

**FREE**

# BONAIRE The REPORTER

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Malin Kaijser enjoys the view looking down into Tera Hundu in Bonaire, Planet Earth Photo Julie Morgan



## Earth day turns 50

***"In nature nothing exists alone"***

**– Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring***

Fifty years ago the founders of the first Earth Day were concerned about the harmful effects of pesticides and fertilizers on the planet. The stuff was leeching into the ground water, streams and rivers until it finally reached the oceans. People, animals, birds and fish were sick or dying because people thought insects were a nuisance and wanted them gone. Factories were discharging toxic and chemical waste into the ground because they could. The pollutants contaminated entire drinking water systems of towns and cities, and people developed cancer, birthed deformed children, developed long term medical issues and many died. In 1962, Rachel Carlson wrote the landmark book *Silent Spring* about the deadly effects of pesticides and people began to take a stand against the contamination of the waters and polluted air.

And, 50 years ago, no one even considered that the oh so convenient plastics in use could ever be a problem. Single use plastics were still a thing of the future as were plastic bags. Fishing was a profession for families or small time seafood companies. There was no such thing as the mega fleets of fish killers practicing bottom trawling, use of poisons, whale and shark slaughter and bycatch.

The first Earth Day events motivated people and even lawmakers to create and pass the first environmental laws in the United States and that was only months after the first Earth Day.

By the 1990's, Earth Day went global attracting 200 million people in 141 countries and in 1992 the United Nations held the first Earth Summit in Brazil. In addition to the previous issues plaguing the planet we added a new one "Global Warming" or climate change. By 2000

and the 30th anniversary, 184 countries celebrated Earth Day with new demands for clean energy.

In 2015, the United Nations established the Paris Climate Agreement to combat climate change, reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and limit the global temperature in this century to two degrees. To date, there are 197 countries that have committed to work toward this.

This year, worldwide, we are still fighting some of the same old problems a

as in 1970, but Earth Day has brought legislation, awareness and realized many victories. Our major issues today are pollution, plastics, deforestation, disposal of waste, over fishing, species loss, ocean acidification and of course global warning.

Now more than ever people can educate themselves about the many environmental crisis. There are countless books, magazines, websites, television programs, films and documentaries to enlighten us. And, social media sites keep us up to date on when and where people can lend a hand to help our earth and oceans.

There are well over 2000 registered environmental organizations in the world today that anyone can join. Locally, there are several cleanup and nature organizations one can join or donate through time or monetarily: Clean Coast Bonaire, One Hour Power Clean-up, Animal Shelter Bonaire, Echo, Mangrove Maniacs, Wild Bird Rehab, Reef Renewal, DCNA (Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance, Wildconscience BV and Sea Turtle Conservation Bonaire.

***Earth Day is everyday - be kind to your Mother.***

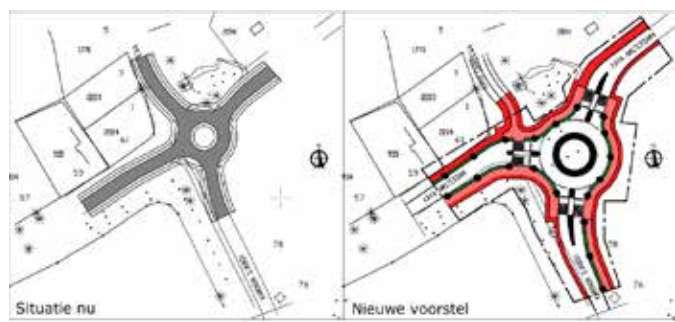
*by Julie Morgan*



In many parts of the world overfishing is a major problem destroying not just fish populations but decimating coral through trawling. Malin Kaijser swims into the beauty of Bonaire's schooling fish. Photo Julie Morgan



## Kaya Amsterdam roundabout to be rebuilt



According to the acrimonious fault finding occurring between varying levels of government, the roundabout under construction on Kaya Amsterdam has been declared “completely faulty” and must be rebuilt from scratch. No official cost estimate has been announced, but “at least \$600,000 dollars” has been mentioned.

The OLB has acknowledged that the roundabout is too small to handle container trucks, a major concern given the tentative plans to build a container port and business park in Hato. The roundabout also fails to meet driveability and safety standards, especially for cycle paths and footpaths. The government says that initially the roundabout was planned to serve a small residential area. Kaya Amsterdam is now becoming an important main road on Bonaire.

The new design will give Bonaire a larger, future-proof, 3-armed roundabout which meets all applicable Dutch standards and takes proper account of the WEB infrastructure and the safety of all traffic, including cyclists.

Construction of the new Kaya Amsterdam roundabout will start by mid-May and will be completed by mid-August. Four additional road projects will be starting in the coming weeks:

- Kaya Commerce: Start April 2021
- Kaya Gramel: start May 2021
- Kaya Hermandad: start May 2021
- Kaya Neerlandia: start June 2021 DMR

## Emergency steps needed at Curoil Hato

On April 13 the staff at Curoil Hato discovered the contents of all three storage tanks had become contaminated. Gasoline and diesel fuel were mixed when filling hoses were changed. The dangerous mixture had to be pumped out and the tanks cleaned.

After consultation, all parties involved agreed that, as an additional safety measure, a crash tender from Flamingo Airport should be deployed to Hato to standby while the tanks were cleaned. Airport crash tenders are designed to douse large fuel fires in seconds.

On the afternoon of Thursday, the 15th, and again Friday morning, drivers on Bonaire had to pull to the side of the road as police vehicles escorted the massive machine through town.

The tanks were cleaned safely and without incident. By coincidence, the mishap was investigated immediately. An inspection team from the Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate (ILT) arrived from the European Netherlands on the 14th to conduct the routine six months inspection.

Governor Rijna said: “This incident ended relatively well, but it does underline how vulnerable our fuel supply is as long as we depend on emergency facilities. Rapid action has prevented worse, the production of electricity has not been directly endangered and the filling stations are not without [fuel]. This incident proves that the use of the current emergency facilities should not take longer than strictly necessary, especially from a safety point of view.” DMR



**Flotsam & Jetsam, continued on page 7**

## Covid-19 round-up

**The vaccination program has been amplified and diversified.** Bonaire’s vaccination program can NOW handle 1000 people per day, but too many Bonaireans are still dragging their feet. So the government is offering a wider range of vaccination options. Companies and organizations can now register to provide their entire staff an opportunity to be vaccinated along with their fellow workers. Teams will be visiting neighborhoods to vaccinate people at a location in their community. Those who are bedridden or ill can arrange to be vaccinated at home. During certain hours at different sites, people can walk in and get vaccinated without pre-registration. Other islands are expanding vaccination opportunities too.

As Governor Edison Rijna has reminded everyone, “The moment 85% of Bonaire is vaccinated, when everyone has gotten their two shots, we can start thinking about a life as it was before.”

**People who have been ill with the virus, or have ever tested positive,** should also report for vaccination. They will be given a single booster dose. New studies have shown that people vaccinated with the Pfizer vaccine should have a booster vaccination in the future.

**The Risk Level 6 precautions worked, so the OLB has restored Risk Level 5 measures.** The Public Health department has commended Bonaireans for abiding by the more restrictive measures of Risk Level 6. The covid infection rate has been dramatically

reduced. At one point we had 464 active cases of Covid-19. Recently active cases have come down to 51.

Therefore the risk level has been reduced to Level 5 until April 29th. A 9 pm to 4 am curfew is still in force. Drinking alcohol in public is still illegal. And the quarantine for people coming from high-risk countries continues.

A Risk Level 5, however, people who are not housemates can be together. Non-vital companies remain closed, but they can deliver their merchandise. Outside sports are again allowed. Primary schools and childcare are open without restrictions. Other schools are open as well, with precautions recommended.

**The Dutch cabinet has declared a mandatory quarantine for all travelers from high-risk areas.** Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao are currently on the high-risk list. People who test negative after five days can leave quarantine early. The fine for violating quarantine is 95 euros..

**Curaçao has extended its Level 6 restrictions until end of April.**

**The hospital has expanded its capacity to treat covid victims** by converting Special Care and Sentebibu nursing wards into covid wards. Clients of Kas di Kuido, the nursing home, have been temporarily moved to Hotel Delfins. DMR

**For more information:**

- Call 0800-0800 (TOLL-FREE) to ask questions about your health and Coronavirus. Mon to Sat from 8 am to 8 pm and on Sun. from 8 am to 4 pm.
- Go to [www.bonairecrisis.com](http://www.bonairecrisis.com) or call 0800 0900 (TOLL-FREE) for information about vaccinating or to register.

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## Covid-19 on Bonaire totals as of April 22, 2021

<b>34 active</b>	<b>7968 tested</b>
<b>1527 positive</b>	<b>7 hospitalized</b>
<b>6440 negative</b>	<b>15 deceased</b>

For up to date covid news go to the online Reporter <https://bonairereporter.com>



# Bonaire has a Garden of Eden



Manuel and Sandra stand amidst the two hectare garden of plants, trees and herbs at the Bonaire Botanical Garden.

A visit to the Bonaire Botanical Garden will have you thinking you are in a tropical rain forest rather than the “desert island” of Bonaire. On two hectares of land, Manuel Simbana and his wife Sandra have transformed the scrubby, cactus populated land into a Garden of Eden. There are plants and trees of all kinds and Manuel says they are all from Bonaire. The couple has no idea how many plants there are as they just keep growing.

Most every plant has medicinal value and many people visit for his herbal/plant remedies, information or consultation.

The garden is a herbal/plant wonderland. This didn't happen by accident but through study, testing and acquired knowledge. Of Ecuadorian Indian descent, Manuel learned natural herbal ancestral medicine from his father and grandmother. Through his university studies,

he gained scientific knowledge and combined it with the spiritual wisdom of his grandmother. Manuel has traveled the world working in this special field of biology.

Manuel says, Earth is the ‘air planet’ or life planet with special magnets (magnetotropism). This is what allows plant growth. If there is no magneticism, there is no life and no microorganisms.

“Air planet is really the ocean planet and it is fantastic; 20 percent is oxygen and nitrogen and 80 percent is water...” said Manuel.

He explained humans are only one group on the planet and the oxygen is really for reproduction of virals, bios, fungals and different microbiology. Different areas on the planet have different native plants and this adaptation is necessary for the continuous development of life on the planet.

For life on the air planet to continue for the next generation, we don't need to think about conservation or preservation but restoration. The idea is to think of the needs of the next generation.

“We need to demonstrate the self denial concept,” said Manuel.

The three ‘R’ concept of Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, is practiced fully at the botanical garden. Manuel suggested we should add Restoration to that concept.

He added that human beings think they are the only species that is important on the planet. We need to be in a community with plants and microbiology, communication is key.

