



FAQ

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What is Earth Share Australia?

Earth Share Australia is charitable foundation run and controlled cooperatively by its eleven environmental member organisations and its Board of Trustees and which raised money for those group via payroll deductions and other methods.

What does Earth Share Australia do?

Its primary focus is to increase the level of effectiveness of the entire environment movement by working together on fundraising, training, research, co-ordination and use of technology, with its main aim being to substantially increase the resources available for environmental protection through raising money in the workplace via payroll deductions

What is Different About Earth Share?

Earth Share manages workplace donation programs for its member organisations. In these payroll deduction programs, Earth Share encourages employees to donate a small amount of each pay to help solve environmental problems. Employees may elect to contribute to all our member organisations through a gift to Earth Share, or specifically to one or more of them.

Who gets the money from Earth Share Australia?

Primarily our member charities but we also support other charities via our **Donor Choice** programs and our **Special Initiatives Program**

What are payroll deduction programs?

These are programs run with the cooperation of employers that allow employees to donate small amounts to charities from their pay each pay period on a regular basis. It is a very simple and convenient and cost effective way of donating.

Can I donate to other charities via Earth Share Australia other than member organisations?

Yes part of your donation automatically goes to a range of smaller environmental organisations and to special programs via our **Special Initiatives Program**. You can donate to other charities via our **Donor Choice** program.

Why Was Earth Share Begun?

Earth Share Australia was founded in late 1997 by a group of 9 national and regional environmental and conservation groups that saw the need for a more co-operative approach to the issues confronting



environmental groups in defending the environment.

In particular they recognised that in order to be effective there needed to be a substantial increase in financial support to the environment and better use of the resources within environment groups.

It was clear that environmental organisations were not in direct contact with most Australians who supported environmental issues and that the best place to make that contact and seek support was in the workplace. These organisations were committed to making contributing to the environment as easy as possible, allowing employees to make donations through workplace payroll deduction programs.

How Much of My Donation Goes to the Member Charities?

Earth Share currently takes 5.5% per cent for administration and 5.5% for program development and promotion (such as developing and running Community Service Advertisements). We guarantee that we will never take more than 15% and our target figure is 10%. This is about a quarter of the cost of other comparable fund raising projects. That means that at least 85 cents in the dollar goes directly to environmental campaigns, since member organisations are not allowed to spend any funds from Earth Share on administration. Where we run and develop special projects for members they may also pay us to do this.

What Kind of Eligibility Requirements are there for Earth Share's Member organisations?

Earth Share requires applicant agencies to meet strict criteria before they are allowed to become members.

Our strict eligibility criteria were established so that donors could be sure that Earth Share members operate under strict guidelines and criteria. Members are required to provide regular reports to ensure that they are meeting these criteria

How can I donate?

You can donate:

- ◆ **Right here on-line via credit card**
- ◆ Via payroll deduction programs at work if your employer has an arrangement with Earth Share Australia or our partner organisation the Charities Aid Foundation
- ◆ Via direct debit using the form available on this web site
- ◆ Via periodical payment arranged via your financial institution

Environmental problems are interconnected and the environmental organizations that work to solve these issues are most effective when they are unified. Earth Share Australia's member charities work on a wide array of environmental issues. A general donation to Earth Share is distributed among all of the members.

Because Earth Share Australia represents a broad range of environmental organisations tackling a range of issues, you don't have to choose to donate to one particular issue and ignore all the others that concern you.

It doesn't matter whether you want to improve air quality, prevent water pollution, stop land degradation, or protect wildlife, a single contribution to Earth Share will assist with all of these, throughout the country. On the other hand, if you have a preference, you can direct your gift to a specific member organisation. The choice is yours.