



## EARTH DAY



Earth Day, April 22, is the annual celebration of the environment and a time to assess the work still needed to protect the natural gifts of our planet. Earth Day has no central organizing force behind it though several nongovernmental organizations work to keep track of the thousands of local events in schools and parks that mark the day. Earth Day is observed around the world, although nowhere is it a national holiday. In the United States, it affirms that environmental awareness is part of the country's consciousness and that the idea of protecting the environment - once the province of a few conservationists - has moved from the extreme to the mainstream of American thought.

Earth Day 2009, April 22, will mark the beginning of the [Green Generation Campaign](#). This two-year initiative will culminate with the 40th anniversary of Earth Day in 2010. With negotiations for a new global climate agreement coming up in December, Earth Day 2009 must be a day of action and civic participation, to defend the Green Generation's core principles.

### Selected Earth Day web-sites and links

[Earth Day](#) U.S. Federal Agencies. 2009.

U.S. gov't web site providing information about Earth Day and other related events sponsored by Federal agencies.



[EARTH DAY 2009](#) Los Alamos National Laboratory. April 2009.

The Laboratory focuses on how people can sustain and improve the environment. People have an impact on the planet, and it takes corporate and individual responsibility to minimize these impacts. The Web site leads to research done by the Laboratory to help protect the future of the planet.

[EARTH DAY: HISTORY](#) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2009.

The site contains documents and photos related to the history of Earth Day and previous Earth Day celebrations.

[Timeline](#)

[Historical Documents](#)

[Make Every Day Earth Day](#) U.S. Department of Energy. 2009.

[Today in History: April 22 Earth Day](#). American Memory, Library of Congress. 2009.

Today in History for April 22 briefly shows the history of Earth Day along with links to developments through U.S. history in conservation efforts leading up to the Earth Day.

[Keep America Beautiful](#)

[Protecting our Natural Resources](#) *America.gov*.

[NASA Earth Day web page](#)

Earth Day [Science Reference Guide](#) *Library of Congress*.

## Articles & Press Releases

**Kyoto and the Constitution; Environmentalism and the Administrative State** by Stephen F. Hayward. *American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research*. April 3, 2009.

Climate change is a big issue these days--you may have heard a thing or two about it in the news media--but it is a confused and increasingly chaotic scene, with many moving parts. [Full Text](#)

**Earth Day: Fighting the Effects of Climate Change.** *World Wildlife Fund*. April 2009.

Climate change is among the most pervasive threats to the web of life, yet people have the power to address its root causes and limit its impact on the planet. Smart energy choices made by individuals and businesses can dramatically reduce CO2 emissions and slow global warming. Without action, climate change will cause the extinction of countless species and destroy some of the world's most precious ecosystems. [Full Text](#)

**USDA Celebrates Earth Day by Awarding \$144.3 Million for Rural Infrastructure Projects.** *USDA*. April 2009.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack marked the 39th anniversary of Earth Day today by announcing 56 communities in 34 states have been selected to receive \$144.3 million in loans and grants for infrastructure improvements to improve water availability and quality. [Full Text](#)

**EPA to Hold Earth Day Festival and Open House at Headquarters.** *EPA*. April 21, 2009.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will hold an Earth Day Festival and Open House on April 22 as the agency's celebration of Earth Month draws to a close. [Full Text](#)

**Green Technologies and Buildings Bloom on the National Mall.** *EPA*. April 16, 2009.

On April 18–20, 2009, EPA held the 5th Annual National Sustainable Design Expo, which displayed new sustainable or green technologies. More than 40 college teams and other exhibitors exhibited their innovative solutions for an environmentally sustainable future. [Full Text](#)

### [EPA Releases Administrator Jackson's Earth Day Video Message](#)

#### **American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009:**

[House Committee on Energy and Commerce release](#)

[Full Text of this Bill](#)

## Related E-Journals from America.gov

### [Energy Efficiency: The First Fuel](#) April 2009

Increasing the efficient use of existing energy supplies is widely acknowledged as the fastest, cheapest, and cleanest way to meet future energy needs.

### [The Greening of U.S. Corporations](#) March 2008

This issue of *eJournal USA* delves into what those familiar with the history of the environmental movement in the United States might see as a surprising trend — the way U.S. corporations in recent years have embraced environmentally friendly ways of doing business. What prompts a corporation to “go green”?

### See also these past e-spotlite issues:

- [Food Security](#)
- [Global Water Scarcity](#)
- [Emissions Trading, Greenhouse Gases](#)

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