Tropical Rain Forests

what they do for us

Home to 50% of all species on Earth

millions of species yet to be discovered

Reservoir of Fresh Water

contains/recycles over 25% of liquid fresh water

Oxygen Production

produces > 20% of world supply

Soil Conservation

prevents silting of rivers and coral reefs

Medicines

produces > 50% of all pharmaceutical drugs

Flowers and Plants

floral, interior/exterior landscape

Food and Drink

nuts, fruits, fish, spices, flavors, coloring

Clothing & Building Materials

natural fibers, hardwoods and lumber

Global Climate Control

regulates temperatures and weather patterns

Exotic Pet Trade

fishes, birds, reptiles, mammals, arthropods

Cultural Importance

> 1,000 different cultures

Genetic Library

undiscovered pest & disease resistance

Tree Foundation
New College of Florida
National Science Foundation