Are your suppliers doing their best to protect the environment? 🌱

WHAT'S UP WITH THAT SINGLE PIECE OF FRUIT, SHRINK WRAPPED AND DISPLAYED ON A STYROFOAM TRAY?

## The great package rip-off

You know the annoying cliché “Good things come in small packages”? Well, maybe it's true, but we'll never know because nothing comes in small packages.

In spite of all the environmental awareness we've developed over the years, companies still insist on putting their stuff in enough packaging to house a small village in rural Thailand. To make matters worse, a smiling retail store clerk often happily wraps that overpackaged nightmare in a whole whack of tissues, puts it in a box, ties it with a bow, and finally puts that box in a gigantic plastic bag emblazoned with the company logo. All of this stuff you get to take home and throw away. Fun!

And stupid.

Why is it you can buy an MP3 player the size of a roll of breath-mints, and it still comes in a box bigger than most Vancouver condos? Why does toothpaste come in a tube and a box? Why not just put a little hook on the end of the tube so it can be hung up? And what's up with that single piece of fruit, shrink wrapped and displayed on a Styrofoam tray?

Electronic devices are the worst offenders. Try buying flash memory for a digital camera. You have to pry the little tiny card out of a thick plastic container 100 times larger than the card itself. It's simply bizarre. Or open a box of computer software. What's inside? A CD-ROM and an instruction manual – that's it. So why put it in a big box?

Manufacturers will tell you it's all about brand positioning. They have to make a big box to take up space on the shelves that would otherwise be dominated by their competitors. Plus, retailers like big packages because it makes things harder to steal and it looks like you're getting more for your money. Sure, 10 per cent of the cost of a product is often for the packaging alone, but manufacturers just pass that cost on to the consumer. No big deal to them.

Of course, most packaging ends up in a landfill – another thing consumers pay for, this time through taxes. So, we pay for the packaging, which helps market their product. We pay for the pollution created when the packaging is made. And we pay for the

**Ten per cent of the cost of a product is often for the packaging alone, but manufacturers just pass that cost on to the consumer.**



landfill where this junk ends up. Funny, I don't remember getting a Christmas card from any of these guys thanking me for subsidizing their products.

It's time to end the free ride. Producers should have to pay for the mess they make. They should be responsible for their entire product — including packaging. That's the most efficient and effective way to reduce this kind of waste.

You can help. Write your MP and say that you support extended producer responsibility legislation. Ask them to make manufacturers clean up their acts.

And when that clerk tries to put your already overpackaged stuff in yet more bags and boxes, wink at him and tell him good things come without packaging. 🍏



## findingsolutions

A publication of the David Suzuki Foundation, a registered Canadian charity working through science and education to protect the diversity of nature and our quality of life, now and for future generations.

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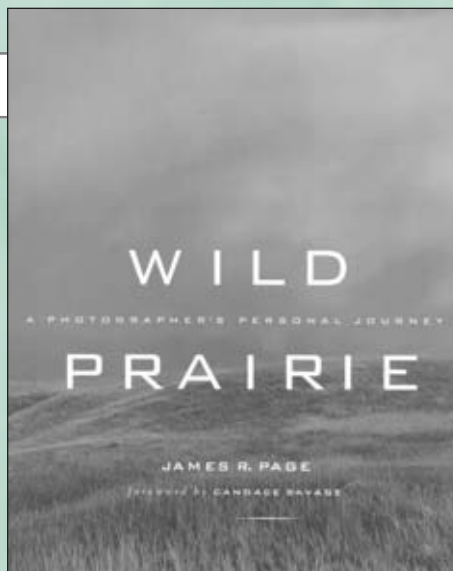
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### Wild Prairie: A Photographer's Personal Journey

By James R. Page

(David Suzuki Foundation/  
Greystone Books, 2005)

*Wild Prairie* is a stunning visual tribute to the grasslands of North America. Well-known writer and photographer James R. Page has ventured deep into the plains to construct a pictorial voyage that spans Saskatchewan to Texas. The book pays homage to the dramatic changing of seasons and includes striking images of newly green trees, wild bergamot blossoms, midsummer electrical storms, migrating sandhill cranes and jagged ice crystals. *Wild Prairie* also captures a rattlesnake coiled

in the brush, a bison grazing in short grass, and a grasshopper feeding on the petals of a cactus flower. This book is a celebration of living prairie ecosystems and is an inspirational reminder of why we must protect these wide-open spaces for future generations.

### The End of Suburbia

Written and directed  
by Gregory Greene

Produced by Barry Silverthorne

Now available on DVD, this festival-favourite documentary looks at the rise and the potential demise of the suburban lifestyle. Our suburbs were built on the premise of having never-ending access to cheap fossil fuels. Yet, as global demand for fossil fuels begins

## recommended

to outstrip supply and global climate change threatens our quality of life, the unsustainability of far-flung suburbs becomes more and more pronounced. With brutal honesty and a touch of irony, *The End of Suburbia* explores the future of the American dream and poses the controversial question: "Will the suburbs of today become the slums of tomorrow?"

