

INTERNATIONAL EARTH DAY



What is Earth Day?

Earth Day is a global event. Activities and events are held each year as a show of support for Earth's environment.

Earth Day is celebrated each year on April 22.

Earth Day is celebrated worldwide in over 192 countries.

The purpose is to show global support for the protection of our environment



The first Earth day was held on April 22, 1970.

U.S. Senator Edmund Muskie speaking at Fairmount Park, Philadelphia on Earth Day, 1970.





Why was Earth Day started?

- The first Earth Day took place on April 22, 1970 in America.
- It was founded by former US senator Gaylord Nelson after he saw the huge oil spill of 1969 in Santa Barbara, California.

Most Americans drove very large cars that got very poor gas mileage. Not only were petroleum products being used excessively, but automobile emissions were polluting the air.



In the late 1960's and into 1970, most Americans paid little attention to the damage being done to our environment



Many industries paid little attention to the damage they were doing to the environment.

Earth Day 1970 was organized to promote awareness for our environment, and to encourage all people to take better care of the environment.

Gaylord Nelson proposed and organized the first Earth Day in 1970. As a result, on April 20, 1970, 20 million Americans took up the environmental cause and protested.

Thousands of schools, colleges and universities participated in the first Earth Day. The participants led peaceful demonstrations in favor of environmental reform.





The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.

In 1990 Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries



In 1995 President Bill Clinton awarded Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom -- the highest honor given to civilians in the United States -- for his role as Earth Day founder.



*To Senator Gaylord Nelson
with best wishes, and warm
memories of this great day*

Bill Clinton

By April 22, 2012, one billion actions had been recorded by the people of the world.



Here are some Earth Day ideas from people around the country:

There are two simple ways to celebrate Earth Day to make the world a little better," said Nathaniel Weston, an associate professor of environmental science at Villanova University. „

- The first is to promote understanding of important environmental issues so that more people are aware of the critical actions we need to take to protect our environment.
- The second is to commit yourself to service on or around Earth Day — plant some trees, clean up a stream or help your local community garden



The Earth and its ecosystems are our home. In order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social, and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth.

THE END

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