

Degradation of Estonian landscape

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Estonia



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

Estonian environment

- **1910** – the first nature reserve was founded in Estonia - **Vaika** Linnukaitseala (Vaika Bird reserve).



Environmental protection

There are **3389** objects under natural protection in Estonia;

1. species, fossils and minerals;
 2. nature objects (trees, boulders, waterfalls, etc) - **1195**;
- Nature reserves **129**;
 - Landscape reserves **149**;
 - National Parks **5**;

Hills of South-Estonia



South-Estonia



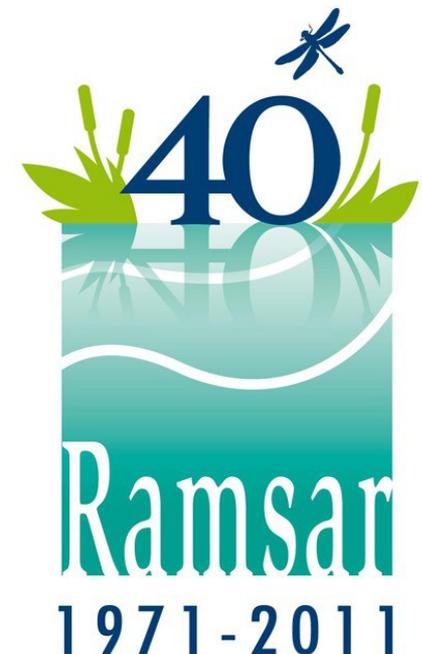
Karula National Park

- It is necessary to support and fund **agriculture** for conservation of **landscape** and **diversity of species**.



Wetlands- 30% of Estonia's land

- There are 12 wetlands of the **Ramsar Convention** in Estonia. www.ramsar.org.
- Swamps; meadows of river valleys, lowland hay meadows, coastal meadows.



Meadows of river valleys



Soomaa National Park

- **Fifth season** – spring **flood**. At the maximum flood level the water-covered area can be 7–8 km across.



The our teacher's canoo trip



Bog



Our teachers in the bog. Picking cranberrys



Our student in the bog



Matsalu and Lahemaa National Parks

- Some of the Europe's largest mating and migration area of aquatic birds.



Costal meadows



Rapid growth of the common reed (*Phragmites australis*)



Semi-natural habitats

- Cattle grazing plays important part in preserving the environment



Semi-natural habitats

- Cutting the grass and making hay



Woodland meadows



Growth of young trees due to lack of grazing and grass cutting



Preserving woodland meadows

- Grazing, making hay



Restoring woodland meadows



Estonia is a country of forests

- **Forest covers 50,6% of Estonia's land, 2,3 mln ha.**
- **Forests are important in four aspects:**
 - * economical – forest for profit;
 - * social – offers work and vacation places;
 - * ecological – conservation of species;
 - * cultural – a part of Estonians culture.

Every estonian family can get their own
Christmas tree from the forest! 😊



Estonian live in forest- people of the forest



Forest as a natural habitat for diverse species



Cutting the trees



Planting the forest

- There is about 5800 ha forest planted and seeds planted on 1400 ha each year.



Restoring the forest



North-East Estonia

- Oil shale excavation desolation.



Restoring excavation sites

- Forest growth



Conservational objects

- Tamme-Lauri tamm (Tamme-Lauri Oak)



Jägala waterfall



Ontika cliff

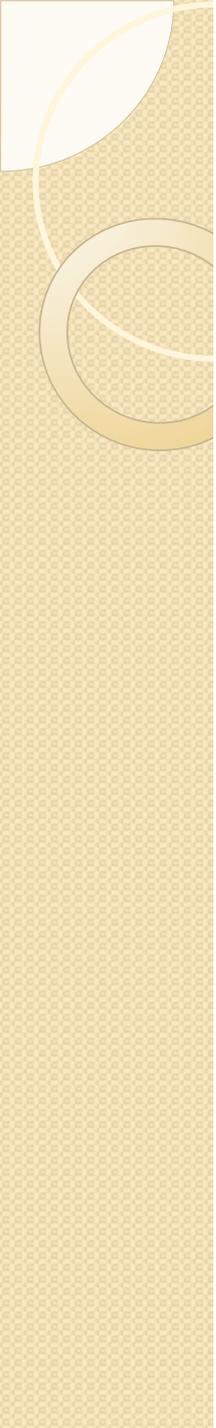


Boulders



Tori Hell - outcrop of Devon bedrock near Pärnu river.



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- **Welcom to the Estonia!**