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SPOTLIGHT

Celebrate the Great Outdoors

The month of April offers a wide variety of ideal occasions for recognizing the importance of the natural world and engaging in environmental stewardship.



Visit the following sites to find resources designed for community groups, schools, and individuals.

John Muir's Birthday, April 21

www.sierraclub.org/john_muir_exhibit

A legendary wilderness explorer, writer, and activist, John Muir founded the Sierra Club and is today recognized as the "Father of the National Park Service."

Earth Day, April 22

www.earthday.net

Established in 1970, Earth Day is an opportunity for people around the world to renew their commitment to building a safer, healthier, and cleaner world. Many communities schedule festivities and service activities around this international event.

Arbor Day, April 25

www.arborday.org/arborday/index.cfm

Arbor Day has encouraged tree planting and care since 1872. It is celebrated each year on the last Friday in April (although many states recognize their own Arbor Day according to seasonal conditions). Similar tree planting ceremonies are held annually by more than 25 other nations.

RESOURCES

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle: Earth Day Every Day



Spread the word that a healthy, sustainable planet benefits everyone — use The Resource Center to support environmental awareness and find everything you need for Earth Day.

LENDING LIBRARY

[Spaceship Earth: Our Global Environment](#)

[Greening School Grounds: Creating Habitats for Learning](#)

[Helping Nature Heal: An Introduction to Environmental Restoration](#)

[Growing Hope: The Homeless Garden Project](#)

EFFECTIVE PRACTICES COLLECTION

[Implementing environmental service-learning with youth](#)

[Holding a poetry contest to educate youth about watershed ecology](#)

[Starting a homeless garden project](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Service-Learning Conference: Youth for a Change

April 9–12, 2008 ~ Minneapolis Convention Center. The 19th Annual National Service-Learning Conference, the largest gathering of its kind, is sponsored by the National Youth Leadership Council. The conference connects participants with service-learning leaders through plenary sessions, forums, and service projects.



With more than 200 workshops, it provides access to new ideas and networking opportunities. This year's keynote addresses will be delivered by Archbishop Desmond Tutu, of South Africa, and Pedro Noguera, author of the book *Unfinished Business: Closing the Achievement Gap in Our Nation's Schools*. Get information and register at www.programs.regweb.com/metro/NYLC2008/index.cfm.

"Teens for Planet Earth" Service Awards



The application for the 2008 TPE Service Awards is now available, recognizing teens from around the world for service-learning projects that demonstrate their commitment to the environment! Projects will be awarded at three levels: bronze, silver, and gold.

[Cleaning up a creek bed for Earth Day](#)

Deadline: April 15, 2008. Learn more at www.teens4planetearth.com/serviceawards.

Featured T/TA Provider

[Public/Private Ventures](#)

T/TA Focus: Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Philadelphia, PA

Improving the effectiveness of social policies, programs, and community initiatives; leveraging its proven experience and expertise in working with faith-based and community organizations (FBCOs) to provide effective technical assistance to programs across the country; mentoring children-of-prisoners, prisoner re-entry, and family strengthening programs.

Online Learning Center

[Online Courses](#)

Free e-courses on a wide variety of topics are designed specifically to help strengthen national service programs.

Featured course: [Strengthening Your Organization, Your Community, and Your Projects](#), created cooperatively by the Leadership Practice (Public Allies and the Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University), the Corporation for National and Community Service, and ETR Associates.

Featured Resource

[Conference and Training Calendar](#)

Search our calendar for service-related events including national service conferences, trainings, and workshops.

Search for both current and archived events, by date, location, and stream of service.

To submit an event to the master calendar, please e-mail the [calendar administrator](#) with the URL and event information.

ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

The Resource Center is a training and technical assistance provider funded by the [Corporation for National and Community Service](#) to support volunteer and service programs across the nation. Visit us today to search, browse, download, order, and borrow from among thousands of specialized resources. Click here to [subscribe](#) to this e-newsletter. To [unsubscribe](#), send an e-mail to lyris@lists.etr.org with ***unsubscribe nsrnews*** in the body of the message.

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