



# Elkhorn Marine Conservancy

Antigua, W.I.

*Enhancing the resilience and local stewardship of Antigua's marine ecosystems through restoration, collaborative management and conservation*

Historically abundant and diverse, marine ecosystems are declining at an alarming rate along with their economic and social value. Named after the iconic elkhorn coral that once defined many of Antigua's reefs, the EMC brings together diverse ocean users, marine scientists, managers and educators to revive and protect Antigua's marine ecosystems.

## SCIENCE



The EMC uses innovative techniques to actively restore degraded marine ecosystems. We operate multiple coral nurseries where we propagate and grow thousands of fragments of resilient corals, including several endangered species. When large enough, we plant corals onto degraded reefs around Antigua and monitor them over time. We also conduct research on restoring critical invertebrates that can help coral reefs thrive, and study reef, seagrass and mangrove ecosystems to understand their health and motivate actions to restore and conserve them.



## EDUCATION



Our goals are to generate an understanding of how marine ecosystems function and to encourage behaviors and consumer choices that have a positive impact on our community and environment. Through various initiatives such as our in-class learning programs, coral nursery snorkel tours, community swimming lessons, and educational displays and flyers, we strive to increase local knowledge about Antigua's marine environments and interest in using them sustainably.

## ENGAGEMENT



The EMC collaborates with diverse stakeholders including fishers, tour operators, community members, coastal home owners, tourists, government officials, and other NGOs in order to develop realistic strategies for restoring and managing Antigua's invaluable marine resources. We collect social and ecological data to identify environmental and stakeholder needs and propose activities to restore and protect ecosystem services such as coastal storm buffering, food provisioning, water filtration, touristic attractions, and cultural value.



## ADVOCACY



The EMC advocates for behavior changes - both on land and at sea - that will safeguard marine ecosystems and the people that depend on them. Pick up copies of our Antigua & Barbuda sustainable seafood and coastal living guides, and follow us on social media for more tips on how we can all drive positive change.

## WHERE WE WORK

The EMC currently conducts restoration activities along the northeast coast of Antigua, within the North East Marine Management Area (NEMMA). You can visit one of our coral nurseries at Ten Pound Bay, Green Island.



**Learn more about the EMC and how you can help restore and conserve Antigua's marine ecosystems**



[www.emcantigua.org](http://www.emcantigua.org)



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