

# Fact Sheet: Green Victimization



**CRIME VICTIMS'  
INSTITUTE**

**COLLEGE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY**

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## Green Victimization: The Facts

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### What is Green Victimization?

Green or environmental victimization refers to humans, animals, and plants affected by environmental crimes, such as pollution, poaching, and toxic waste dumping, in which there can be physical, emotional, or financial harm. [1,2]

### Have you Heard?

- Environmental offenses make up 1/3 of all crimes committed by organizations [3]
- Approximately 70% of green crimes were related to water, with 17% affecting wildlife, 8% involving hazardous waste, and 5% affecting air quality [3]
- Trafficking of wild animals is the third largest illegal business in the world [4]

### What are the Consequences? [5]

There are various consequences pertaining to environmental crimes, such as toxic waste dumping impacting children and their mental development. Additionally, illegal wildfires can lead to an increase in the spread of infectious diseases. Illegal fishing, logging, and mining can destroy the resilience of an ecosystem causing a decrease in natural resources for communities.



### How to Prevent/ Raise Awareness Green Victimization

- Try to use more sustainable modes of transportation (e.g., electric vehicles, carpooling, public transportation)
- Support local businesses and farmers
- Educate yourself on environmental issues and start conversations

### Resources

#### 9-1-1

#### Texas

- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
<https://www.tceq.texas.gov>--(512)-239-1000
- Office of the Texas Governor: Victims Programs (512)462-2000  
<https://gov.texas.gov/organization/cjd/victims-programs>

#### National

- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
<https://www.epa.gov>
- National Poison Hotline--(800)-222-1222
- National Response Center--(800)-424-8802

### References

- [1] White, R. (2018). Green victimology and non-human victims. *International Review of Victimology*, 24(2), 239-255. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0269758017745615>
- [2] U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (2022). *Environmental crime victim resources*. EPA. <https://www.epa.gov/enforcement/environmental-crime-victim-resources>
- [3] U.S. Courts. (2016). *Environmental crimes top list by organizations*. <https://www.uscourts.gov/news/2016/12/22/environmental-crime-tops-list-organizations>
- [4] Sustainability for all. (2022). *Top 5 environmental crimes*. Acciona. [https://www.activesustainability.com/environment/crimes-against-the-environment/?\\_adin=02021864894](https://www.activesustainability.com/environment/crimes-against-the-environment/?_adin=02021864894)
- [5] Gore, M. L., Braszak, P., Brown, J., Cassey, P., Duffy, R., Fisher, J., Graham, J., Justo-Hanani, R., Kirkwood, A. E., Lunstrum, E., Machalaba, C., Masse, F., Manguiat, M., Omrow, D., Stoett, P., Wyatt, T., & White, R. (2019). Transnational environmental crime threatens sustainable development. *Nature Sustainability*, 2, 784-786. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41893-019-0363-6>

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## Resources

- Texas Abuse Hotline (suspicions of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of children, adults with disabilities, or people 65 + <https://www.txabusehotline.org/Login/>  
800-252-5400
- Texas Council on Family Violence <https://tcfv.org/survivor-resources/>
- Texas Association Against Sexual Assault <https://taasa.org/get-help/>
- National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233
- National Sexual Assault Hotline 800-656-4673
- National Human Trafficking Hotline 888-373-7888
- Aging and Disability Resource Center 855-937-2372
- Victim Connect Resource Center 855-484-2846
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 988