**Botanical Garden, continued on page 8**

## FOR SALE Belmar Apartment 7 Unobstructed Ocean Views



- Location : Belnem, Oceanfront
- Living area: 95 m2 / 1023 sq. ft.
- 2 bedrooms / 2 bathrooms / storage



- 2 private piers with ocean access
- Pool with sundeck, onsite dive shop
- 24/7 rental management

**3D tour**



**Price \$429,000 US Dollar**

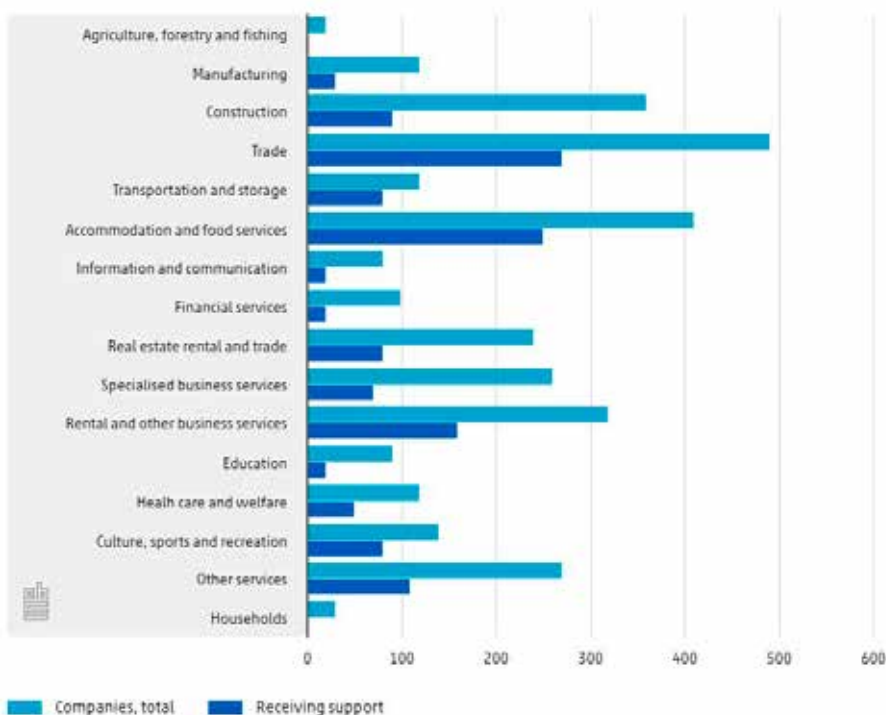
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# Half of Caribbean Netherlands' companies use emergency package

Companies receiving financial support in the Caribbean Netherlands by sector, since March 2020



As of March 2020, a package of emergency measures has been in place in the Caribbean Netherlands to tackle the economic consequences of the coronavirus crisis. According to Statistics Netherlands (CBS), nearly half of all local

enterprises received a financial contribution towards their wage costs and/or fixed overhead last year.

The companies claiming government support for their wage costs and/or fixed



## Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Are there any restrictions or extra costs for foreign buyers to buy a home on Bonaire? Thanks, Melanie

Hi Melanie,  
There are no restrictions on non-residents buying property on Bonaire. The costs to purchase property are paid by both residents and non-residents. These costs to purchase are approximately 7 to 8% of the purchase price, which includes a government 5% transfer tax and the cost of the Notaris to perform a title search, deed transfer and register a mortgage, if you have one. After you own the property, one difference between resident and non-resident own-

ers is that resident owners of Bonaire who have lived in their home for a calendar year pay a lower property tax rate than non-resident owners.

All the best,  
Kate Butler and Jean Searce  
Re/Max Bonaire

If you have a real estate question or want to buy or sell property, email us at [kate@bonairehomes.com](mailto:kate@bonairehomes.com).

overhead ranged from 45 percent on Bonaire to 55 percent on Saba and 47 percent on St Eustatius.

Claims were made for wage costs relating to 4,020 jobs for both employees and the self-employed. The vast majority of claims were made in the accommodation and food services sector. In this sector, 200 companies received financial support for 1,290 jobs; almost all of

them were located on Bonaire (1,190). In the trade sector, 200 companies applied for contributions from the emergency package. They received a contribution towards their wage costs for altogether 500 jobs.



# POLICE REPORT

## Property crime

**Apr. 7.** Two mountain bikes were reported stolen from the yard of a house on Bulevar Julio A. Abraham sometime in the past two weeks. The bikes are a Merida black / white mountain bike with colored saddle and a Specialized black mountain bike.

## Arrested/held in custody.

**Apr. 11.** Around 4:30 pm, a 13-year-old was arrested for violating the Identification Act, violating the BES weapons law and for failing to comply with police. A large number of fireworks was confiscated.

**Apr. 17.** During curfew checks a man was arrested for violation of the BES Weapons Act. During his arrest, two ladies got involved. One lady was arrested for assaulting a police officer and for attempted manslaughter for directing a car towards a police officer. The other lady was arrested for threats. Warning shots were fired during the arrest.

## Traffic accidents/violations

**Apr. 8.** Around 10:50 am, a car and a cyclist collided. A cyclist was riding in front of the car. At the T-junction connecting the Kaya Neerlandia to the Kaya Korona, the cyclist went to the right side of the roadway as if he were going to ride up Kaya Neerlandia. When the car started to pass the cyclist, the cyclist drove in front of the car. The driver of the car braked but hit the cyclist. The cyclist was

taken to hospital by ambulance.

**Apr. 18.** In the morning hours the police station was notified that a car was found upside down in the mondi at Kaya Ir. R Statius of Eps. There was no one in the car. Witnesses stated that a woman had climbed out of the car and was looking for her dog. A little later, the driver came back and stated that she swerved away from a donkey, causing her to lose control. The dog who was also in the car flew out of the car and then walked away. The driver was unharmed. A tow truck has towed the car.

**Apr. 18.** At around 12:35 am, a patrol encountered a girl with her face covered in blood on Kaya Nikiboko North. She had fallen off her scooter. She was taken to hospital by ambulance.

## Traffic checks

**Apr. 9.** During a traffic check at Kaya Korona 20 drivers of vehicles were stopped. Police reports were given for driving without valid insurance certificates, or a driver's license. Four drivers have received warnings for not wearing a seat belt. During the check a person was found without identification documents. The person was then handed over to the Immigration Department.

**Apr. 12-13.** During checks at several locations a total of 25 reports were issued. Eighteen drivers were fined for Driving without a seat belt; five for driving without valid insurance papers, three for driving without a valid driver's license, three

for driving in a prohibited direction, one for driving with defective rear lights and four for calling while driving.

**Apr. 14-16.** Fines were issued for driving without valid insurance documents, without a valid driver's license, for holding a phone while driving and for driving without a seat belt.

## Fires

**Apr. 10.** A vehicle was on fire on Bulevar EEC. The owner stated he was in construction work when he started the pickup to put garbage in the trunk. Then he saw a small fire under the pick-up. The fire brigade extinguished the fire and there were no injuries. The cause of the fire is being investigated.

## Policing the curfew and emergency ordinance

*Multidisciplinary checks on compliance with emergency regulations and curfews are carried out by the Dutch Caribbean Police Force (KPCN), the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (KMAR) and the Supervision and Enforcement Directorate of the Public Entity.*

**Apr. 6-11.** Fifty nine police reports were issued for violating the curfew. Five arrests were made: for failing to comply with the police; making threats; violating the Opium Act BES; and for the Identification Act; public intoxication and resisting arrest. Also during curfew checks, several bottles of alcohol were seized from a beach on the Bulevar E.E.G; a car hit the wall of a supermarket at the intersection of Kaya Nikiboko Noord and Kaya Macario (Cai) Sint Jago; two catering facilities were closed; and, during the

day, a hair salon was closed.

**Apr. 12-13.** Two gyms that violated the emergency ordinance were closed until further notice. The owners of both gyms also received a police report for violating the emergency ordinance.

A supermarket that was still open a little after 8 pm was warned. Seven police reports were issued for curfew violations. Two people received an official report for gathering at a house.

**Apr. 14-15.** Ten police reports were issued for curfew violations. The leader of a religious community was warned because he was holding a church service.

**Apr. 16.** A total of 31 police reports were issued for violating curfews. Attendees were fined for gathering at two addresses. In addition, one person received a report for driving under the influence.

**Apr. 17.** Twelve people received a police report for violating curfews and gathering. One police report was issued for driving under the influence.

**Apr. 18.** Three police reports were issued for curfew violations and one police report for drunk driving.

**Apr. 19.** At approximately 12:15 am a person on Kaya Korona was arrested during the curfew check for failure to comply with police orders and for insulting an official in office.

Owner of a snack in the Rincon area received a police report for gathering; a group of 40 to 50 people all ran away upon the arrival of the police.

# PARROTS and PEOPLE

by Julianka Clarendia

## Our Earth, Our Home, Celebrate it from Home.

Echo's Earth Day theme is "Together, We Can Restore Our Earth"! We are the conservation organisation dedicated to restoring Bonaire's Dry Forest, the indispensable habitat for our charismatic native Yellow shouldered Amazon parrot. Echo's Parrots and People invites you to celebrate this momentous occasion with us. The earth is Home to all of us and even being in the pandemic, at home with your family, you can make active progress to restore Our Home, The Earth!

In celebration on April 22, Echo will put the spotlight on both the Parrots and the Dry Forest they call home.

Together with Tourism Cooperation Bonaire, Echo will start the day with a live stream at 8am from Dos Pos Conservation Centre. During this livestreaming, people can admire the captive Yellow-shouldered Amazon Parrot morning routine by having breakfast with the Lora's. In addition, the audience can interact with our experts in the afternoon at 4p.m., during the "Q&A" session. This gives everybody the chance to ask questions of Echo about their work and vision on restoration of our Earth starting on our small island, Bonaire. You can follow the live stream on the "Bonaire Tourism" Facebook page.

Most of Echo's captive birds are being rehabilitated and have a chance to go back into the wild. This was the initial reason for beginning the restoration of Bonaire's Dry Forest in 2015. But Echo also believes there is allot of value in protecting the habitat where it's possible. That's why Echo is launching a Petition for a nature park in heart of Kralendijk. It can be signed on line by residents and visitors of Bonaire.

Together with other local nature organizations Echo is demanding the island government designate a large swath of tropical dry forest together with the eastern part of Saliña di Vlijt as a nature park. The proposed site encompasses approximately 27,5 hectares (67.95 acres) between Kaya Amsterdam, Kaminda Djabou and Kaya Sirena, including the northern extent of Saliña di Vlijt. The site has not yet been designated in the Spatial Development Plan Bonaire.

While the western part of Salina di Vlijt and its nature have already been given a leasehold to Harbour Village,



the eastern side of the saliña is being developed by the local government into a wetland area to attract more and other water birds. This area contains at least 24 different plant and tree species which provide food for more than 21 species of birds, bats and reptiles. And several of the trees (such as the Lignum vitae / Wayaka), as well as bird (Yellow-shouldered Amazon, Lora) and bats species seen there are locally and/or internationally protected. Many trees are also protected by law because of the size of their trunk.

Combining the northeastern portions of Saliña di Vlijt, will create a publicly accessible city park that would not only have ecological, but especially high recreational and educational values. Furthermore, by protecting this site, we are also reducing the impacts of overgrazing, allowing older trees to produce new ones, thus greening Bonaire's future and improving micro-climates for the health and wellbeing of its people and wildlife, alike.

