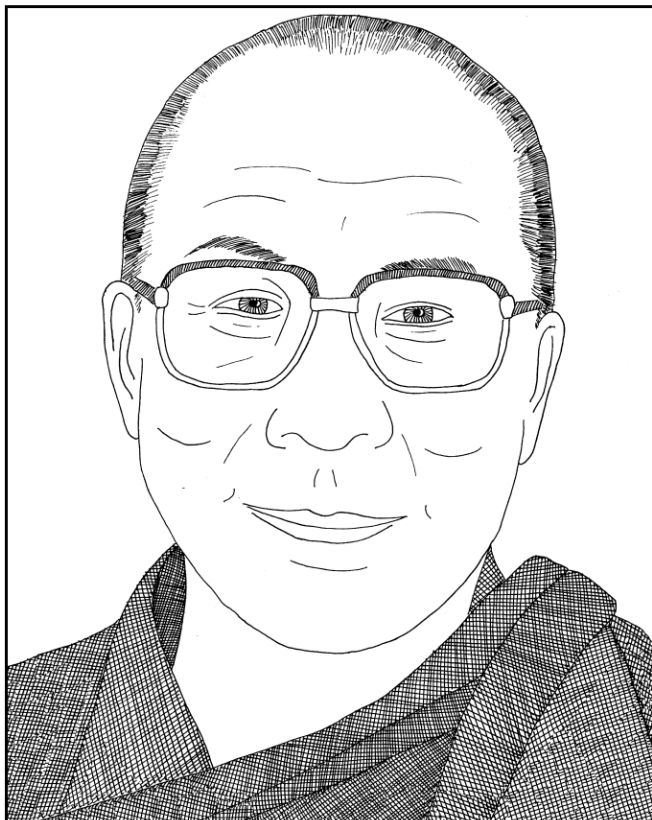


WORLD ANIMAL DAY - OCTOBER 4



"Killing animals for sport, for pleasure, for adventure, and for hides and furs is a phenomena which is at once disgusting and distressing. There is no justification in indulging in such acts of brutality."

-- The Dalai Lama

Many people feel drawn to advocate for animals because even though they can feel pain and suffer just as we do, they do not have a way to advocate for their own welfare. In fact, animals are viewed by many as nothing more than property to be treated however the owner wishes. This view has created an inhumane situation for billions of animals that share our world.

- many of the world's 60 billion farm animals are not treated humanely
- 80% of the world's 1 billion cats and dogs are stray or neglected
- millions of wild animals are killed or sold illegally on the black market worth \$10 billion a year
- animals suffer greatly and are often forgotten during natural disasters

World Animal Day is a time to celebrate and appreciate our relationship with the animals that share our planet and the ways in which they enrich our lives. It is also an important opportunity to speak out to ensure the humane treatment of farm animals and to advocate for protection of the habitats that are home to wild animals. It was started in 1931 by ecologists in Florence who wished to bring attention to the plight of endangered animals. October 4 was chosen because it is the Feast Day of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals. Today World Animal Day is observed throughout the world.

World Farm Animals Day is observed on October 2 as another day to mobilize around the humane treatment of farm animals, and **Vegetarian Day** on October 1 is a chance to educate our communities about the benefits provided by an animal-free diet.

"There are viable (and usually better) alternatives to the use of animals for food, sport, clothing, & experimentation. I beg you to discontinue any actions that might cause or condone animal torture, abuse, or destruction."

-- Moby

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1. Find out more
2. Consider vegetarianism
3. Don't buy products made from or tested on animals
4. Support animal rights and animal welfare groups
5. Sign the Universal Declaration on Animal Welfare (animalmatters.org)

Animal Welfare Links

- ASPCA.org
- AnimalConcerns.org
- Animal-Rights.org
- FarmUSA.org
- The Humane Society of the US (hsus.org)
- PETA.org
- WorldAnimalDay.org.uk
- World Society for the Protection of Animals (wspa-international.org)

For more information: www.peacecalendar.net/animalday.htm

Be a Hero for a Culture of Peace - cultureofpeace.com

...every act of compassion makes a difference...every day counts for a better world...

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