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Earth Day is coming and there are plenty of Green Celebrations throughout NJ. Here is a list of special events to celebrate nature with numerous opportunities to participate in making our Earth a better place to live. Spend Earth Day at one of these venues and share a common goal of having fun and making a positive change for the future of the environment!

Earth Day @ Essex County Environmental Center, April 21, 11-4pm. Come out and celebrate nature on this nationally recognized day dedicated to our very own planet, EARTH! Activities include a live honeybee demonstration, nature walks, a composting demonstration, canoeing, kayaking, container gardening, fishing, music, and more. all ages. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors for our annual outdoor Earth festival. Play in nature today with crafts, games, recreation opportunities, demonstrations, local green vendor products and services,



and information on all our partner groups. FREE. 621-B Eagle Rock Ave, Roseland, NJ 973.226.6082

Earth Day 2012 5K Run/Walk and Fair, Hudson County, April 21, 10am-4pm. The celebration includes the Kids' Earth Day Kingdom featuring environment-themed displays, live entertainment, inflatable rides, face painting, games and contests, arts & crafts activities. The winners of the Annual "Calendar Art Contest" will be recognized and awarded their prizes on the main stage. The Fair is preceded by the HCIA's Annual 5K Race and the 5K Fitness Walk to benefit the Friends of Liberty State Park. CRRNJ Terminal and the South Field Liberty State Park, Jersey City 800-540-0987

**Open Space Clean Up – Chatham Township Environmental Commission, (Morris County)April 21, 9:30am-12:30.** Chatham Township Environmental Commission's 10th Annual Open Space Cleanup. Rain or shine. Stay as long or as short a time as you wish between 9:30 am and 12:30 pm to pick up trash and clip brambles. Fun for families. Free refreshments. Bring heavy work gloves and clippers. We will supply cotton work gloves and plastic trash bags. Green Village Road, Chatham Township. 973-377-6992.

**2012 Edison Earth Day Celebration, Middlesex County, April 21, 9am-3pm.** The 2012 Edison Earth Day Celebration will be co-presented by the Township of Edison, Edison Township Environmental Commission (ETEC) and the Edison Sustainable Jersey Green Team (ESJGT) on Saturday, April 21, 2012, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The outdoor, day-event will be staged at Edison Memorial Tower & Museum/Edison State Park 37 Christie Street, Edison, NJ 08837 (Rain Date: April 28, 2012). Edison Memorial Tower & Museum/Edison State Park . 37 Christie Street Edison, NJ 08820. 732-248-7356

Norwood Earth Fair, Bergen County, April 21 (22 rain day), 9am-4pm. Home Office Electronics Recycling and Paper Shredding Day-Clean out all that old computer equipment and electronics and personal papers cluttering up your office and home! Demo Rain Garden / Community Cleanups. Come learn how to make your home or business more energy efficient- free drawings, vendors, displays, games, handouts, much more! Green your home and community-learn about the importance of clean stormwater management,anti-idling and clean air initiatives, green gardening alternatives, green cleaning products, use of native plants in landscaping, rain gardens, and composting. Composters, leaf bags, green cleaning product giveaways, as well as local products available with displays and vendors to answer your questions! Norwood Community Center by the Pond, 453 Broadway, Norwood, NJ; Walk or bike if you can!

Celebrate Earth Day with Tenafly Nature Center, Bergen County, April 21-22.

Nature Story Hour at 11:30-12:15, Wildflower Walk at 1-2pm, Family Craft at 2:30-4pm on the 21<sup>st</sup> and Earth Clean Up followed by a hike on 22<sup>nd</sup>. 313 Hudson Ave, Tenafly. 201.568.6093. Terrific Trees: April 28. On this walk, identify trees by leaves, barks, and even scents, like birch or sassafras which can give us root-beer. See rare American Chestnuts and learn which trees produce those round prickly seed pods. Discover the essential roles trees play in our ecosystems.

The Nature Conservancy's Picnic for the Planet, April 22, 12-4pm. Join The Nature Conservancy on Daffodil Hill to celebrate the planet we live on and the bounty it provides with fun in the sun, outdoor activities, and more. Be part of their attempt to break the record for the world's largest picnic while enjoying the Garden's spectacular spring color. So find your favorite recipes to prepare, grab your picnic basket, round up your friends and family, and get outside this Earth Day. NY Botanical Garden, 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 718.817.8700

Spend Earth Day at Reeves-Reed Arboretum! Essex County, April 22, 1-4pm.

