
MEETING NOTICE

The City Council of the City of Woodcreek, Texas will conduct a meeting at Woodcreek City Hall, 41 Champions Circle, Woodcreek, Texas. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 3:00 PM.

All attendees are encouraged to wear face coverings when a minimum of six-foot social distancing cannot be maintained. Smoking is not allowed anywhere on the property of City Hall.

The public may watch this meeting live at the following link: <https://join.zoom.us/>
Meeting ID: 757 937 9504; Passcode: K8BUPq

A recording of the meeting will be made and will be available to the public in accordance with the Texas Public Information Act upon written request. This notice, as amended, is posted pursuant to the Texas Open Meetings Act (Vernon's Texas Codes Ann. Gov. Code Chapter 551).

The City of Woodcreek is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call the City Secretary's Office at 512-847-9390 for information. Hearing-impaired or speech disabled persons equipped with telecommunications devices for the deaf may call 7-1-1 or may utilize the statewide Relay Texas program at 1-800-735-2988.

Pursuant to Section 30.07, Penal Code (trespass by license holder with an openly carried handgun), a person licensed under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code (handgun licensing law), may not enter this property with a handgun that is carried openly.

It is anticipated that members of other City Boards, Commissions, Panels and/or Committees may attend the meeting in numbers that may constitute a quorum of the other City Boards, Commissions, Panels and/or Committees. Notice is hereby given that this meeting, to the extent required by law, is also noticed as a meeting of the other City Boards, Commissions, Panels and/or Committees of the City, whose members may be in attendance. The members of the City Boards, Commissions, Panels and/or Committees may participate in discussions on the items listed on this agenda, which occur at this meeting, but no action will be taken by those in attendance unless such action item is specifically listed on an agenda during a regular or special meeting for the respective Board, Commission, Panel and/or Committee subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

The City Council may retire to Executive Session any time during this meeting, under Texas Government Code, Subchapter D. Action, if any, will be taken in open session.

This agenda has been reviewed and approved by the City's legal counsel and the presence of any subject in any Executive Session portion of the agenda constitutes a written interpretation of Texas Government Code Chapter 551 by legal counsel for the governmental body and constitutes an opinion by the attorney that the items discussed therein may be legally discussed in the closed portion of the meeting considering available opinions of a court of record and opinions of the Texas Attorney General known to the attorney. This provision has been added to this agenda with the intent to meet all elements necessary to satisfy Texas Government Code Chapter 551.144(c) and the meeting is conducted by all participants in reliance on this opinion.

Any citizen shall have a reasonable opportunity to be heard at any and all meetings of the Governing Body in regard to: (1) any and all matters to be considered at any such meeting, or (2) any matter a citizen may wish to bring to the Governing Body's attention. No member of the Governing Body may discuss or comment on any citizen public comment, except to make: (1) a statement of specific, factual information given in response to the inquiry, or (2) a recitation of existing policy in response to the inquiry. Any deliberation of or decision about the subject of the inquiry shall be limited to a proposal to place the subject on the agenda for a subsequent meeting per Texas Local Government code Sec. 551.042

Citizen comments will be allowed at the beginning of every meeting, or alternatively, before an item on the agenda upon which the citizen wishes to speak is to be considered. All citizens will be allowed to comment for **three (3) minutes** per person and shall be allowed more time at the Mayor or Chair's discretion. In addition, citizens may pool their allotted speaking time. To pool time, a speaker must present the names individuals present in the audience who wish to yield their three(3) minutes. Citizens may present materials regarding any agenda item to the City Secretary at or before a meeting, citizens attending any meeting are requested to complete a form providing their name, address, and agenda item/concern, but are not required to do so before speaking and presenting it to the City Secretary prior to the beginning of such meeting. Comments may only be disallowed and/or limited as per Government Code § 551.007(e).

