



# Biodiversity



Biodiversity describes the variety of living things that grow, sprout, swim, walk, fly, drink, hatch, hop, creep, climb, crawl, flower, and breathe at Congaree National Park and throughout the world.

Biodiversity is a strong indicator of ecosystem health. The park is a prime example of a healthy ecosystem full of biodiversity.



All living things, including people, are connected. Biodiversity is essential to our survival. This includes risk from natural disasters; food and energy security;



opportunities for scientific discovery; recreation; and resources like clean water.

# Going Green

Across the globe biodiversity is in danger. Human actions including development, habitat fragmentation, climate change and pollution threaten earth's biodiversity. However, there is hope.

“Going Green” in our daily lives is one of the most effective ways to help protect our precious biodiversity.

The “Green Village” at NatureFest will demonstrate many of the big and little things we can do to live more in tune with our environment. Partners from across South Carolina will share conservation tips and cutting edge technology including solar panels, wind generators, hybrid vehicles, hydrogen fuel cells, and geothermal options.

As more of us “go green” our influence will be felt well beyond our local environment. Now is the time to act. The Green Village will help show us how.



# International Year of Biodiversity

The United Nations proclaimed 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). The IYB is a unique opportunity for people around the globe to increase awareness of biodiversity, threats to biodiversity, and what we can do to protect it.



## Biodiversity and the NPS

The special places protected by the National Park Service (NPS) are treasures of biodiversity. The NPS protects and preserves these resources for current and future generations. Several programs are aimed at documenting and conserving biodiversity in our national parks. For more information, please visit the NPS biodiversity website at: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/biodiversity/>