This is a unique opportunity to preserve a beautiful land and aquatic nature reserve in the heart of Kralendijk, central to neighborhoods, hotels and schools. This fits perfectly with the island's nature-friendly image. Can you help us make it happen?! This petition is already supported by other nature organizations such as WildConscience, CARIBSS, BirdsCaribbean, BonBèrdè and Tera Barra.

Lend your support. Sign the online petition: [www.change.org](http://www.change.org)

## Air Belgium to fly Europe to Curaçao route

Air Belgium airline announced that in July it will begin competing with KLM and TUI for passengers flying between Europe and Curaçao. The Belgians will fly from their home base at Charleroi, south of Brussels, to Willemstad, with a stopover in Martinique. The return flight from Curaçao will stopover in Martinique as well. Passengers going either way can remain on board the Airbus

A340 during the stopover. The flight between Martinique and Curaçao will take an hour and a half.

The Air Belgium flights will take slightly longer than those offered by KLM and TUI but be considerably less expensive. Next Christmas, for example, Air Belgium will offer return flights for 650 euros.

## Letters & Opinions

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and forum participants do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of The Bonaire Reporter.

### One-man pothole patcher Earline Wasser

Letter to the Editor,

Someone forwarded me a video of a one-person operated street pothole repair machine. It is beautiful but upon investigation, I learned it is a prototype of a company in Turkey by a Russian engineer seeking investors. I was disappointed. Then I got to thinking, maybe there were other operating machines out there and I did an Internet search. There are several. It seems potholes are a common complaint across every continent on the planet.

Not having any background in this subject matter, I tried to concentrate on the one-person concept. This narrowed the field considerably. I did find one similar in style to the video presentation but with enough difference that they were not too alike. It is the Python 5000 Pothole Patcher or the 5000+ Pothole Patcher. <http://www.superiorroads.com/products/pothole-patcher> I have no connection with the above-mentioned company in any manner. I only use them as an example. Other companies that I am not aware of, may be available with further research. Some companies claim their equipment can repair 40 to 50 potholes a day.

The one-person concept allows the operator to be inside the cab of the equipment thereby eliminating the chance of anyone getting killed by a passing careless car or truck driver. There are numerous incidents of this happening in this profession. I've had it happen to someone I knew.

The hotel/restaurant industries have been eager to reopen Bonaire to tourists. Like the people who live on Bonaire, many tourists have complained regarding potholes in our streets and roads to Face Book and letters to the editor. The spending clientele the hotel and restaurants are hoping to attract will consider this in their choosing to come here.

My thoughts are that possibly Bonaire, Saba and St Eustatius with the assistance of The Netherlands could go in together sharing costs to purchase a pot hole repair machine. They could block out quarterly months on the calendar when the machine would be available on each island. Pot holes are something everyone talks about but little is done about them.

Right now, only the auto repair, tire distributors and car sales companies on these islands are benefiting as everything is worn out so fast from the jarring the vehicles take encountering these unmanaged potholes. I'm sure normal vehicle wear-and-tear repairs and upgrading cars will continue to attract these specific merchants' customers.

Thank you for reading my suggestion. I am writing this as a concerned Bonaire resident.

Earline Wasser

### The roads ... Pam Teitel

Ok, it's me yet again...

Back to the roads... Are you kidding??? Kaya Grandi was one of the few roads that not only had no pot holes, it also looked to be in perfectly good condition. Now, it has been closed for a while to dig out to put pipes that pass through the business center of town and what do they do?? Dig out 80% of the road and patch that in different ways on different parts. Why not dig out that last 10-20% of the road and fix the whole thing? The road is now uneven and unsightly. Pavers have already begun to settle on part making it uneven, the rest is an uneven patchwork of pavement. OK, Web has to fix what they break, but couldn't the gvt come in and pay that last 20% to do it all at once?

Now, this perfectly good road has to get on the list of roads to repair when only weeks ago it was fine. Again, (probably in 16 years) we will have the inconvenience of closing it to fix what they have now ruined. Really SAD.

Guess we will have the same result, by passing the road at the marina. Fix or patch?

And what is up with the circle on Kaya Amsterdam and the road by Napa? Seem to have forgotten about them. When they sort that out and get back to work, I really hope that they do not continue and make the "fast right" onto Kaya CA Nicolaas, as that was what made that intersection by Napa so dangerous, people coming at full speed onto that road with an intersection so close and no view of the cars zooming in. The intersection should remain as it is now.

Thought there was a plan to fix the roads, it only seems to get worse.

Pam Teitel

CARIBBEAN WEATHER CENTER 2021 Atlantic Hurricane Forecast			
	2021 forecast	Average	2020 total
<b>Tropical storms</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Hurricanes</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Major hurricanes</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>
<a href="https://www.caribbeanweathercenter.net/hurricane-season">https://www.caribbeanweathercenter.net/hurricane-season</a>			



# Volunteer to do some good



Everyone is welcome to volunteer: individuals, friends, families, visitors and businesses.

Volunteering evokes the satisfaction of helping others and contributing to a cause that you care about. Everyone is making a difference, it feels good and it's fun.

And, you could even learn a new skill.

Organizations and businesses that volunteer might find a way to instill employee camaraderie and motivation. Businesses that volunteer could even bring positive attention from the media and the general public.

Some of the organizations which volunteer yearly and registered for 2021 are: Fundashon FORMA, MCB Bonaire, Telbo Bonaire, WEB, RCN and OLB.

There are over 100 registered jobs that can be found under the "job search" button at <http://www.bondoet.com>. Just a few of the jobs are painting, maintenance, coastal cleanup, sports field cleanup, agriculture jobs, building a well, constructing a greenhouse underwater cleanup and even helping with a picnic for the elderly. There is definitely something for everyone.

All volunteers receive a goodie bag with a face mask, hand sanitizer, personal water bottle, Bon Doet cap and t-shirt. And, everyone receives lunch. Sponsors NGO and Oranje Fonds has made special efforts to ensure safety against the coronavirus by adding special items for each volunteer. And, most all jobs are outside.

The closing ceremony for volunteers is still in the works but is guaranteed to be fun and all Covid-19 regulations will be followed.

Volunteers are the beating heart of all social organizations. The NGO Platform Bonaire and Oranje Fonds collaboration through BON DOET illustrate how important active citizens are to society.

Bon Doet is scheduled for May 28 and 29 so there is still time to sign up. Go to <https://www.bondoet.com> for registration. The website is offered in Papiamentu, Dutch and English. *Story and photo Julie Morgan*

# Parrot breakfast

Yes, that's right, you can have breakfast with Bonaire's parrots. This once in a lifetime livestream event is held in celebration of Earth Day thanks to Tourism Corporation Bonaire (TCB) and Echo Bonaire.

The April 22, Earth Day event begins at 8am and if you miss that then have an afternoon snack with the parrots at 4pm.

The free live virtual events will feature an expert from Echo giving you all sorts of facts about the birds and how Echo protects them. They will give you fun parrot facts, interact with the birds by feeding them and provide information about what you can do to help the parrots personally.

The 4pm session will feature a question and answer session.

The bird breakfast will livestream on the Facebook page @Bonaire Tourism.

And while you are there, have a look at the 22 ways Bonaire is celebrating Earth Day as everyday is Earth Day on Bonaire. *Story and photo Julie Morgan*

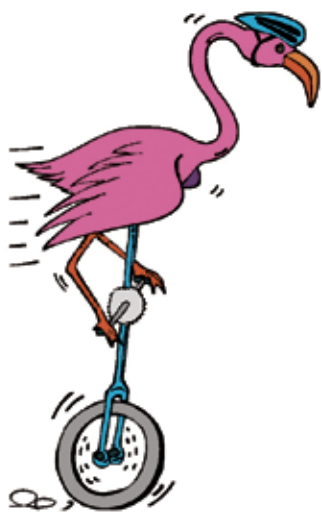


Kenneth Letsoin, guest Street Colors artist, for Hofi Kultural, leads a few of Bonaire's artists in an abstract wall painting at Flamingo Fitness. The bright, energetic colors painted in the gym's breezeway to the sea is the perfect inspiration for a workout. The artist arrived two weeks ago and has managed to paint random abstracts around Kralendijk, a wall at Hofi Kultural and an entry at FORSA with the help of some 5-12 year old residents.

Kenneth will be painting and teaching with the project for the next three weeks. So look for any surprise art popping up around the island.

Top L-R: Kenneth Letsoin, Judmar Emerenciana, Bottom L-R: Robert Kramp, Loes Hak and Ghislaine Monte. *Story and photo Julie Morgan*

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## OLB wants the tourist industry back, but better

The covid pandemic devastated Bonaire's tourist industry. However, it also created an opportunity to launch the government's Tourism Recovery Plan. The plan is intended to offer unique and authentic experiences in order to attract "quality tourism" that will generate more income with fewer tourists. It would also protect the core values of the island—tranquility, nature, and the island's culture.

The Tourism Recovery Plan has three goals: restore existing markets for higher consumption expenditure, diversify the tourism product, and increase the involvement and participation of the local community. The OLB wants to better connect tourists with our nature, our community, and our culture. It also wants to design more types of day and night visitor activities and diversify into sports tourism, "digital nomads," private yachts and a more selective cruise industry.

The Tourism Recovery Plan was compiled with input of various stakeholders and experts, including TCB, BONHATA, the Chamber of Commerce, BBE and participants in the Master Plan sessions. Participation of our local community in regards to tourism developments and appreciation of the local identity and culture are considered essential to the plan's success.

The TCB's current budget is 1.2 million dollars per year. Attracting the desired type of visitor would cost an estimated three to six million dollars. DMR

## Coast Guard rescues girl

Earlier this month the coast guard helicopter found a girl who had wandered away from her family. She was on a walk with her parents. The girl had been missing for an hour when the Coast Guard received a call at 10:53 AM. The helicopter had just returned from a patrol flight. It immediately returned to Bonaire. In the meantime, searchers had established contact with the girl by phone, but she could not tell them where she was. She said she could see the police cars, however. The Coast Guard found the child and lifted her aboard. She was in good health except for a headache and confusion. She was taken to hospital for a medical checkup.

## Whiskey drinkers beware

Bottles of counterfeit Johnnie Walker Black have turned up on the island. The source is unknown. The bottles can be recognized because the batch number, normally affixed to the bottom of the back of the bottle, has been removed. The Supervision & Enforcement Directorate says people should not drink the suspect whiskey because they are not sure what's actually in the bottle. DMR

## Non-compliance fines mounting up

Public gatherings are the most significant way the covid virus spreads. So the government is cracking down. The police have reported nearly 300 violations of the covid restrictions to the Public Prosecution Service of the BES islands. The Public Prosecution Service is actively processing these fines and approaching all offenders. The first fine, \$150, has already been paid. So far this month the bailiff has notified 87 people that they have been fined.