Submit written comments by email to woodcreek@woodcreektx.gov by **NOON**, the day prior to the meeting. Please include your full name, home or work address, and the agenda item number. Written comments will be part of the official written record only.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PLEDGES

ROLL CALL and ESTABLISH QUORUM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Workshop with Heart of Texas, IT. (Rasco/Rule)
2. Workshop To Discuss Items Submitted.
 - a. Discussion of Community Block Grant Description, Uses and Applicability For the City of Woodcreek. (Bailey)
 - b. Discussion of Possible Woodcreek Earth Day Celebration on April 22, 2023, in Coordination with Aqua Texas. (Rasco)
 - c. Discuss Results of the City Council's Ranking of the Pending City Business Document.
 - d. Report on Pending Business. (Hines)
 - e. Discussion On The Alteration of Draft Documents Between Meetings Outside of Items Voted Into Approval. (Hines)
 - f. Discussion On the Review of Agenda Items and Proposed Ordinances or Other Documents By Legal Counsel and Staff Prior to Council Meetings. (Hines)
 - g. Discuss and Take Action On The Communication Policy Document, if Prepared. (Hines)
3. Discuss and Take Possible Action on Items Discussed During Workshop Session.
4. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action Authorizing the City Manager to Enter Into A Municipal Advisory Services Agreement With Stifel, Nicolaus & Company. (Rule)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

POSTING CERTIFICATION

I certify that the above notice was posted on the **10th day of March, 2023 at 2:45PM**

By: 
Suzanne J. MacKenzie, City Secretary



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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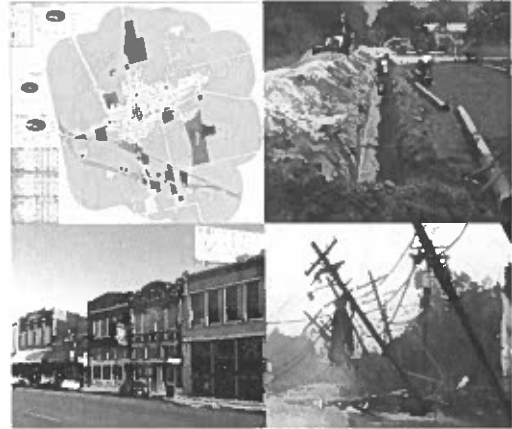
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Grants & Services > Rural Economic Development > Rural Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Community Development Block Grant (TxCDBG) Program for Rural Texas

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments and expanding economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income. Eligible applicants are non-entitlement cities under 50,000 in population and non-entitlement counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct CDBG funding from HUD may apply for funding through any of the Texas CDBG programs.

Click [HERE](#) for more information about the TxCDBG program.
[TxCDBG Information Sheet](#)



Need assistance with TDA-GO!

Click here for support.

Texas Department of Agriculture Grants Online - TDA GO!

Have you subscribed to the TxCDBG Listserv to receive notifications regarding funding availability, technical assistance opportunities, program updates, and more?

To sign up for TxCDBG Announcements

<http://lists.state.tx.us/mailman/listinfo/cdbg>

All CDBG Resources

- Announcements
- Fair Housing in Texas
- TxCDBG Consolidated Plans, Annual Action Plans, and CAPERS Implementation Manual, Forms and Appendices
- Professional Services
- Applicants, Awards and Success Stories
- Beneficiary Documentation
- Agreement Assignments in TDA-GO (Updated 6.1.2022)
- Environmental Publications
- Record Retention List
- Unified Scoring Committee
- TxCDBG Training
- CDBG Over Coffee
- External Resources and Other Funding Sources

TxCDBG Programs

- Community Development Fund (CD)
- Colonia Funds
- Downtown Revitalization / Main Street Programs (DRP/MS)
- FAST Fund
- Planning and Capacity Building (PCB)
- State Urgent Need Fund (SUN)



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

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FORMS

Grants & Services > Rural Economic Development > Rural Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) > About

About Rural Texas CDBG

Funding Source

Every year, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development provides federal Community Development Block Grant funds directly to states, which, in turn, provide the funds to small, rural cities with populations less than 50,000, and to counties that have a non-metropolitan population under 200,000 and are not eligible for direct funding from HUD. These small communities are called "non-entitlement" areas because they must apply for CDBG dollars through the Texas CDBG program. Larger cities, such as Dallas, Houston and others, receive CDBG monies directly from HUD, and are called "entitlement" areas.

