



Each year, Earth Day is celebrated on April 22. The 2021 theme is "**Restore Our Earth**". Governments, non-governmental organizations, and businesses around the world are examining natural processes, plus new, and existing green technologies to help restore the world's resources, improve farming practices, rebuild soils, restore native flora and wildlife, and improve water quality around the world (all over the earth).

What is the history of Earth Day?

Earth Day was a unified response to an environment in crisis — oil spills, smog, and rivers so polluted they caught fire.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans — 10% of the U.S. population at the time — took to the streets, college campuses, and hundreds of cities to protest environmental issues and demand change for our planet going forward. The goal of Earth Day is to raise awareness for climate change, protecting the world's resources, and environment. Earth Day is one of the largest civic events that takes place throughout the world.

In the spirit of promoting Earth Day, we urge you to participate in events and celebrate at home. Consider the following, to create a more sustainable Washington, and contribute to a healthier and cleaner planet:

Participate in a [Earth Day 2021 Clean Up!](#)

- Return single-use bags to grocery stores for them to recycle.
- Recycle the plastics you no longer need or find additional uses for containers.
- Donate unwanted items of clothing instead of throwing them away.
- Plant trees, native wildflower seeds, put in a rain or butterfly garden.
- Eat more vegetables, whole grains, and legumes.
- Ride a bike, take a hike, go canoeing, or kayaking.

