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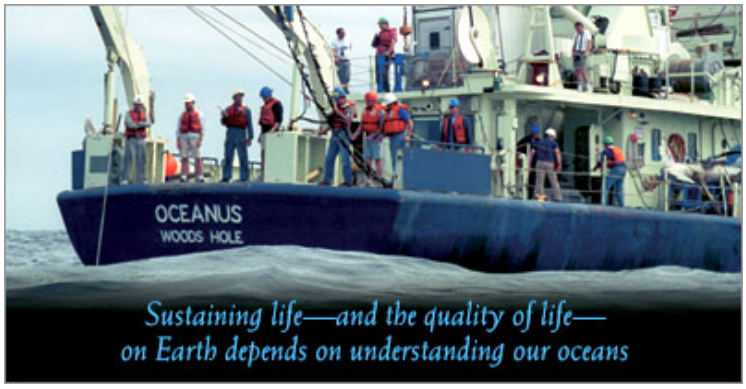

Our oceans and their inhabitants are under increasing stress. Though the oceans are central to our existence, we have barely begun to comprehend their complexities, or the consequences of our impact on them. Following are just a few of the many reasons you should consider supporting oceanographic research at WHOI.

- Will emperor penguins and polar bears become extinct because of melting ice?
- Marine mammals are increasingly threatened by fishing gear and ship collisions. In 2009 the first ever disentanglement via sedation was accomplished and the whale saved.
- WHOI scientists are teaching shellfish farming in Zanzibar because 70% of the world's fish stocks are being exploited beyond sustainable limits.
- Our researchers study sea level rise and its possible effects on our planet.
- 25% of houses within 500 feet of the coast will be lost to erosion in the next 60 years. We study erosion on beaches throughout the coastal U.S.
- WHOI houses the world's preeminent Center for the study of harmful algal blooms. HABs are proliferating worldwide, causing fish kills, shellfish losses, beach closings, and public health problems.
- 33% of U.S. coastal areas have been damaged by runoff from farming, septic tanks, and other waste. This issue is critical and our coastal scientists are at the forefront of discovery.
- Will we find new, perhaps life saving drugs while studying what is beneath the sea?

Related Links

» Charity Navigator
For the seventh year in a row, WHOI received a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator (their highest ranking), America's largest independent evaluator of charities.

Frequently Asked Questions

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Q. Why give to WHOI?
A. Earth's oceans and life on Earth are wholly intertwined. Degradation of the oceans, in fact, affects all living creatures and the Earth's landmass. WHOI pushes beyond the boundaries of established science, producing new data that is critical to alleviating pollution and natural disasters, developing ways to adapt to environmental and climate changes, and discovering new technologies that, in turn, stimulate economic growth. Your support helps WHOI remain a world leader in ocean research, accomplishing this and more to ensure the future health of the planet, its oceans, and life itself.

Q. How is WHOI funded?
A. Federal grants and contracts cover about 75 cents of every dollar needed by the Institution. Private philanthropy bridges the gap between the Federal resources WHOI receives and what it needs to remain a leader in innovative oceanographic research and education.

Q. What is a recurring gift?
A. Monthly giving is a great way to make a gift that is easy on your personal finances, and hugely valuable to the Institution. To create a recurring gift, you decide how much you would like to give every month and your gift will be charged monthly to your credit card. You can increase, decrease or terminate your recurring gift at any time.

Q. If I make a monthly gift, do I become an Associate?
A. By signing up to make a $10 or more reoccurring gift, you will automatically be enrolled in the Associates program.

Q. What is an unrestricted gift?
A. An unrestricted gift to WHOI goes immediately to where it is needed most. This includes everything from funding a new research idea to paying a student's stipend.

Q. How do I make a gift of appreciated securities?
A. Electronic delivery of stock shares is the most secure and expedient delivery process available and provides efficient internal control as well as cost savings. However, you may also transfer certificates directly. To help you

facilitate a gift of stock please see our instructions for making a gift of stock.

Q. How do I designate my gift?
A. When you give a gift for a specific purpose, you are making a designated gift. You may direct your gift to support any research or educational effort at WHOI. If you have questions about any particular program, please contact us. Your gift will automatically be designated to WHOI's unrestricted fund, unless you indicate a specific designation in the notes section below or indicate your designation in your written correspondence for gifts sent through the mail.

Q. How do I make a gift in honor or in memory of someone?
A. When you make a gift in honor of, in memory of or in tribute to a loved one, we will send the honoree or the family of the memorialized person a special card notifying them of your gift. Please be sure to fill out the required information at the end of our donation form.

Q. What is a company matching gift?
A. Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match charitable contributions made by their employees. Check with your employer to find out if there is a matching gift program and what you need to do to have your gift to WHOI matched by your company.

Q. How do I make a major gift?
A. There are many ways to maximize your giving to WHOI. We welcome the opportunity to assist you and your advisors. For a list of funding and naming opportunities, please contact:
Priya McCue
Chief Development Officer
pmccue@whoi.edu
(508) 289-2449

Q. How do I put Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in my will or part of my estate plan?
A. We deeply appreciate your consideration of including WHOI in your estate plans. There are a number of ways to make a lasting contribution towards insuring that WHOI's research and education continues. To make a bequest to WHOI you may create a new will, add a codicil to your current will, include WHOI in your revocable trust, or name WHOI as the residual beneficiary of your qualified retirement plan or insurance policy. For more information on planned giving opportunities please see our Planned Giving and Bequest Guide.

Q. What is a security code?
A. A security code is a security feature for credit or debit card transactions, giving increased protection against credit card fraud.

Q. Will I receive a tax receipt?
A. When you make a gift online, your tax receipt will be automatically generated. If you mail your gift, a tax receipt will be mailed to you. If you make a recurring gift, a tax receipt for your collective years giving will be mailed to you in early January for the prior year. Our charitable tax ID is 042105850.

Q. How do I make a pledge?
A. Pledges (a promise to pay a specified amount according to an agreed schedule) can be paid over a five-year period. If you would like to make a commitment, please contact the development office at 508-298-4895.

Q. How do I establish an endowed fund?:
A. A named endowed fund is one of the best ways a donor can establish a permanent, personal link to the Institution. A donor's name and good intentions are forever attached to a program of special interest to that individual. Named endowed funds may bear a donors name or may be named in honor of a spouse, special friend, scientist, etc. For more information please contact:
Priya McCue
Chief Development Officer
pmccue@whoi.edu
(508) 289-2449

Q. Can I make a gift over the phone?
A. Yes, gifts will be accepted over the phone by using a credit card (MasterCard, Visa or American Express). Please call us Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at (508) 289-4895, or after hours, leave a message and we will return your call promptly.

Q. Who do I contact with questions?
WHOI Development Office
(508) 289-4895
development@whoi.edu

Contact

Development Office
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
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Woods Hole, MA 02543-1050
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