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Inside Opinion

What's on the minds of Tacoma News Tribune editorial writers

Making whoopie the Earth Day way

BY CHERYL TUCKER

Thursday is Earth Day, and people will mark it by doing all sorts of environmentally friendly things, like cleaning up local parks and shorelines, replacing their incandescent lightbulbs with energy-saving compact fluorescent ones, planting trees, etc.

Still others will be combating overpopulation – by giving out special Earth Day-themed condoms. The Center for Biological Diversity says it will distribute “250,000 free, edgy, fun Endangered Species Condoms to highlight the devastating impact of overpopulation on endangered species and their habitats. The campaign will be staffed by thousands of volunteer condom distributors all over the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, and will be supported by an extensive website with information on overpopulation and how it relates to the 40th anniversary of the original Earth Day in 1970, as well as images and sounds of the endangered species that are featured on the condom packages.”

Artwork depicting six different endangered species decorates the condom packages: the polar bear, snail darter, spotted owl, American burying beetle, jaguar and coquí guajón rock frog. They have clever rhyming slogans, like “Wrap with care ... save the polar bear.” My favorite: “Cover your tweedle ... save the burying beetle.” Tweedle?

I’m trying to find out if the condoms are being distributed anywhere locally. I’ll update this if I get an answer.