### Treehugger.com

Thousands of blogs, short for "weblogs," have popped up across the internet in the past few years. These online journals cover topics ranging from the predictable (news, sports, politics) to the not-so-predictable (knitting, junk food, strange products). Treehugger.com has quickly become a cult favorite. Each day the website features postings about sustainable products, green architecture, and eco-fashions. With thousands of visitors each day, Treehugger.com has become an important resource for those who know that sustainability can also be stylish.

## DAVID SUZUKI'S SCHEDULE

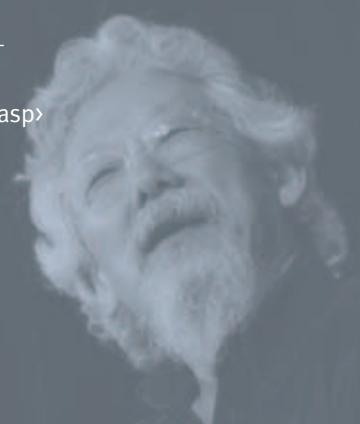
For Dr. Suzuki's most recent schedule, please visit  
<[www.davidsuzuki.org/About\\_us/Dr\\_David\\_Suzuki/Appearances.asp](http://www.davidsuzuki.org/About_us/Dr_David_Suzuki/Appearances.asp)>

### March 8

Oregon Convention  
Centre, Portland, OR  
National Council on  
Education for the  
Ceramic Arts (NCECA)  
Tel: (866) 266-2322  
<[www.nceca.net](http://www.nceca.net)>

### March 13

University of British  
Columbia, Chan Centre,  
Vancouver, BC  
<[tscq@interchange.ubc.ca](mailto:tscq@interchange.ubc.ca)>





## THANK YOU



KENT KALLBERG

**We plan on being around for many more years.**

AT THE END OF EACH YEAR I always take time to reflect on what I've done over the previous 12 months. I take out my appointment book and go through the pages week by week, thinking about the fascinating people I've met at my public lectures, the successes we've had at the Foundation, and the challenges we expect to face in the coming year.

In 2006, the David Suzuki Foundation turns 15 years old. It's one of the best things I could hope for. It's hard to believe we've come so far. When we started, we had a small office above a mechanic's repair shop. Mice were everywhere, and the noise from the repair shop would drown out the phones. There was one full-time staff member and a handful of volunteers. But with courage, determination, and the occasional misstep, we are still here, bigger and stronger than ever. We now have over 40 staff members in our Vancouver office, and two in our Ottawa office. And it is all possible because of you.

I am so proud of our successes. We have helped incorporate ecosystem-based management on the B.C. coast. We have educated millions of Canadians about the threats of climate change and what they can do to reduce the dangers. We have advised various levels of government and industry about sustainable ways of doing business.

It is especially gratifying when we receive thoughtful letters of appreciation for our work along with donations. Many of the cheques we receive are from people on fixed incomes who have dipped into their life savings so that we can continue to do our research. Donating to a non-profit is a profound way of showing your support for a cause. It is because of you that we have continued to provide practical solutions to Canada's environmental challenges for 15 years.

It's easy to become disheartened with the world's environmental problems. Climate change. Dying salmon fish stocks. Canada's poor environmental performance compared to other industrialized countries. Yet, by working together we can make things better. Ozone depletion was a very real threat in the 1980s. In 1987, several countries banded together and signed the Montreal Protocol, agreeing to phase out ozone-depleting substances. Scientists have since discovered that because the global ban on ozone-destroying chemicals, the ozone is starting to heal. This is just one success story that shows how we can make changes to protect the environment.

When I look ahead, I am hopeful. Change never happens overnight. But with friends like you by our side, we plan on being around for many more years to promote conservation-based solutions that help Canada achieve sustainability. 🌱

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT NL 1105

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 \$5,000 Patron  
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\_\_\_\_\_ CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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 219-2211 West 4th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6K 4S2 Tel: (604) 732-4228, Fax: (604) 732-0752  
 Charitable No. BN 12775 6716 RR0001 US Charitable Registration #94-3204049

Donations can also be made through our secure website at <[www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)>

The David Suzuki Foundation greatly respects your privacy. We will keep in touch with you throughout the year with program updates. If you wish no further contact or if you have questions regarding the privacy of your personal information, please contact Member Services at 1-800-453-1533. If you do not wish your name exchanged with other non-profit organizations please check this box.   
 To view the David Suzuki Foundation's privacy policy, go to <[http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Donation\\_Centre/Privacy\\_Policy.asp](http://www.davidsuzuki.org/Donation_Centre/Privacy_Policy.asp)>

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\$45 a month / E.O. Wilson Circle

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ a month

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OR

I authorize the Suzuki Foundation to charge the above amount to my credit card (please provide card information in space provided at left) on a monthly basis.

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