NEWS RELEASE

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Celebrating Environmental Professionals Day 2026

Today marks the seventh annual Environmental Professionals Day, a global tribute to the scientists, analysts, advocates, and policymakers who dedicate their careers to safeguarding natural resources and shaping a more sustainable future. Established by the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA), this day recognizes those working to balance environmental, social, and economic considerations in an increasingly complex world.

As global challenges intensify—from climate change to rapid technological advancement—the role of environmental professionals has never been more critical in guiding informed, responsible decision-making.

This celebration coincides with the birthday of Leonardo da Vinci, a visionary whose deep curiosity and scientific approach reflect the essence of environmental professionals. “Da Vinci was a master of many disciplines, bringing his inquisitive mind and creativity to exploration of the sciences, making his birthday an appropriate day to recognize environmental professionals” said Dennis Peters, NAEP President. “From scientists and engineers to policy experts, these dedicated individuals work tirelessly to uphold environmental, social, and public health standards, striving for a balanced ecosystem, sustainable economy, and improved quality of life for present and future generations.”

“The work of environmental professionals often happens behind the scenes, yet its impact is felt in the air we breathe, the water we drink, and the resilience of our communities," said Gary Baker, CEO of IAIA. “At a time when decisions are becoming more complex and far-reaching, their expertise is essential. Today, we celebrate their contributions and encourage others to recognize their value.”

How to Participate in Environmental Professionals Day 2026:

- **Express Your Gratitude** – Thank an environmental professional in your network.
- **Share Their Stories** – Highlight their impact using #EnviroProsDay2026.
- **Join the Conversation** – Like, comment, and share posts using #EnviroProsDay2026 to amplify awareness.
- **Engage with Thought Leaders** – Follow and interact with organizations and professionals in the field.
- **Support Their Work** – Get involved in local initiatives and advocate for responsible policies.

Join us in celebrating the environmental professionals who help shape a better world—today and every day. For more information, visit https://www.naep.org or https://www.iaia.org.

About NAEP & IAIA

The **National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP)** is a multi-disciplinary association for professionals dedicated to the advancement of the environmental professions, a forum for state-of-the-art information on environmental planning, research and management, and a network of professional contacts and exchange of information among colleagues in industry, government, academia, and the private sector. NAEP acts as

a resource for structured career development from student memberships to certification as an environmental professional and is a strong proponent of ethics and the highest standards of practice in the environmental professions.

The **International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA)** is the premier international network for impact assessment professionals. Its vision is "a just and sustainable world for people and the environment." Impact assessment, simply defined, is the process of identifying the future consequences of a current or proposed action. IAIA has a core membership of over 1,300 academics, policymakers, practitioners, and corporates and is partnered with 20 Affiliate organizations around the world. IAIA regularly convenes over 1,000 professionals at its annual international conferences and publishes the peer-reviewed academic journal, *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*. Through these activities and more, IAIA regularly reaches 15,000+ impact assessment professionals.

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