Bring the family for an afternoon filled with activities that celebrate the Earth and all of its creatures. 165 Hobart Avenue, Summit. 908.273.8787.

- Endangered Species parade
- Sustainability Maze—can you make the right choices and find your way out?
- The Magnified Eye: Contemporary Botanical Portraiture exhibit in the Wisner House
- Photos with Bruce Lorenz
- Green crafts and games
- Advice from Nature self-guiding walk

Refreshments and entertainment

#### Party For The Planet @ The Turtle Back Zoo, Essex County, April 22, 11-4pm.

Join your wild friends at Turtle Back Zoo in the biggest party of them all! Celebrate Earth Day with a Party for the Planet! Earth Day activities scheduled throughout the day. Bring in a reusable mug today and get free fountain drinks at the zoo cafe! 560 Northfield Ave, West Orange. 973.731.5800.

#### Party For The Planet, Ocean County, April 22, 1-4pm

Join us and learn what a vital role we all play in preserving our Earth's ecosystems. All ages. Jenkinson's Aquarium, 300 Ocean Avenue, Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742. 732-899-1659

# Earth Day Talk and Walk with the NJ Meadowlands Commission and Bergen County Audubon, April 22, Bergen County, 10am.

A free 2 hour Nature event features a short talk and slide show about the return of the raptors to the Meadowlands, followed by a 90 minute nature walk. Everyone welcomed, Great Family Event. DeKorte Park, Lyndhurst. 201-230-4983

Earth Day Walk at the New Jersey Botanical Gardens, Ringwood, NJ, (Passaic County) April 22, 1pm. The New Jersey Botanical Gardens is hosting an Earth Day walk to introduce kids and their families to the many living things and the geology of northeastern New Jersey. Wear comfortable shoes and learn about the biodiversity that exists right here where we live. (973) 962-9534.

Atlantic County Utilities Authority - Earth Day Festival, April 22, 10am-4pm. Haneman Environmental Park. 6700 Delilah Road, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234, 609-272-6950. Don't miss the ACUA's 22nd Annual Earth Day Festival! The theme of the festival continues to be a "Sustainable Future". In a sustainable world, society's demand on nature is in balance with nature's capacity to meet that demand. ACUA seeks to bring attention to this concept and our collective need to wisely utilize and conserve resources today, in order to provide for the needs of future generations. Come join the celebration and enjoy a day full of non-stop family activities including: stage entertainment, interactive educational displays and activities, workshops, petting zoo, hayride tours of the Environmental Park to the top of the landfill and shuttled tours of the ACUA Wastewater, Wind and Solar Farm in Atlantic City. Also includes a 5K race at 9 am and 1 mile fun run beginning at 8:30 am. Proceeds from the race benefit the American Heart Association.

Lewis Morris County Park" Green Weekends in Morris County: "Our Green World," Earth Day. April 28, 11-4pm. Indulge in a day of live animal shows, great food, lively music, games and crafts, and fun for the entire family! Featuring nearly 100 booths providing interactive hands-on activities, guided nature walks, and demonstrations on everything from solar power, to electric cars, to useful recycled products. Win a fabulous door prize! Cost: \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 12 and under, children under 2 free. 973-635-6629. Morris County.

Sierra Club bike ride "Roll Beyond Coal", Atlantic County, April 28, 10am. Bike ride leaves from the end of Tennessee Avenue in Ocean City.

"Roll Beyond Coal" is a 15-mile bike ride which begins at 10:00 am at the end of Tennessee Avenue in Ocean City across the bay from the B.L. England plant. The ride will end at the ACUA wind farm where participants can watch clean energy in action. Roll Beyond Coal is open to riders of all ages and skill levels. Contact Christine Guhl with the Sierra Club at Christine.guhl@sierraclub.org if you want to join or visit: http://action.sierraclub.org/NJRollBeyondCoal. (609) 510-4684

**New Jersey Daffodil Society Daffodil Show, Morris County, April 27 – 28.** Come see a room full of ribbon-winning daffodils. Enjoy the intriguing diversity of this genus. The show also includes classes for cut and potted specimens of trees, shrubs, and other plants that bloom along with daffodils in our gardens. 353 East Hanover Ave, Morristown, NJ