Most infractions were for violating curfews (\$171 to \$150 fine), alcohol prohibition (\$30 to \$150 fine), gathering ban (\$76 to \$150 fine), and combinations of these violations (a \$250 fine). Fines can be paid directly to the bailiff by debit card. The Public Prosecution Service (OM BES) intends to summon those who do not pay for a court hearing, starting in August. DMR ([Bonaire.nu](http://Bonaire.nu))

## Onerous bank regulation rescinded

A bill being considered in parliament will end an onerous banking regulation. Under current law, Dutch citizens are not allowed to have a checking account with a Dutch bank unless they reside in the European Union. The new bill will give all Dutch citizens the right to have a basic checking account with a Dutch bank, regardless of place of residence. In recent years, Dutch banks have unilaterally terminated the current accounts of Dutch residents outside the European Union, including the Caribbean Netherlands. DMR ([Koninkrijk.nu](http://Koninkrijk.nu))

## TCB launches flamingo imitation contest

Tourism Corporation Bonaire has launched a ten-day social media contest in the Dutch market to raise awareness of Bonaire as a vacation destination. The winner will receive a trip for two from Amsterdam to Bonaire, including round trip airfare and six nights in a penthouse at Resort Bonaire with daily breakfast. People can enter by submitting a 10 to 30 second video showing their best imitation of Bonaire's national bird, the flamingo, to the hashtag #FlamingoFunBonaire. The contest is restricted to people registered at a current address in the Netherlands. The winner will be selected randomly from the qualified entrants. DMR

## Senate to consider Disputes Act

The bill for the Kingdom Disputes Act, passed by Parliament over a year ago, will finally be on the Senate agenda for June 1. The Senate cannot reject or amend legislation, but it can raise questions and send the legislation back to Parliament for further consideration. The Senate has been waiting for State Secretary Knops to respond to questions it sent him February 2020. DMR ([Koninkrijk.nu](http://Koninkrijk.nu))

## Rincon trash facility to be expanded

Garden, construction, and other bulky waste are being clandestinely dumped along the way to the Rincon waste collection point at Morotin. Therefore Selibon N.V. will expand the Environmental Square in Morotin to accommodate these types of waste. Selibon will also clean the places along the road where trash has already been dumped. Signs will indicate where users should unload garden, construction, and other bulky waste. All other waste must be deposited in the containers designated for recyclable waste separation. DMR

## Bonaire gets Condé Nast nominations

As usual Condé Nast Traveler, the leading U.S. travel magazine, has nominated Bonaire under several categories for its annual Readers' Choice Awards. These awards are the longest running and most prestigious recognition of excellence in the travel industry. The winners are selected entirely by readers' votes. Bonaire is on the ballot in the "Islands" and "Countries" categories, and Kralendijk in the "Cities" category. Divi Flamingo Beach Resort & Casino, Captain Don's Habitat, and Plaza Resort Bonaire are nominated in the "Hotels and Resorts" category. DMR

## UN announces aid to Saint Vincent

The recent eruption of the volcano La Soufrière on Saint Vincent has forced the evacuation of about 20,000 people. Currently some 4,500 are staying in shelters. Most houses have run out of water and many residents are suffering from the large outpouring of ash.

The UN has announced it is sending a million dollars in "urgent humanitarian aid to affected people, especially those who have been evacuated." Aid workers from the UN will distribute drinking water and hygiene kits on the island. The most vulnerable will also receive money to buy food.

The volcano La Soufrière erupted for the first time since 1979, and eruptions continue on a daily basis. The ash clouds cover Saint Vincent and reach surrounding islands. According to the UN, the volcanic eruptions could have economic consequences for Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Lucia, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Martinique and Guadeloupe, depending on the wind direction.

Airborne dust has been reported on Bonaire. The Caribbean Weather Center emphasizes it is not ashes from the La Soufrière eruption. It is dust from the Sahara. It will continue to reduce visibility and produce hazy skies, posing a risk for people with respiratory problems. DMR ([Koninkrijk.nu](http://Koninkrijk.nu), [Bonaire.nu](http://Bonaire.nu))

# BONHATA urges clear admission policy for vaccinated tourists

BONHATA writes:

A clear admission policy is of vital importance to Bonaire's economic future.

After more than a year of lock downs and restrictions, tourists are getting serious about their summer vacation and their post-summer travel. Therefore, now is the time for Bonaire to start sending out clear statements about the admission policy of vaccinated tourists.

We urge the Ministry of Public Health to announce on very short notice that, from July 1st, 2021, travelers from countries that are NOT on the no-fly list will be admitted upon presentation of proof of full vaccination,

with the last vaccination given at least 14 days before entry. In addition, of course, the current possibility must remain for non-vaccinated travelers to be admitted under the current test requirements.

The vaccination rate on Bonaire is steadily increasing and is expected to approach the required 75% on short notice in order to reach 'herd immunity'. The Public Health authority is even aiming to reach an 85% vaccination rate. In the regions where most of our tourists are from, North America and Western Europe, more and more people are being vaccinated against COVID-19.

A clear admission policy for vaccinated tourists is not

only important for the tourists, but also for our residents and entrepreneurs on the island. The tourism industry needs to know where they stand to be able to prepare for the reopening of our island and our economy.

There are many destinations that already provide clarity and when tourists start to book their vacations, Bonaire cannot afford to miss out. Popular diving destinations such as Belize and Phuket allow fully vaccinated travelers 14 days after their last vaccination on the island without COVID-19 testing. This measure saves a lot of unnecessary costs for travelers-- an important factor in the choice of their vacation destination.



# Groups clean up Bonaire

## NOBO and Echo

NOBO and Echo joined forces in March to plant more trees on Bonaire by launching 'My Bonaire Tree'. Wayaca seedlings were planted in a NOBO recycled plastic flower pot. All proceed went to reforestation efforts on Bonaire. Planting trees is another Earth Day incentive to increase oxygen in the atmosphere and filter out nasty pollutants, plus they beautify the island.

## One Hour Clean Up Power

Although Covid put a damper on the One Hour Clean Up Power (OHCUP) weekly cleanups of Bonaire's coast, dedicated members have continued to pick up the coastal refuse on their own. In the last few months the individual and maintenance coastal clean ups have averaged 40-50 bags. This number is considered low in regard to the amount of trash collected prior to Covid.

Laurie of OHCUP said, "There can never really be a stopping point until ocean plastic is no longer an issue. As long as there is plastic, I suspect we will continue...However not public as large groups aren't allowed."



## "Bag it Up!"

"Bag it Up!" is a clean up project by Caribbean Homes to keep Bonaire's crystal blue waters clean. They are supplying huge, oversized recyclable clean up bags to anyone who will help clean up the island.

To date they have handed out approximately 150 bags. Many have gone to members of One Hour Clean Up Power. The Bag it Up! campaign is supported by Selibon (Waste & Recycling Disposal) and to make your clean up easy, they have placed four waste containers at the backside of Caribbean Homes office. There are still 650 bags available to anyone that would like to go out and clean up the mon-di, beaches or roadsides. Bags are available at our office weekdays from 9 -12 am or from 4 - 5 pm.

Take a photo of yourself emptying your full bag of trash into the waste bins. Send it to Caribbean Homes or post it on theirFB page to be eligible to win a \$50 dinner voucher.

The Caribbean Homes staff hopes to join One Hour Clean Up Power on their scheduled Saturday clean ups, as soon as Covid regulations permit. Help us keep our island clean.

# Botanical garden, continued from page 3



A sampling of what is in store for you inside the botanical garden.

Manuel said we have been in a war against the bad. The big rafts of sargassum have been cleaned out of the areas at Lac and then burned or disposed of at Selibon. He says that sargassum is actually super important for the environment as it can contain up to 92 percent of protein with millions of microorganism that produce oxygen. He and Sandra collect it to use in their compost for the plants.

The Neem tree is also on the 'bad' list with some people. But in actuality it is an antibacterial, medicinal for hormonal balance, treatment for psoriasis, natural insecticide and food for birds.

Many of the plants and trees in the garden might be thought of as bad, but in reality are good for the planet and you. The list is long. There is even a mushroom that can eat/degrade plastic.

Manuel explained, in regard to plant medicine, there isn't just one plant that can fix one thing wrong in your body, it is a combination. The key is changing your behavior and returning to the natural solution for health.

The botanical garden is teeming with life: plants, trees, animals and birds. The smells and sounds cannot be experienced anywhere else on Bonaire.

Manuel can provide you with a tour, medicinal advice and perhaps give you some ideas and hope for a better earth.

The Botanical Garden is open every day from 10am to 4pm at Trasdí Montana #9 on the road north to Rincon. Visit on Facebook Bonaire Botanical Garden, or email stichcobon@gmail.com. Phone is 770-8853/777-0508

Story and photos Julie Morgan



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# Picture Yourself Getting the vaccine

After finishing her workout, Kelly Livingston passed by the vaccine center and saw there was NO LINE. She was allowed to go in, ahead of her scheduled 11am time for Vaccine #2.

"Normally I wouldn't look at any needle. That was not possible taking a selfie... Eyes wide open! I was in and out in 25 minutes," said Kelly. "Thank you, Bonaire and the hard working people who make this possible. The process gives me hope!"



With everyone getting the vaccine, and doing their part to make the world covid free, we thought it would be fun to feature YOU doing your part. We will post the photos on our Facebook page. **So take your selfie** and let us know who you are, where you are and any other interesting details. Everyone is welcome! Hey, you could win a prize! Stay safe!



# Did you Know?



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# Did You Know? that sargassum might be profitable?

We all probably remember the brown smelly algae that washed ashore in massive amounts in 2018. A lot of volunteers, many hours, and a lot of money later the Lac, Sorobon and Lagun were clean again, but we were left with piles of rotting sargassum because no one really wanted it.

When Sargassum is floating in the Sargasso Sea it is a biodiversity hotspot and a nice habitat for many species. However, once it washes ashore it starts to decompose. This results in poor environmental conditions and that terrible rotten egg smell. Many scientists and nature conservation organisations struggle with finding solutions for this problem. Other sectors would like a solution as well, since in 2018 the total costs associated with sargassum were estimated at 210 million dollars. So, wouldn't it be great if we had a solution that could also generate some money?

A group of scientists in Mexico produced biofuel with sargassum that landed there. Unfortunately, these processes are quite advanced, making them too expensive for small islands like Bonaire. Additionally, these companies that would depend on biofuel from sargassum would probably go bankrupt in a year because of the low quantities of sargassum that can be harvested in Bonaire.

Another thing that they investigated was the possibility of sargassum as a possible food source for people or animals. Regrettably this option was also not possible; sargassum contains chemicals that would make it highly toxic for people and animals to eat.

Some creative people thought about making paper with the brown algae. In some places they make menus with it. This might be a possible solution, since making paper on a small scale is exactly what is useful with a product that is not available every day of the year. Also, it might be nice to use menus made of a local product.

Another possible use for Sargassum is making fertilizer out of it. In Mexico importing fertilizer from the



With the help of many volunteers the sargassum is contained removed from Lac and Sorobon. Photo Julie Morgan

US is very expensive. Way more expensive than making fertilizer out of sargassum. Using sargassum collected from all over the Caribbean to make fertilizer could be an option.