History

The CDBG program is governed by [Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974](#) (the Act) and Federal regulations at [24 CFR 570, Subpart I](#). The introduction of the CDBG program in 1974 signaled a move away from individual categorized federal development assistance programs towards the block grant model, which gives communities broad latitude in using funds for a variety of development activities. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981 authorized states to administer the CDBG programs.

CDBG Objectives

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments, and expanding economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income.

To achieve these goals, the CDBG regulations outline the eligible activities and the National Objectives that each activity must meet. As a recipient of CDBG funds, the state is charged with ensuring that these HUD requirements are met. Specifically, the state is responsible for assuring the US Department of Housing and Urban Development that each project it funds meets one of three National Objectives: Benefit low- and moderate income persons; Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or meet a need having a particular urgency, which represents an immediate threat to the health and safety of residents.

In line with the federal objectives, the state administers its CDBG programs according to the following goals: Improve public facilities to meet basic human needs, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Improve housing conditions, principally for persons of low- and moderate-income. Expand economic opportunities by creating or retaining jobs, principally for low- and moderate-income persons. Provide assistance and public facilities to eliminate conditions hazardous to the public health and of an emergency nature.

Primary Beneficiaries

All projects funded through the CDBG program typically meet the first national objective (benefit low- and moderate-income persons) by benefiting at least 51 percent low- to moderate-income persons, which are defined as those who earn equal to or less than 80 percent of the area median family income figure (where the area is a metropolitan statistical area or a non-metropolitan county) or Earn equal to or less than less than 80 percent of the statewide non-metropolitan median family income figure, as defined under the US Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 8 Housing Assistance Program. For income eligibility in your area, please review the most recent Income Limits document.

Some projects funded through the CDBG program may meet the second national objective of aiding in the prevention or elimination of slum or blight while the remainder of CDBG projects will fall under the third national objective. The third national objective includes activities designed to meet community development needs having a particular urgency, which the CDBG Program applies to Disaster Relief and Urgent Need Fund projects.

Program Administration

The state of Texas administers its CDBG programs in accordance to funding rules and regulations set by HUD. Each year, it submits an Action Plan for the next fiscal year. The Action Plan describes the methods that will be used for distributing funds among the various CDBG programs, including award amounts per program, application selection process, etc. Once HUD approves the Action Plan it becomes codified into the Texas Administrative Code.

The TxCDBG program then makes applications available in accordance with each program's funding cycle. Applications received for competitive funding programs are reviewed and scored using program-specific criteria and processes.

Once awards are made from the CDBG program, contracts are executed between the department and the city or

county officials, and the grantee begins the implementation of their proposed project. To guide grantees in the implementation of their projects, the grantees follow the CDBG Project Implementation Manual. The Manual describes the methods a CDBG grant recipient uses to administer the CDBG contract, and includes relevant forms. This document covers the post award process.

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TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE COMMISSIONER SID MILLER

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program for Rural Texas

The primary objective of the Community Development Block Grant program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments, and to expand economic opportunities principally for persons of low- to moderate-income.

Eligible Applicants: Non-entitlement cities and counties whose populations are less than 50,000 and 200,000 respectively, and that are not designated as eligible for the entitlement portion of the federal Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

Community Development Fund (2023-2024)

Application Deadline: Spring 2023

Max Award: \$500,000

The Community Development Fund is the largest fund category in the TxCDBG Program. This fund is available through a competition in each of the 24 state planning regions. Although most funds are used for Public Facilities (water/wastewater infrastructure, street and drainage improvements and housing activities), there are numerous other activities for which these funds may be used.

