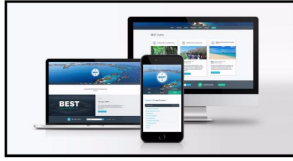




Haven't heard from us in a while? Catch up on all of our news today!



We are very pleased to announce the launch of our new Website & Logo!

www.best.org.bm

See our new look, faster, easy to navigate website! Get to know us even better. Our new site will make it easier for you to participate in a sustainable future for Bermuda!

The new website was custom-designed and built locally by Bermudian designer & web developer Sebastian Matcham through his new company Subtropik (<https://subtropik.co>). Sensitive to the nature of the organisation's mission and needs Sebastian truly delivered the perfect online solution for BEST as well as an effective and strong new brand identity.

Read more here: <http://www.morningstar.com/news/article/20160926/best-group-reveals-website>

VISIT OUR NEW WEBSITE & WIN A TOUR OF TRUNK ISLAND WITH DAVID WINGATE!

Go to www.best.org.bm find the article "Bermuda's Environmental Warrior". Answer the question: Who is BEST's Mascot and e-mail your answer to office@best.org.bm to be entered in a draw! The draw will take place on Friday, October 14th, 2016, at 5pm.



SIX lucky winners will accompany David on a Tour of Trunk Island on **Saturday, October 29th**. Rain date is Sunday, October 30th. Trunk Island is described by David: "The B2S project on Trunk Island is the most exciting and promising combination of natural history education and nature reserve management training with actual nature reserve restoration since the "Living Museum" nature reserve concept was first initiated on Nonsuch island."

**The Board, Management & Staff of BEST are not eligible for entry*

In other news:

BEST Submission to the Cross Island Legacy Committee - Ideas for End-uses

At the top of BEST's wish list for any virgin tract of land in our densely populated island would be that 40% of the land area be inevitably zoned as open space in a combination of parkland, nature reserve, waterfront/coastal reserve and so on. We accept that this may be viewed as an impossible dream for Cross Island. Still, the developers must be reminded that just because the plot is starting off completely undeveloped, our thinking should be steered away from viewing it as begging for 100% development. It should not resemble a teeming metropolis when done.

Nine acres of opportunity - an opportunity to do something different.

[Learn More](#)

BEST conducted a Survey to help us understand how we add value to our community.

Our survey was emailed to BEST Friends, posted on Bernews in addition to 5 client face to face interviews. A majority responding saw us as a Strong Watchdog- strong advocacy and protector role - and would like to see us more involved in advocacy in the future.

Research Highlights:

- 76% responded saying they were investing in Bermuda's environmental space - either practices(47%), money (7%) and time (11%). It is encouraging that 47% have environmental practices in their daily life.
- 34% would like to see us more engaged in Advocacy and 40% more engaged in the Protection of our Environment.
- Strong support that BEST could collaborate with additional environmental partners and we are committed to do this- first by sharing this with all our partners and supporting their strengths.
- There is a growing concern around Bermuda's Food Security with topics such as Quality, Affordability and Locally Grown being raised.

There was much praise for Stuart and the work he has done in the past and continues to do. Respondents indicated that they have a concern about BEST "after Stuart" and cautioned that a succession plan was important in order to ensure BEST's work continues. There were a few comments that were more questions about the mandate and perhaps some misinformation about what BEST is working on; this suggests that BEST should be doing more to explain to the public "What" we are doing and the reasons for doing them, the "So What".

We received a number of comments around the need for more involvement from all areas of our community and education of the public on environmental issues, food production, renewable energy, and waste treatment. Respondents felt that BEST could provide this education and clearly this could be an opportunity for BEST should the funding and resources become available for projects such as our "The Buzz" group, who are now focusing on the use of pesticides on the island.

In Conclusion:

- Food is an issue
- Collaboration is desired
- We need to be more engaged in protection and advocacy
- We are doing a good job in the area of environmental watchdog
- We need to advance in our advocacy as a protector role
- We must utilize the resources in our community - be it time, talent and/or money.

Stuart's 74th Birthday Campaign Fundraiser Success!

We are extremely pleased to announce the final tally for Stuart's Birthday Campaign - \$35,773.00, far exceeding our goal of \$25,000.00. It is through the generosity of BEST Friends like you that we are able to continue our critical work in the community. We deeply appreciate it.

"I am only one, but I am one. I cannot do everything, but I can do something. And I will not let what I cannot do interfere with what I can do." - Edward Everett Hale -