Another possible end use for sargassum could be as a food thickener. Scientists isolated sodium alginate from brown algae like Sargassum. This is a very profitable product widely used in the food industry and as a stabilizer in many cosmetic products. The annual yield of this product is estimated at 624 million dollars and increases every year!

Many possible end uses for sargassum have been proposed and are being investigated. In a few years a profit-

able and sustainable solution for the sargassum collected from landings might be found, but for the smallest islands of the Caribbean, export might be the best suitable option.

*Written by Kelly Bulsink, STINAPA intern. Connecting People With Nature*



## Creating optimal health

by Irene da Cunda Costa

### Making friends with our emotions (fear).

Are we in the age of fear? Are we people manipulated through fear? History shows people have always been manipulated by fear; it is not new. Is fear bad? Could we live without fear? How would life be without it? What would have happened to the Paleolithic man if he had not felt fear at the sight of a saber tooth tiger? Surely that one wouldn't have had the chance to survive and pass on his genes. We need a certain amount of fear to survive. This reminds me of my favorite quote: "the venom is in the dose".

Fear is a basic emotion. The word emotion etymologically refers to energy and movement. Emotions affect the mental and physical aspects of the person. They are the fuel of life and survival and provide information from within and from the outside world.

We develop emotional intelligence when we recognize our emotions, accept them, understand their message, analyze where they come from, and when we constructively act upon them. Fear warns us to protect ourselves. On the other hand, anger gives us energy to attack when we face a threat. Sadness brings us to retreat and take care of ourselves when we feel hurt or we feel we lost something. Joy pushes us to expand and share. Disgust draws us away from harmful agents by rejecting them.

Fear can be described as a feeling of anguish that occurs when a threat is perceived, especially when we assess that the magnitude of that threat is greater than the resources we have to face it. It manifests as anxiety, nervousness, worry, uncertainty and at a more extreme level as terror, panic or phobia. When we feel fear the blood runs to the large voluntary muscles preparing us to flee, and a cascade of hormones prepares us for defense. Attention is focused on the threat and our resources to assess what the best response would be.

When fear is dysfunctional people may become paralyzed, or they may deny or numb this feeling. These reactions may be due to limiting beliefs such as:

- "Fear is a sign of weakness"
- "Men should not be afraid"
- "That fear is unjustified, don't give it importance"
- "You are not able to face this situation"
- "You lack guts"
- "If you are afraid, do not act"

When fear management is functional, we recognize the existence of the threat and we realistically assess the resources we have. The first thing we have to do is clearly identify the threat, locate it and define it. The second

step is to evaluate the threat, considering the probability of its occurrence, its magnitude and its possible consequences based on a rational analysis. If the probability is low, you re-evaluate your own fear. As a third step, after resizing the threat, we make a contingency plan focused on reducing the chances of the threat happening or planning what to do if it happens. For both options, we evaluate what resources are necessary, whether internal or external, their availability and ways to produce them.

Remember that the five emotional competencies that define emotional intelligence are self-awareness, self-acceptance, self-regulation, self-analysis and constructive expression. Emotional self-awareness is the recognition of what I am feeling. Emotional self-acceptance is understanding that emotions carry a message and that they are a guide for making decisions. Emotional self-regulation involves making a pause (six seconds minimum) and focus (on the value I want to preserve, the long-term goal or the possible consequences). Reflective self-analysis explores what the emotion invites me to, on which assumptions, judgments, thoughts or beliefs it is based. And finally, the integral expression is constructive action, transforming and expressing.

*Irene is passionate about health, neurosciences and personal growth. Originally from Uruguay, she is an Integrative Psychotherapist (PNIE), Life Coach (ICF), Master in Nutrition (IUSC) and Yoga Instructor.*





# Reef Glimpses

by Dee Scarr

## Superheroes

Happy Earth Day! In honor of Michelangelo and all the other pro-environmental superheroes – including every one of you who picks up underwater trash and supports our reef and terrestrial environments – I thought it would be fun to list trash that doesn't show up underwater here anymore.

The doorless refrigerator trapped hermit crabs. Once we realized that, we built them a ramp. The fridge disintegrated, and no other refrigerators have appeared.

One resident of a yacht moored along our reef slope used to throw disposable diapers overboard. Worse than just being yucky, the diapers would catch on living coral and kill it if not removed. If anyone could possibly be that stupid these days, the Bonaire National Marine Park would educate them fast!

A seaside hotel had sponsored a kite flying contest. With our wind direction, the kites had to be flown over the sea. With our wind gusts, a lot of the kites -- and their strings -- ended up in the water and then on the reef. Volunteers removed the kites and string almost immediately, and the contest wasn't held again.

Once, at the North pier, I picked up a mophead. As always, I checked it before throwing it away -- and found two sponge crabs! They were without their sponges, a (not surprising) sign of stress, and they were so completely entangled in the mop's strands that we had to use shears to cut them free; otherwise they could have starved to death. We brought them back into the water and placed them on sponges. We couldn't find anyone else entangled in the mophead so we trashed it appropriately.

Rereading what I wrote, I was delighted to notice that all these instances were caused by a single person's actions (okay, maybe it took more than one per-

son to dump the fridge). That trash and those trashers are gone.

We still have some underwater trash situations, however. Most of us already remove "new" trash that we can carry. We also remove fishing line, to protect the turtles and the reef, remembering to follow the line rather than pull the line in to us, and to coil it neatly, to protect ourselves!

Also: when removing cups, jars, bottles, etc., we make sure no hermit crabs or other critters are inside. Hold them upside-down to empty them, and do it just above a sand bottom to keep silt away from sponges and coral.

Of course, tires must be included here. We find them on the reefs off Playa because they make great fenders for boats, and if they detach it's easier to get another tire than it is to bring one up. The problem is that when tires lie flat on the sand they trap hermit crabs; their "C" cross-section is impossible for a non-swimming crab to climb. If the tire has sponges or other growth on its inner surface, the hermits can climb that to get out. Otherwise, we can make a debris bridge from the sand to the top of the tire.

Real progress has been made since the time of discarding diapers and refrigerators on the reefs, and much of the debris is now underwater by accident rather than design. For example, clothespins are still not strong enough for Bonaire's winds. One day I picked up a pair of shorts lying on the bottom, and they wriggled! I held them up and shook them (yes, over the sand), but the pants kept on wriggling. The wriggling turned out to be the frantic efforts of a young goatfish, trying to push itself through the corner of a pants pocket. This was not going to happen.

The youngster was trying to push through because fish can't swim back-



Michelangelo wasn't happy about this paint can underwater. We brought it out... Photo Dee Scarr



This sponge crab's life has been without mopheads, as far as we know.

wards. When you think about it, under natural conditions they don't need to swim backwards.

This goatfish had foraged into the unnatural: the human-made pocket's corner. What could have been terminal for the young goatfish was, instead, a gentle release.

Sometimes any of us can be superheroes.

*Dee has been guiding divers on Bo-*

*naire since 1982. She's written about her undersea experiences in her books, Touch the Sea, The Gentle Sea, and Coral's Reef (for children); in Dive Training Magazine from 1990 to 2000, with "Coral Glimpses" in the Bonaire Reporter, and now with "Reef Glimpses." The Bonaire Reporter is delighted to bring "Reef Glimpses" to you free of charge. Dee's books are available for purchase at the Carib Inn on Bonaire or through touchthesea.com.*



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# LEVEL 4

<b>Private meetings</b> (e.g. home, beach or park)	 Max: 2 households with max 10 pers (> 13 year). Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups
<b>Prof. organized events</b> (See 'clarification sports' for sports events)	 Inside not allowed. Outside: max. 50% capacity and 25 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing.
<b>Funeral service and wedding ceremony</b>	 Max. 50 pers
<b>Restaurants en cafes</b> (incl. watertours/ - restaurants)	 Max: 4 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Closing time 22:00
<b>Hotels</b>	 Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: 'level 4 Restaurants and cafes'
<b>Essential shops</b>	 Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket
<b>Non-essential shops</b>	 Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)
<b>Churches</b>	 Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. No singing
<b>Sports activities</b> (also see 'clarification sports')	 Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise
<b>Work</b>	 Work from home as much as possible
<b>Contact professions</b>	 Face mask
<b>Nightclubs</b>	 Closed
<b>Adult Entertainment</b>	 Closed
<b>Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas</b>	 Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 00:00
<b>Saunas</b>	 Max: 50% of the capacity
<b>Daytime activities elderly</b>	 25% capacity
<b>Primary education and after-school care</b>	 Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults
<b>Secondary education and after-school care</b>	 Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students

## What's Happening

**Dive Friends:** Two locations open for tank pickup and drop off, Sand Dollar & Port Bonaire 9-5

**Washington Slagbaai park:** Closed.  
All reservations for camping at Slagbaai have been canceled.

**STINAPA headquarters:** Closed to public. Available by phone +599 717 8444.

Apr. <b>23</b>	<b>Beginning April 23, Bonaire goes to Level 4 .Curfew is lifted</b>
Sunday, May <b>9</b>	<b>Clean Coast Bonaire. 4-6pm Piedra Pretu. Collect marine litter &amp; data by donating your time working as a citizen scientist. .</b>
May <b>28 - 29</b>	<b>BonDoet weekend.</b>

## No appointment needed for first vaccination

Now people can get their first vaccination without an appointment. They just need show up at one of the vaccination sites with a valid sédula or passport. People who already have an appointment for their first injection should go at their designated time.

Companies, offices, organizations and associations that want to vaccinate as a group can register at 0800 0900. When registering, the organization can arrange for a group photo afterwards.

People who are uncertain whether they have covid symptoms should not go for vaccination. They should stay at home and call 0800 0800 for a corona test.

Here are the vaccination sites:

### Fundashon Mariadal

Monday to Friday from 9 am to 2 pm.

### Kompleho Deportivo Jorge Nicolaas

Monday to Friday from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### Neighborhood residents

Wednesday April 21 Cocari, Rincon 10.30am - 1.30pm  
Thursday April 22 Sentro di bario Amboina 10.30 am - 1.30 pm  
Friday April 23 Plasa Chicu Goeloe, Antriol 10.30 am - 1.30 pm

### Kompleho Deportivo Jorge Nicolaas

Saturday April 24 09.00 - 11.30 am; 1.00 - 5.30 pm  
Sunday, April 25 09.00 - 11.30 am ; 1.00 - 4.30 pm

### Neighborhood residents

Monday April 26 Sentro di bario Tera Cora 10.30 am - 1.30 pm  
Tuesday April 27 Sentro di bario Nort'i Saliña 10.30 am - 1.30 pm  
Wednesday April 28 Cocari, Rincon 10.30am - 1.30pm  
Thursday April 29 Sentro di bario Amboina 10.30 am - 1.30 pm  
Friday April 30 Plasa Chicu Goeloe, Antriol 10.30 am - 1.30 pm



## Animal Shelter & Pakus di Pruga

**Animal Shelter Bonaire is able to welcome back, by appointment only, those of you who are interested in adopting our wonderful dogs and cats** with the reduction of Covid regulations to Level 4. As of Monday, 26 April, you can email, call or Whatsapp us to make an appointment to visit with our furry residents and choose your fur-ever friend. With Level 4 regulations, there are some restrictions. Appointments must be made in advance, only two persons per appointment (excluding children under 13), social distancing and masks required. Please call/

Whatsapp 701-4989 or send an email to animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com to schedule an appointment. Our dogs and cats look forward to seeing you....and so do we!