Downtown Revitalization Program

Application Deadline: Spring 2023

Max Award: \$500,000

Provides grant funds for public infrastructure to eliminate deteriorated conditions and foster economic development in historic main street areas and rural downtown areas.

Fire, Ambulance, and Service Truck (FAST) Fund

Application Deadline: TBD 2024

Max Award: \$750,000

Provides funds for eligible vehicles to provide emergency response and special services to LMI rural communities.

Colonia Funds

Funds available to eligible county applicants for projects in severely distressed unincorporated areas. The term “colonia” generally means an identifiable unincorporated community that is within 150 miles of the border between the United States and Mexico.

Colonia Fund Construction

Application Deadline: Spring 2023

Max Award: \$1,000,000

Assistance to fund water and wastewater improvements, housing rehabilitation, and other improvements in colonia areas.

Colonia Economically Distressed Areas Program

Application Deadline: As Needed

Max Award: \$1,000,000

Assistance to colonia areas to connect to a water and sewer system project funded by other state and federal funds.

State Urgent Need (SUN) Fund

Application Deadline: As Needed

Max Award: \$500,000

(\$1,000,000 for certain multi-jurisdiction awards)

Assistance to communities impacted by state-declared disaster events that are not eligible for federal disaster assistance. Infrastructure repair, replacement, and improvement are eligible projects, with priority for drinking water systems and debris removal.

RESPONSE to "Pending City Business" Document Received March 2, 2023

Item 2.

Date Assigned	Item Description	Status	EST. Compl. Date	Notes
23-Feb	Citizen Survey	In Process	3/15/2023	
Nov-22	Facebook/Next-door Accounts	In Process	4/30/2023	
22-Oct	City Wide Garage Sale	In Process	7/8/2023	Set at Parks Mtg Dtd.
Staff	Bulk Pick-up	In Process	7/15/2023	Pick-Up will be curbside, not at City Hall
Staff	Bond Road RFP	In Process	7/31/2023	Waiting on K.Friese
May-22	Update Lot/Zoning Map	In Process		Woodcreek ETJ conflicts with Wimberley ETJ - Redrawing
Staff	Par View	In Process		Delayed due to 2023 Winter Event
	<i>Parking Sign</i>	-		-
	<i>Parking Space</i>	-		-
	<i>(2) Posts - Parking/Library</i>	-		-
22-Oct	Review Vendor Contracts	In Process		Ongoing
Staff	Small Road Chip Seal Project	In Process	8/31/2023	RFP bids due 3/15/2023, Selection on 03/30/2023 by PRP
Staff	City Parks	In Process	9/30/2023	-
Staff	CDBG Grant (Deerfield)	In Process		Survey completed by Grantworks week of Feb.
Aug-22	Brookhollow and Augusta	In Process		Looking into DOT requirements.
	<i>2 Stop Signs</i>	-		-
Sep-22	Stonehouse Circle	In Process		Sign style selection not relayed to Staff.
	<i>Safety, Safe Driving & Dark Skies</i>	-		-
Jan-23	Arborist RFP	In Process		Delayed due to 2023 Winter Event
22-Jan	Policy & Procedure Binder	In Process		Empl. Handbk compl; Council Binder Compl; 5 policies left to review
May-22	Year round Tree Signs			
Mar-22	Long Term Parking Permit			
Sep-22	Four (4) permanent radar signs			Grant App. denied - Does Council still want 4??
	City Inspector/Code Enforcement			?
Dec-22	Staff Communication Policy			Permit Calendar Compl; 411, Social and Fund Bal. Policies under review
Staff	Update Website			Resolutions Link added to site
Staff	Solicitor Permit			New item
Staff	Drainage Project (Westwood/Brookhollow)			Neighborhood Meeting Jan 24 - K.Friese had NEVER walked area!! Waiting on updated proposal