Kinnelon Conserves 6th Annual Earth Day Fair, Morris County, April 28, 11am-4pm. Pearl R. Miller School/117 Kiel Ave, Kinnelon, NJ 07405, 973-838-8576. Dozens of local businesses and non-profit exhibitors will offer services and products which can help make better choices toward living more sustainably. Providers will be on hand to determine your home's potential for solar power, and also explain current money-saving leasing arrangements. The School will be filled with creative environmental projects made by students, including entries in the Kinnelon Public Library's Trash to Treasure contest. Several other student groups will bring their energy and creative ideas to the Fair, as well. Special collection trucks will be onsite in the front parking lot. Residents are encouraged to drop off their unwanted electronics at the Principia truck (proceeds from this "Principia Green Team" collection will go toward "Green" scholarships for Kinnelon High School seniors.) Also, the Smoke Rise Nursery School's truck will be accepting old clothing, shoes, handbags, blankets, lines, stuffed animals and small plastic toys for recycling. Visitors are encouraged to bring a reusable shopping bag for samples, purchases and information. "In keeping with the spirit of the event, the Earth Day Fair will be as close to a 'zero waste event' as possible," notes Jo Sippie-Gora, one of the co-founders of Kinnelon Conserves, and a Fayson Lakes resident. "We will also make use of recycled, eco-friendly or compostable materials throughout the day." Earth and Arbor Day Family Festival @ Camden Children's Garden, April 28-29. Celebrate Earth Day amid the beauty of 4.5acres of children's themed gardens and the Philadelphia Eagles Four Seasons Butterfly House. This festival includes planting activities, a ladybug release, crafts and educational activities to learn about and to help celebrate Mother Earth. 3 Riverside Drive, Camden, 856-365-8733.

Vernon Earthfest at Heaven Hill Farm, April 29. For the last decade, Vernon has been the home of one of the best Earth day events in New Jersey. Again this year, Earthfest 2012, sponsored by Vernon Chamber Charities. Earthfest is a multifaceted event centering around the environment and keeping things green. The day is full of activities paying hommage to the earth, and it's also a lot of fun with vendors, entertainment and activities for adults and children. Some of Earthfest 2012 presenters include: Delaware Raptor Center presents "Birds Of Prey", Snakes and Scales presents "Sharks Eye View" and "Creatures From Around The Earth" Rizzo's Reptile Discovery. Other fun activities include hayrides, gem mining, seed planting, the bee exhibit, face painting, ice cream & concessions, a service truck exhibit including firetrucks, police cars and more. 11-4pm. 451 State Route 94, Vernon, NJ 973.764.5144.

Fosterfields Living Historical Farm sponsors Green Weekends in Morris County: "Our Green World," Sustainable Life on the Farm", April 29, 12-4pm. Discover how farmers in the early 20th century used sustainable farming methods. Enjoy a horsedrawn wagon ride around the farm and learn how garden vegetables, crops, and livestock were raised a century ago. Get down and dirty, and help plant varieties of heirloom potatoes grown by the Fosters and their farmers in the 1920s. Become acquainted with Fosterfields' welcome guests - the bluebirds and barn swallows. 973-326-7645

#### Project EARTH Swamp Search Scavenger Hunt, Somerset County, April 29, noon-4:30pm.

Visit the Environmental Education Center for an exciting scavenger hunt on the trails to learn about the importance of the Great Swamp as an ecological and recreational resource. Try your "eco-Skills" and participate in cool activities that promote positive environmental actions. Then com back to the EEC for a special program with live animals. This event and the animal program are rain or shine. Please call in case of inclement weather. Environmental Education Center, 190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920, 908-766-2389 Ext 336

Green Weekends, "Partners With Plants" "The Friends of the Frelinghuysen Arboretum's 17th Annual Plant Sale", May 5-6, 10am-2pm. Morris County. This is the largest plant sale in the area, featuring a wide selection of trees, shrubs, perennials, and annuals. This year's focus is on plants with fragrance and texture. Knowledgeable Plant Advisers are ready to answer your questions and provide valuable information about the plants offered. A great event for urban gardeners, as well whose plants have their own specific needs. The Frelinghuysen Arboretum. 53 East Hanover Ave, Morristown. 973.631.5004

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