**Pakus di Pruga, Animal Shelter Bonaire's second hand store**, will be open again on Saturdays from 8 am to 4 pm beginning April 24, with certain limitations. All shoppers must wear masks, social distance and a limited number of customers will be permitted inside at any one time. Happy to be back with some great deals!!!

## If you can't pay WEB online

Limited cashier services are now open in WEB's Playa office for customers who do not have access to online banking. The hours are from 7:45 am to 12 noon and 1 to 3:00 pm Monday through Friday.

The following measures apply:

- The cashier is open only for payment of water and electricity bills and water truck delivery.
- Other transactions are not allowed
- Maximum of four invoices per customer
- WEB asks that you pay with debit card instead of cash

- WEB hands out tickets at the door with the time when you can pay.
- A maximum of 12 people are allowed to wait outside. All must keep 1.5 meters away from others.
- Wearing a mouth mask is mandatory

If you need to return at a later time to pay, WEB's staff asks that you leave the area in front of the building and come back later at the specified time.

Important: When group formation endangers public health or safety, our safety and security officers can take action.





# Making Bonaire Accessible

by Ria Evers-Dokter

## Party on a plate.

Food is very important for us, as human beings.

In order to grow, develop and be as healthy as possible, it is important to eat well.

When living on an island where everything must be imported from countries around us and further, getting that food has a price tag that is high. Not everything you want is available, and when it is available, many people tend not to buy it, because they cannot afford it.

When you grow up, your needs are different from when you are older. You may

need to live on a diet because of a certain illness or condition.

I remember my Mom telling me that when she got older, the food did not taste the same anymore. I always found that a bit odd, but now I am the one getting older. I have noticed that she was right and growing the food and preparing it has changed.

So when Mom came to dinner, I always cooked our dinners and lunches the way she taught me and she just loved that. I even used an old kerosene stove to cook. And when I wanted to introduce a new menu, I always made sure it had well-

known ingredients in it. To make her eat spinach, I cooked spaghetti and mixed it with chopped spinach, herb/cream sauce and fried bacon bits.

The elderly tend to drink less, which is harmful to their health. For Mom I made a drink she loved: mixed apple juice with sparkling water and a few ice cubes. That did the trick.

I also had her help me prepare the food: peel potatoes, wash the vegetables and cut the onions. I asked her why she loved to this. She told me that in the home where she lived, the meals came to the table, just like that. Nobody had smelled the potatoes cooking, the onions frying or the beans cooking...

This is the reason that in many homes the elderly do not live in big groups anymore. Small living room-like rooms have been created. The room looks inviting and is decorated with items every-

body can relate to or things the inhabitants know. Food preparation occurs in the living room and the kitchen is open and accessible for all.

The menu is planned in group sessions and the meals are served at a big table where everyone has his/her place.

This is why the "buddy project": Kompanja nos Grandinan is such a success. The buddies visit the elderly weekly. The elderly live at home and receive visitors there.

In the last few weeks, a new plan has been introduced: fresh vegetables and fruit for those participating in the program. Eating healthy is important. The produce that they receive is well known to them and they eat what they like.

And the best part is, the produce is being sponsored! Because of Covid regulations, there is no direct contact, but the food is delivered right at the gate.

# Ask a Geek

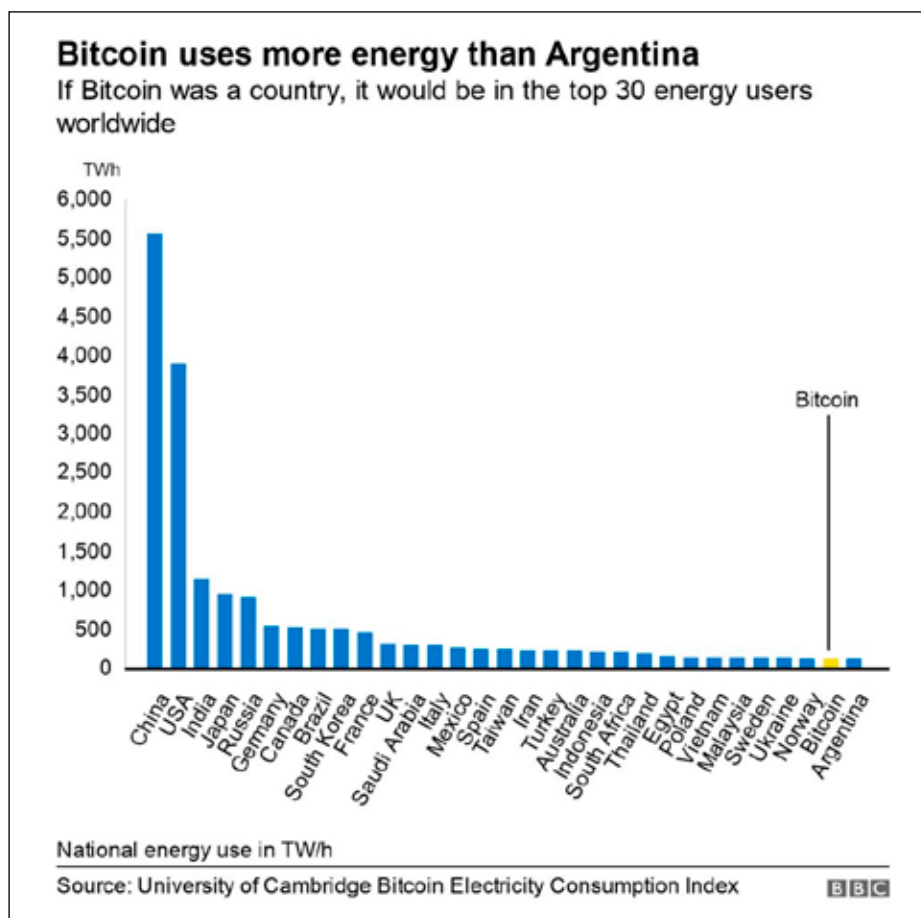
by Brian Niessen

## Bitcoin uses more energy than Argentina?

In recognition of Earth Day, in this issue I wanted to address the cost of Bitcoin on our good old home planet. A recent BBC news headline says "Bitcoin uses more electricity annually than the whole of Argentina, analysis by Cambridge University suggests."

Bitcoin mining is the process by which new bitcoins are entered into circulation, but it is also a critical component of the maintenance and development of the blockchain and is performed using very sophisticated computers that solve extremely power-hungry complex computational math problems. Cambridge researchers say it consumes around 121.36 terawatt-hours (TWh) a year - and is unlikely to fall unless the value of the currency slumps. As a comparison, in New York City the consumption of electric energy stood at 53.65 terawatt hours in 2016 (prior to heavy Bitcoin mining).

It is by design that Bitcoin consumes that much electricity," Mr Rauchs told BBC's Tech Tent podcast. "This is not



something that will change in the future unless the Bitcoin price is going to significantly go down." In order to "mine" Bitcoin, computers - often specialised ones - are connected to the cryptocurren-

cy network. They have the job of verifying transactions made by people who send or receive Bitcoin. This process involves solving puzzles, which, while not integral to verifying movements of the

currency, provide a hurdle to ensure no-one fraudulently edits the global record of all transactions. As a reward, miners occasionally receive small amounts of Bitcoin in what is often likened to a lottery.

"Bitcoin is literally anti-efficient," David Gerard, author of Attack of the 50 Foot Blockchain, explained. "So more efficient mining hardware won't help - it'll just be competing against other efficient mining hardware. "This means that Bitcoin's energy use, and hence its CO2 production, only spirals outwards. "It's very bad that all this energy is being literally wasted in a lottery."

Countries like Venezuela with cheap electricity, or China where it's subsidized by the government have warehouses full of computers mining Bitcoin.

While the mega-billionaires like Bezos from Amazon, Musk from Space-X, and Branson from Virgin are all trying to move to Mars, the rest of us cannot "Go where no earthling has gone before" so let's fix the problems at home before we can't anymore.

**If you need help with your computer you can contact me at: [geek@bonairetechsupport.com](mailto:geek@bonairetechsupport.com) or +599 700 9094 (Phone/Whatsapp)**

# Bonaire's sky park

## Lyrid Meteor Shower

The Lyrid Meteor Shower is usually active between April 16 and 25 every year. This year it peaks around April 22 or 23. Named after constellation Lyra, the Lyrids are one of the oldest recorded meteor showers according to some historical Chinese texts, the shower was seen over 2,500 years ago.

To spot the shower, head outside after midnight on Thursday and Friday. Bring chairs and/or blankets, drinks and a snack. It'll take 20-30 minutes for your night vision to max out, so avoid screens

while you look for meteors burning up in our atmosphere.

Astronomically, the Lyrids is pretty average dropping about 20 meteors per hour at their peak. That said, there are sometimes "Lyrid fireballs" which can cast shadows and leave behind smoke trails that linger for minutes! MINUTES! I know, it's exciting. The fireballs in the meteor shower are created by debris from comet Thatcher, which takes about 415 years to orbit around the Sun. The comet is expected to be visible from Earth again in 2276.

Pro tip: If you wait till about 4am the bright moon will be nearly setting then and the shower will be peaking near the top of the Western sky. So, you can lay on your back and keep lookin' up!

## Super pink moon

This month's supermoon will peak on Tuesday, April 27, but will also appear full to casual observers on the 26th and 28th.

This fourth full moon of 2021 is a PINK SUPERMOON. According to Stargazers' Trace Dominguez, "that DOESN'T mean the moon will actually be pink, just moon colored. The Pink Moon is one name given to the full moon of April by tribes and colonial settlers to the US because it coincides with spring-time blooms in the northern hemisphere.

'Supermoon' isn't actually a scientific term, it really means that the moon is both FULL and at PERIGEE -- or the closest point in its slightly elliptical orbit. The astronomical term is one of my favorites:

PERIGEE-SYZYGY!! Perigee is when the moon is closest to us in its orbit and Syzygy is a line of three celestial bodies -- in this case the moon, Earth, and sun!

At its furthest point, the moon is 253,000 miles away, but on Tuesday it will be only 222,000. It may not seem like much, but even a small change in something as ever-present as the sky can make a big impact, so get your cameras ready and keep lookin' up."

### Sources

Trace Dominguez : <https://www.stargazer-online.org>

<https://www.timeanddate.com/astronomy/meteor-shower/lyrids.html>



# At Your Service

The following businesses have been recommended by Bonaire residents.  
Introductory rate - call or email for availability - 796-4055 - BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com

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# Shelter News

## Celebrate earth day with your pets year round

While most pet owners are pretty eco-friendly (after all, we scoop our own dog or cat's poop, right?), some people may not realize the impact of all those extra carbon footprints that your four-legged companion also produce. So, for Earth day, Animal Shelter Bonaire has a few earth-friendly tips for pet owners.

