

dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife united around these shared common values.

The first Earth Day led to the creation of several environmental laws that continue to be the hallmarks of environmental protection. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was created on December 2, 1970. The Occupational Safety and Health Act was passed on December 29, 1970; the Clean Air Act, which was initially enacted in 1963, was amended many times and is now administered by the EPA. In 1972, Congress passed the Clean Water Act. A year after that, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, and soon after, the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act was revised to expand its scope.

In 1990, Earth Day went global when 200 million people in 141 countries raised their voices against environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 saw a boost in recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992.

22 years ago, Earth Day 2000 sent world leaders a loud and clear message: citizens around the world wanted quick and decisive action on global warming and clean energy. 5,000 environmental groups in a record 184 countries reached out to hundreds of millions of people.

Since 2000, the message of Earth Day has raised concern about the vulnerable state of our planet and the need to immediately act. The awareness of our climate crisis grows. Citizens of the world are demanding far greater action for our planet and its people.

How can you participate in Earth Day?

For masses on April 23 and April 24, the poor box donations will be designated for the Red Wiggler Community Farm, a sustainable farm where people with and without developmental disabilities come together to work, learn, and grow healthy food. Their website is <https://redwiggler.org/>. The farm is also founding a Care Farming Network to encourage other farms to provide work and therapeutic farming opportunities for marginalized individuals. The website to the Care Farming Network is <https://carefarmingnetwork.org/>.

Donations to the Reg Wiggler embody Pope Francis' vision for integral ecology in Laudato si: "**we have to realize that a true ecological approach *always* becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear *both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*" (LS 49)**

Other ways parishioners can participate in Earth Day activities.

Simple activities you can do at home to conserve resources:

1. Turn off lights when you are not using them.
2. Turn off the water when brushing your teeth.
3. Turn down the heat a few degrees, or turn your air conditioner up a few degrees.
4. Incorporate compostable products into your daily routine.
5. Use reusable bags for your groceries and skip the plastic bag.
6. Wash with cold water and if you can, hang your laundry outside to dry.
7. Unplug chargers and other electronics when not using them.
8. Take a walk for those short errands and leave the automobile at home.
9. Pay your bills online to reduce the consumption of paper.
10. Use toilet paper and paper towels made of recycled paper or bamboo, or use reusable paper towels.
11. Use reusable water bottles and coffee/teacups.

Other activities you can do:

12. Contact your local representative and ask them to support environmental legislation.
13. Reduce your consumption of red meat, pork, and chicken.
14. Plant a native garden.
15. Don't use pesticides or herbicides.
16. Compost.
17. Cut your grass no shorter than 3 inches as it preserves moisture for the hot days of summer.

If you are able to, participate in local activities, which include:

Baltimore City

Earth Day Trash Clean-up by Blue Water Baltimore

<https://bluewaterbaltimore.org>

Date: Friday, April 22

Time: 9:00 am • 12:00 pm

Middle Branch Park

3001 Waterview Avenue

Baltimore, MD 21230

ORGANIZER Leanna Powell Phone:

410-254-1577 x100

Email: lpowell@bluewaterbaltimore.org

BRRC Cleanup: Hyde Park, Marlyn Ave and Back River Neck by Blue Water Baltimore

<https://bluewaterbaltimore.org>

Saturday, April 23 • 9:00 am • 1:00 pm

Mayor Scott's Spring Day of Service

Date: Saturday, April 30, 2022, from 9am-1pm

Location: You will be notified of your site via e-mail a week ahead.

Mayor Brandon M. Scott and Baltimore City Department of Public Works (DPW) Director Jason W. Mitchell encourage residents to organize to clean and beautify their neighborhoods for the Mayor's Spring Cleanup. Community associations, block leaders, and organizations throughout the city can register their cleaning activities and request that City trucks visit their locations to collect by calling 311 or [registering online](#). DPW will provide five trash collection bags to registered participants. Bags can be picked up at the following DPW locations: 2840 Sisson St. or 111 Kane St. Participants will need to provide their registration number to receive clean up bags.

