



SPOTLIGHT

Earth Day Celebrates 40 Years in Service... to the Planet!



In September 1969, Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson proposed a national "teach-in" on the environment to send a message to Washington that people across the nation were interested in pursuing a strong political agenda to address environmental issues. The response to his call was immediate and overwhelming and resulted in the very first Earth Day on April 22, 1970.

One in ten Americans participated in that first Earth Day — 20 million people took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to increase environmental awareness by demonstrating for a more healthy and sustainable world. Today, Earth Day is recognized in more than 175 countries, with hundreds of millions of participants working toward a cleaner environment. The event continues to broaden the base of support for environmental programs, rekindle public commitment, and build community activism through a wide variety of activities.



Will you be organizing an Earth Day project this year? Visit the [online resources](#) section of

RESOURCES

Conserving Our Natural Resources



Of the three main components of the waste hierarchy — reduce, reuse, recycle — reducing consumption and waste production is the most effective way to conserve resources and produce less waste. Taking small actions can make a big difference, like stopping catalogs, reusing shopping bags, carpooling, and hang-drying clothes (to name just a few). When you begin to feel good about one set of small, preemptive actions to help Mother Earth, you might even consider bolder steps. The following resources will help you learn more ways to contribute to a healthier, sustainable planet.

Lending Library

- [Build Green](#)
- [Power Shift: Energy + Sustainability](#)
- [Get Out!: 150 Easy Ways for Kids and Grown-Ups to Get Into Nature and Build a Greener Future](#)
- [Environmental Ethics: Examining Your Connection to the Environment and Your Community](#)
- [Escape from Affluenza](#)

Effective Practices

- [Increasing energy conservation awareness in elementary school students](#)
- [Using service projects to teach](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AmeriCorps Week Webchats



AmeriCorps Week 2010 (May 8-15) is fast approaching! Now more than ever, we have the opportunity to put AmeriCorps and national service front and center by showing its impact to Americans across the country. But without you, it won't be possible! Don't miss out on these four topical hour-long webchats, hosted by Campaign Consultation, to help you make this year's AmeriCorps Week a great one.

Webchat #1:

Events and Presentations
April 7 ~ 4:00 ET [Register](#)

Webchat #2:

Media and Promotions
April 14 ~ 4:00 ET [Register](#)

Webchat #3:

Video and Photo Contest
April 26 ~ 4:00 ET [Register](#)

Webchat #4:

Final Preparations
May 3 ~ 4:00 ET [Register](#)

NCVS 2010:

Now Open for Registration!



Don't miss the world's largest gathering of volunteer leaders from the nonprofit, corporate and government sectors. NCVS is June 28-30 in New York City. [Register now!](#)

www.earthday.net for planning and organization tips, adaptable project ideas, and more. Be sure to [register your event](#) as well, so that you can see all the great work you and other participants are doing collectively to make a greener world. Happy 40th birthday, Earth Day!

[middle school youth about environmental conservation](#)

- [Using service projects to teach high school youth about environmental conservation](#)
- [Tying service-learning into environmental conservation](#)



Summer of Service Grantees

Congratulations to the 2010 Summer of Service grantees! The purpose of the Summer of Service program is to support collaborative efforts to establish or implement service-learning programs that engage students during the summer months. [View the list of grantees.](#)

Technology Corner

Simple tech tip:

Ever sign up for something new online, but do not receive your confirmation e-mail? Be sure to check your "junk mail" folder once in a while for legitimate messages that sometimes get filtered out as spam.

Countdown to Global Youth Service Day!



What are you up to? Remember to [register your GYSD event.](#)

Resource Center Lending Library

This specialized collection offers the national service community highly relevant books, videos, and other materials for staff and volunteer training and enrichment. Search the library and request resources online — they'll be shipped to your doorstep free of charge! [Visit the library.](#)

ABOUT THE RESOURCE CENTER

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