The impact a person or thing has on the earth is called a "carbon footprint" - the amount of carbon dioxide and other carbon compounds emitted due to the consumption of fossil fuels by a particular person, group, thing, etc. In the case of pets, this includes the carbon emitted by the creation of the products they use, the transportation of those products from where they are made to your home, the resources needed to grow the meat and vegetables their food is made of, and their waste. It's the "carbon pawprint". A study by New Zealand's Victoria University of Wellington concluded that pet dogs have carbon pawprints double that of a typical SUV. Cats are better than dogs but they still leave a carbon pawprint equal to that of driving a compact car for a solid year.

**Don't overfeed your pet.** The production of meat, and beef in particular, takes a large toll on the environment because of the resources it takes to produce that meat. In addition to potentially making your pet fat and hurting their health, feeding your pet more than they need (check the package for feeding recommendations) uses more "protein-producing resources" than are needed. As a bonus, feeding your pet less means they will produce less waste so you'll be picking up the back yard or scooping the litter box less.



**Recycle.** If you feed your pet canned food, do the earth a favor and buy the biggest cans. It's more ecologic and less metal. And, most importantly, recycle those cans.

**Go green scooping poop!** Use an empty plastic paint pail or large plastic container and line it with a plastic bag. Scoop daily and dump the dog poop or kitty litter-box waste directly into this pail, cover it, and you've scooped without having to waste a plastic bag every day. Once the plastic container is full, dispose of the inner plastic bag and put in a new one. This helps minimize

the number of plastic bags that you are using.

**Donate Old Toys, Blankets, Towels, Household Items.** Instead of throwing out any extra or old pet care or household items, blankets, or towels that you may find when you do your spring cleaning, drop them off at the Animal Shelter's Pakus di Pruga. You are not only recycling but helping the Shelter animals.

**Walk More with Your Dog.** Whenever possible, forgo the car for a nice walk with your dog close to home. Your dog and the environment would appreciate it if you left the car at home.

**Brush Your Dog or Cat Outside.** When your furry beast needs a brushing, consider doing it outside. Leave the bits of fur on the lawn. Birds will quickly come by and collect it to help build their nests. This will save the electricity for vacuuming or the plastic bag for the collecting the fur.

**Spay or Neuter Your Dog or Cat.** Making sure that your pet doesn't contribute to the problem of dog/cat overpopulation is a great way to help protect the environment and also decrease animal suffering.

**Adopt!** Adopting a dog or cat from the shelter instead of buying one is a perfect way to "recycle." You're providing a loving home for a dog or cat that is already here needing one.

Remember, it's not about doing everything right, it's about doing one or two simple things right. If everyone made even one small change, together it could have a big impact.



## A Garden? Just Do It!

by Angliet W., Nature Lover

### Earth Day

I have a strange connection with Earth day. It always reminds me of my childhood in the jungle.

And that brings back warm feelings with pure nature. Back then we were a small family; my mom, dad and I. My dad was a young teacher in a settlement in the jungle along one of the many rivers of Surinam. From the age of 2 to 4 and a half years, I lived there with my family among Afro-Surinamese jungle people and Indians. The land was unspoiled, pure nature with only jungle around the small settlement. In front of our tiny house was the river where we used to take our bath, do dishes, laundry and dry the clothes on big rocks that peaked out in the river. Along the river there were all kinds of trade including catching / selling fresh fish and wild young pigs and timber sales / transport to other settlements. One of my best kept memories were of the big anaconda snakes in the river coming close to the beach to hunt wild chickens and birds.

The village people use to catch them for personal needs. I was always impressed by these silent animals, and even now I am scared to death of them in how they slowly but surely kill their prey.

In the mornings, we would see the footprints of ocelot tigers around the house. The monkeys would climb from tree to tree and there were thousands of amazing birds. Early in the morning the sound of birds, monkeys and other wild animals was like a harmonic choir singing while the dark moved away and the first sunlight broke through. But in the evening there were also sounds of night prey birds and wildlife, raw and sometimes close by. Those jungle sounds, so pure and wild, were never boring or strange. Sleeping with these sounds was as sweet as the sound of the sea. There was so much "green" of every color of green and so much space because there were no boundaries.

In the backyard, there were many fruit trees as my dad loved gardening. There were yuca, sweet potato, yams, corn and a rare bush bacoba with red skin. Beans, Kouse-



The jungle in Surinam where I lived when a young child.

band (yard-long beans) and peppers grew fast with plenty of rain falling on that rich Amazon rainforest soil.

For me, these experiences mean EARTH DAY. When I look back with the eye of a child, ALL seems ONE and ONE seems ALL; the dirt, the river, the trees, animals, humans, the sky, the wind, rain and sun.

Together, this all makes each and all life possible. No element can be missed in this great creation.

With the full moon in the jungle, children can also experience romance. In the early evening hours, my parents, a guest from the village and I used to sit on the porch, enjoying the soft breeze, watching the river with the little fireflies and listening to the jungle sounds. Then slowly that full moon came up and everything changed as if by magic. The water turned into a silver glow, the sky was so clear with silver clouds and trees became giants and fairy-like. It was all so peaceful with a full moon high in the sky.

But there was also a kind of magic when the moon was at its smallest and the sky was very, very dark with billions of stars of light spread over the whole firmament.

Earth Day means to me a link to unforgettable experi-

ences in my young childhood when I started to love my planet Earth and all creation around it. I'm thankful for a LIFE that has allowed me to experience Mother Earth in one of her wildest, purest, honest and most beautiful creations. At my age, I'm aware that it is a very special gift which is priceless and forever.

We have to work very hard to let our Mother Earth come back in her beauty and health.

We are all responsible for that. Let's start NOW, just do it.



This is a picture of the settlement I wrote about. You can see the hut and an Indian woman and my grandparents visiting us there. Even in the jungle my grandpa was dressed in his gentle clothes, once a gentleman, always a gentleman.



## BONAIRE BEACH LITTER



CLEAN COAST BONAIRE  
www.cleancoastbonaire.org

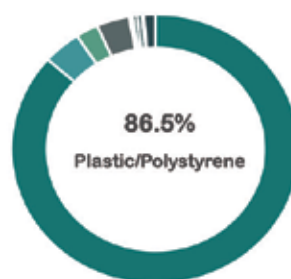
In September 2018, Clean Coast Bonaire began conducting clean-up beach surveys using the OSPAR Marine Litter Monitoring Methodology. This methodology was developed and used in the EU to assess beach litter. It allows us to better understand the sources of marine litter & work together on solutions to make our coasts cleaner.

### Litter Items Collected: 89,111

- Monitoring Sites: 3
- Surveys Conducted: 32
- Plastic/Polystyrene Items: 77,134
- Single Use Plastic Items: 21,100
- Cigarette Butts: 12,279
- Plastic Caps: 4,298
- Plastic Bottles: 1,222
- Items from Fishing Industry: 739

### Solutions

- Reduce, reuse & recycle
- Participate in citizen science beach clean-ups
- Support local, regional & global cooperation on plastic reduction measures
- Be a conscious consumer—choose plastic-free products & sustainably caught fish



- Plastic/Polystyrene
- Metal
- Paper/Cardboard
- Glass
- Cloth
- Sanitary waste
- Rubber
- Wood
- Pottery/ceramics
- Medical waste
- Other

PLASTIC REDUCTION IS NEEDED TO REDUCE BEACH LITTER

## Clean Coast Bonaire

Since September 2018, Clean Coast Bonaire has been cleaning up the coastal areas through the OSPAR Marine Litter Monitoring system. Until recently a dedicated group of people on Bonaire, even visitors have met at a specific beach and cleared the area of what is known as micro-plastics. The sites are rotated so they have a better understanding of which beaches are affected by the litter bits. If there is larger trash they of course pick that up too.

Due to Covid restrictions, the cleanups have been reduced to only a few people but hopefully the group cleanups will resume soon. (Results of their efforts are shown in the graphic.)

**Get vaccinated: We are all safe when we are all safe!**

## Travel to Bonaire



Information as of  
**9 April**

- ✗ No action required
- ✓ Mandatory

	Only NAAT* (PCR) test 72 hours prior to arrival	NAAT*(PCR) test 72 hours prior to arrival + antigen-test 24 hours prior to departure OR NAAT(PCR) test 24 hours prior to departure	Health Declaration
From			
Aruba	✗	✓	✓
Canada	✗	✓	✓
Curacao	✗	✓	✓
Netherlands	✗	✓	✓
Saba	✗	✗	✓
Sint Eustatius	✗	✗	✓
Sint Maarten	✗	✓	✓
United States	✗	✓	✓

For information on high-risk countries or countries with a ban on flights please check [www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers/](http://www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers/)

- \* NAAT is a collective name for tests including the following: mPOCT, NAAT, PCR of RT PCR, LAMP and TMA.

Children **younger than 13 years of age** are not required to undergo a COVID-19 test. The health declaration is needed for all travelers **0 years and older**.



During your trip you are required to carry a travel certificate showing your **negative test results** digitally or in print, otherwise you may not fly. If you arrive **without a negative test result** you will immediately have to go **into quarantine** for ten days at your own expense and at a location designated for that purpose by the Governor.



More information:

openbaar lichaam Bonaire [www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers/](http://www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers/)

This is a message from the Public Entity of Bonaire



**ROCARGO**  
LOGISTICS SERVICES B.V.

## COVID-19 MEASURES & TO MINIMIZE VISITS & INTERACTION:

- For any inquiries of your Cargo(arrival / invoices / payments), please call or e-mail us at 717-8922 / [info@rocargo.com](mailto:info@rocargo.com) and [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com) and avoid visiting our offices unnecessarily.
- Kindly pay your invoices through online banking and please e-mail proof of remittance to [frontdesk@rocargo.com](mailto:frontdesk@rocargo.com)
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# Travel to Bonaire from countries with a flight ban on direct flights



8 April 2021



Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, French Guiana, Guyana, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela, United Kingdom, South Africa

## Present upon arrival on Bonaire



### Negative coronavirus test result

NAAT(PCR) test within 72 hours before arrival  
+ Antigen rapid test within 24 hours before departure.

OR



NAAT(PCR) test within 24 hours before departure.

*Travelers under the age of 13 are not required to present a negative test result.*



### Health Declaration

All travelers to Bonaire must fill in a Health Declaration online at [www.bonairepublichealth.org](http://www.bonairepublichealth.org) between 72 and 48 hours before departure.



Payment/reservation at designated central location.



## Quarantine



Have you been in one or more of the aforementioned countries 14 days prior to your arrival on Bonaire? In that case you must go into quarantine for ten days at a designated location on Bonaire. On day five of the quarantine you may undergo a PCR test at your *own expense*. You must email the test result to [publichealth@bonaigov.com](mailto:publichealth@bonaigov.com). An employee of the Public Health Department will then inform you whether you may leave quarantine or not.