Individual residents are welcome to informally clean where they live by cleaning up loose litter around their properties, alleyways, and curbsides. Trash collected informally can be bagged and placed out with your household trash for weekly pick up, or residents can bring bagged trash to [a Residential Drop-Off Center](#).

Register your clean-up event or sign up as a volunteer by either calling 311 or going online.

[Sign-up form for Day of Service | Mayor Brandon M. Scott \(baltimorecity.gov\)](#)

Baltimore County

Litter Blitz

Date: The entire month of April!

Location: Various locations determined by clean-up organizers

Baltimore County is encouraging Baltimore County residents to organize or attend a clean-up during Earth Month. Upon request, Baltimore County is providing each registered cleanup with up to 10 pairs of safety

gloves and 20 contractor bags, available for pick up in advance at one of 14 county locations. The County is also providing post-cleanup trash pickup upon request.

If you would like to be a Litter Blitz organizer, please register a cleanup, download resources, and report your post-cleanup results online at [Litter Blitz – Baltimore County \(baltimorecountymd.gov\)](https://www.baltimorecountymd.gov/litterblitz)

Carroll County

Compost and Rain Barrel Pick-Up

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 8 am – 1 pm

Location: Carroll County Government @ 225 North Center Street, Westminster, MD 21157

Pre-order your compost bins and rain barrels online by April 17th to pick them up in time for Earth Day!

For more information, please contact Carroll County at 410-386-2510 or visit www.enviroworld.us/carrollcountymd.

Frederick County

Chesapeake Bay Foundation Earth Day Tree Planting

Date: Friday, April 22, 2022, from 10 am – 1 pm

Location: You will receive additional details about the location and directions via e-mail during the week prior to the event.

Join us for our annual Earth Day tree planting on a farm in the Catoctin Mountains of Frederick County. We will plant the first of 1,600 trees and shrubs on eight acres along Friends Creek on a farm in Sabillasville. Plan to dress for the weather, as this event is outdoors and will be held rain or shine. Bring shovels, work gloves, a reusable water bottle, and lunch. We will have a limited number of clean gloves and shovels available at the site, and light snacks and water bottle refills will be available. *Registration closes April 21, 2022.*

Register at [Chesapeake Bay Foundation \(cbf.org\)](https://www.cbf.org)

Stream-Link Education Volunteer Tree Planting

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 9 am – 11 am

Location: Tom's Creek, 16693 Creamery Road, Emmitsburg, MD 21727

We will be planting trees in honor of Earth Day at Tom's Creek. Space is limited to the first 100 volunteers.

Please sign-up using this link: [Stream-Link Education: Stream-Link Education Volunteer Event Schedule \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/Stream-Link-Education-Stream-Link-Education-Volunteer-Event-Schedule)

Chesapeake Bay Foundation Friends Creek Tree Planting

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 9 am – 1 pm

Location: You will receive additional details about the location and directions via e-mail during the week prior to the event.

Join us for our annual Earth Day tree planting on a farm in the Catoctin Mountains of Frederick County. We will plant the first of 1,600 trees and shrubs on eight acres along Friends Creek on a farm in Sabillasville. Plan to dress for the weather, as this event is outdoors and will be held rain or shine. Bring shovels, work gloves, a reusable water bottle, and lunch. We will have a limited number of clean gloves and shovels available at the site, and light snacks and water bottle refills will be available.

Please sign-up using this link: [Stream-Link Education: Stream-Link Education Volunteer Event Schedule \(signupgenius.com\)](https://www.signupgenius.com/Stream-Link-Education-Stream-Link-Education-Volunteer-Event-Schedule)

Montgomery County

Greenfest

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2022, from 11 am – 5 pm

Location: Brookside Gardens @ 1800 Glenallen Avenue, Wheaton, MD 20902

This free event is a chance for residents, businesses, nonprofits, and neighbors, to come together, share ideas and learn. Plus, GreenFest has tons of fun activities for the whole family.

For more details, visit [Montgomery County GreenFest](#)