### Designated location: Buddy Dive Resort

At your own cost.  
Prices vary per room type and number of persons.  
*Indication: 1-bedroom apartment for max. 2 pers. is \$ 266 for 5 nights.*

For reservation: mail your details, day of arrival and number of people to [publichealth@bonaigov.com](mailto:publichealth@bonaigov.com).



More information:

[openbaar lichaam Bonaire](https://openbaarlichaambonaire.nl) [www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers](http://www.bonairecrisis.com/en/qas-travelers)

This is a message from the Public Entity of Bonaire



# COVID-19 measures per risk level



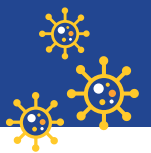
This overview indicates which measures (at least) apply per risk level on Bonaire. In each subsequent risk level, the other measures of the previous levels remain in effect. Depending on the situation, it can be decided to deviate.

More information: [www.bonairecrisis.com](http://www.bonairecrisis.com)

	Risk level 1 <b>Alert</b>	Risk level 2 <b>Worrisome</b>	Risk level 3 <b>Menacing</b>	Risk level 4 <b>Serious</b>	Risk level 5 <b>Very Serious</b>	Risk level 6 <b>Lockdown</b>
<b>Private meetings (e.g. home, beach or park)</b>	Basic rules	Max: 25 pers	Max: 10 pers. (excl. kids <13 years) <i>Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups</i>	Max: 2 households with max 10 pers (> 13 year). <i>Advice: stay home for vulnerable groups</i>	Max: 1 pers. from outside the household	Stay home as much as possible. Only go out with roommates
<b>Prof. organized events (See 'clarification sports' for sports events)</b>	Basic rules	Max: 50% capacity and 50 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing	Max: 50% capacity. Inside: max 25 pers. Outside: max 50 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing	Inside not allowed. Outside: max. 50% capacity and 25 pers. Registration obligation. No singing/dancing.	No grouping together	No grouping together
<b>Funeral service and wedding ceremony</b>	Basic rules	Max. 100 pers	Max. 100 pers	Max. 50 pers	Max. 30 pers	Max. 10 pers
<b>Restaurants en cafes (incl. watertours/ - restaurants)</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check. No singing/dancing	Max: 50% capacity. Fixed seats. Closing time 00:00	Max: 4 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Closing time 22:00	Take-out only	Closed
<b>Hotels</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Basic rules. 1,5m distance from other guests	Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: 'level 4 Restaurants and cafes'	Bar/restaurant for hotel guests: open regularly. Non-guests: take-out only	Bar/restaurant only open for hotel guests
<b>Essential shops</b>	Basic rules	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 1 pers. per household (excl. kids <13 years). Mandatory cart/basket	Max: 1 pers. per household. Mandatory cart/basket
<b>Non-essential shops</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)	Max: 2 pers. per group (excl. kids <13 years)	Closed	Closed
<b>Churches</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. Sing softly with windows open	Max: 50% of the capacity. Go home directly after service. No singing	No physical services	No physical services
<b>Sports activities (also see 'clarification sports')</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation, health check and no audience	Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise	Max: 50% capacity inside, 100% outside (for >18 years). Go home immediately after exercise	Facilities closed. Limited sports allowed. See 'clarification sports'	Facilities closed. See 'clarification sports'
<b>Work</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Work from home as much as possible	Work from home as much as possible	Work from home is mandatory where possible	Work from home is mandatory where possible
<b>Contact professions</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Face mask	Face mask	Closed, unless medical indication	Closed, unless medical indication
<b>Nightclubs</b>	Basic rules	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Adult Entertainment</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
<b>Gambling halls, casinos and cinemas</b>	Basic rules	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 02:00	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 00:00	Closed	Closed
<b>Saunas</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Registration obligation and health check	Max: 50% of the capacity. Closing time 02:00	Max: 50% of the capacity	Closed	Closed
<b>Daytime activities elderly</b>	Basic rules	Basic rules and 50% capacity	Basic rules and 50% capacity	25% capacity	Only emergency shelter	Only emergency shelter
<b>Primary education and after-school care</b>	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Only emergency shelter
<b>Secondary education and after-school care</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Basic rules. Adults to maintain 1,5m distance from each other and students	Reduce number of students per day	Only emergency shelter
<b>Child care</b>	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adult	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Basic rules. 1,5m distance between adults	Only emergency child care
<b>Always comply with the basic rules</b> <b>Complaints</b> Stay at home and call 0800-0800 <b>1.5 meters</b> Keep at least 1,5 meters away from others <b>Avoid crowds</b> Avoid forming large groups with other people <b>Wash hands</b> Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds <b>Do not touch</b> Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth <b>Cover</b> Cough or sneeze into your elbow or a handkerchief <b>Ventilation</b> Provide good ventilation indoors <b>Cleaning</b> Frequent cleaning of premises						







## Sports activities

Sports activities are understood to mean engaging in a sport. In the list below you can see which sports may be practiced at each risk level, provided the general risk-level measures are adhered to. Children under the age of 18 may continue to play sports regardless of the level. From level five onwards they are no longer allowed to exercise indoors.

	Risk level 1 <b>Alert</b>	Risk level 2 <b>Worrisome</b>	Risk level 3 <b>Menacing</b>	Risk level 4 <b>Serious</b>	Risk level 5 <b>Very Serious</b>	Risk level 6 <b>Lockdown</b>
Athletics	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually	✓ yes, individually
Baseball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Basketball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Beach tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Beach volleyball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Billiards	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no
Bodybuilding	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Bolas	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Boxing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no	✗ no
Checkers	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Chess	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Cycling	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Dominoes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Fitness	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Free diving	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Indoor soccer	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Judo	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Karate	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Kayaking	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Kickboxing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Kite surfing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
MMA	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no	✗ no
Optimist	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Scuba diving	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Shooting	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Soccer	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Softball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Sunfish	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✓ yes, individually	✗ no
Swimming	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually
Table tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Tennis	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	👤 max 2 pers.	✗ no
Volleyball	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	🏠 yes, if outdoors	🏠 yes, if outdoors	✗ no
Water polo	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✗ no
Windsurfing	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes	✓ yes, individually





## Examples of CITES-listed species of Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba

**BES** Manta ray  
II *Manta birostris*

**BES** Great hammerhead shark  
II *Sphyrna mokarran*

**BES** Bottlenose dolphin  
II *Tursiops truncatus*

**BES** Spinner dolphin  
II *Stenella longirostris*

**BES** Humpback whale  
I *Magaptera novaeangliae*

**B** Bryde's whale  
I *Balaenoptera edeni*

**ES** Sperm whale  
I *Physeter macrocephalus*

**BES** Leatherback turtle  
I *Dermochelys coriacea*

**BES** Green turtle  
I *Chelonia mydas*

**BES** Hawksbill turtle  
I *Eretmochelys imbricata*

**BES** Osprey  
II *Pandion haliaetus*

**B** Blue-tailed emerald  
II *Chlorostilbon mellisugus*

**B** Ruby-topaz hummingbird  
II *Chrysomitris magister*

**ES** Green-throated carib  
II *Eulampis holosericeus*

**ES** Antillean crested hummingbird  
II *Orthorhynchus cristatus*

**B** Lady of the night  
II *Brassavola nodosa*

**ES** Fringed star orchid  
II *Epidendrum ciliare*

**B** Northern caracara  
II *Caracara cheriway*

**SB** Brown-throated parakeet  
II *Aratinga pertinax*

**B** Common lignum vitae  
II *Guaicum officinale*

**ES** American kestrel  
II *Falco sparverius*

**B** Green iguana  
II *Iguana iguana*

**S** Painted black iguana  
II *Iguana melanoderma*

**E** Lesser Antillean iguana  
II *Iguana delicatissima*

**B** Yellow-shouldered amazon  
I *Amazona barbadensis*

**BES** Columnar cactus  
II *Pilosocereus royenii*

**BES** Melocactus  
II *Melocactus spec.*

**BE** Candle cactus  
II *Cereus repandus*

**B** Bonaire  
**E** St. Eustatius  
**S** Saba

**I** Appendix I: Most endangered, only given a CITES permit for non-commercial purpose (e.g. research). Requires both CITES import and export permits.

**II** Appendix II: At risk of endangerment, trade is controlled and a CITES export permit required.

Examples of CITES-listed species and derived items that are prohibited to trade or take with or require a CITES permit:

- All birds of prey, hummingbirds, owls, parrots and parakeets (including feathers)
- All orchids and cacti
- All whalebone products
- All shark products (example: shark tooth jewelry)
- All sea turtle products (example: egg, turtle shell jewelry)
- All live, lace, black and hard corals\*
- Queen Conch shells, Queen conch meat\*\*

\*All live and dead corals are protected. It is prohibited to remove or take any dead or live coral species without a CITES permit. However, no CITES permit is required for fossils, coral sand and coral fragments (including rubble and gravel) not identifiable to the level of genus or species. Be aware on Bonaire also unidentifiable corals are protected by local legislation and are prohibited to remove or take.

\*\* A maximum of 3 Queen shells per person can be taken without a CITES permit. However, on Bonaire taking conch is not allowed by local legislation.

\*\*\* Limit of 3 Rain sticks.

In addition to CITES regulation, various (other) species are protected by local legislation. For more information you can contact the local Public Entity or nature park management organization.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is an international agreement between governments to ensure that international trade of wild fauna and flora is not threatening their survival.

Traveling with or processing CITES-listed species (live, dead, or parts and products derived from these species) without a CITES-permit is a violation of the law and may lead to a fine or prosecution.

For a complete overview of the CITES-listed species found in the Caribbean Netherlands, check with the local CITES Management Authority, nature park management organization or check [www.citesapex.nl](http://www.citesapex.nl)

For general CITES information, visit: [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)

**Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance**  
Supporting nature in the Dutch Caribbean

**CITES Rules, Regulations and Permits**

National Office for the Caribbean Netherlands (NCO)  
Phone: +999 710 4333  
Email: [info@nco-curaçao.org](mailto:info@nco-curaçao.org)  
Web: [www.nco-curaçao.org](http://www.nco-curaçao.org)

**Local Nature Conservation Rules, Regulations and Permits**

**BONAIRE**  
Department of Spatial Planning and Development, Nature and Environment  
Phone: +999 710 5330  
Email: [info@stina.gov.bq](mailto:info@stina.gov.bq)  
Web: [www.bonaireregion.com](http://www.bonaireregion.com)

**ST. EUSTATIUS**  
Phone: +999 710 4444  
Email: [info@stetapex.org](mailto:info@stetapex.org)  
Web: [www.stetapex.org](http://www.stetapex.org)

**ST. EUSTATIUS National Parks Foundation**  
Phone: +999 336 2666  
Email: [info@stetapex.org](mailto:info@stetapex.org)  
Web: [www.stetapex.org](http://www.stetapex.org)

**SABA**  
Phone: +999 450 3241  
Email: [info@sabapark.org](mailto:info@sabapark.org)  
Web: [www.sabapark.org](http://www.sabapark.org)

**Saba Conservation Foundation**  
Phone: +999 450 3241  
Email: [info@sabapark.org](mailto:info@sabapark.org)  
Web: [www.sabapark.org](http://www.sabapark.org)