- Dec-22 **Submission dates for plats/subdivisions** **Completed**
- Oct-22 **Sign Permit Update** **Completed**
- Oct-22 **Garage Sale Permit Update** **Completed**
- 22-Oct **Masonry/Board of Adjustment Ordinance** **Completed**

STAFF

Council Voted Items – Direct Action needed:

NEW year-round TREE SIGNS (all tree trimming, and removals need permits and oak trimming prohibited Feb 1st to July 1st. (May 11th, 2022)

Stop Signs at Brookhollow and Augusta Drive to create a 3-way stop (August 31st, 2022)

Social Media accounts Facebook and Nextdoor (Nov 9th 2022)

Long-Term Parking permit (March 8th, 2022)

Install 5 digital, solar powered, permanent radar signs: at the main entrances (Woodcreek Dr near Cypress Falls, Woodcreek Dr near RR12, Brookmeadow near RR12) and on Champions facing east to control speed coming into Woodcreek (Sept 14th, 2022)

Post Arborist RFP (Jan 25 2023)

Sign and Garage Sale sign permit updates (October 26th, 2022)

Fix Masonry and Board of Adjustment in Code of Ordinances (October 12, 2022) - NEED STATUS

Update lot line and zoning map / get cost approved by Council first (May 11th, 2022)

Procedures and Policy Binder update & post docs online (partially complete) (Jan 12th, 2022)

Consider all vendor contracts and go to RFQ (October 12th, 2022)

Posting Dark Skies, Safe Driving, Neighborhood Patrolled Signs on Single pole at the greenspace on Woodcreek drive near The Triangle (Sept 14th, 2023)

Consider a City Inspector and Code Enforcement Officer (Dec 2022 report from ORC & Oct 12th, 2022)

Annual City-Wide Garage Sale (October 26th, 2023)

Staff Communication Policy – Rule + Gordon (Feb 21 2023)

New Permit process with 6 annual periods for submission (Feb 8th 2023) - Mr. Gordon

Regular Business identified as “needing action”:

Breakaway Stop Signs throughout the City

Update and Clean Up the City Website

Check on Municode Update – it is VERY delayed

Repair Pavement in the cul-d-sac on Elmbrook

Report on Investment Strategies and Budget Amendment– pending Feb 2023

Meeting and Training for Committee Chairs – some completed Jan 2023

Curve ahead signs Champions

Move Handicap parking sign to near the ramp at City Hall

Update the parks on the website to include the new ones – pending names approved

Add “file complaint” section to website

Customer Service surveys & 311

Improve accounting coding practices and more detailed invoices from vendors

AQUA donation to fix Memorial Plaza

Repair Brookmeadow planter where someone ran into it and broke off some of the masonry

Pursue health insurance for staff

ALL OTHER BOARDS + ELECTED BODY

COUNCIL VOTED – DIRECT ACTION NEEDED:

Par View Project – Hines / Rasco / Grummert

Stonehouse Circle – Hines / Rule / Rasco

Committee Appointments: Alternate on Ordinance Review

Use of \$227,000 from General Funds for road improvements – Platinum Panel (IN PROGRESS)

Master Transportation and Capital Improvements Plan – Platinum Panel

Walking Trails – Platinum Panel

BOND ELECTION NEXT STEPS– Platinum Panel

Review of Existing Ordinances – Ordinance Review

Recodification and Code Restructure – Ad Hoc (Hines + Grummert)

Chapters 154+ - Ad Hoc (Hines + Grummert)

Additional Traffic Calming and Signs – Platinum Panel

Consider Increasing Sherrif Patrols – Pulley

NEW Tree Inventory List (completed and shared with Council with recommended actions) - Tree

Name the City Park across from Memorial Park – Parks

Drainage Project – Bailey and Platinum Panel + K.Friese

Film Friendly City – Rasco

Revise Rainwater Collection; effluent for purple pipe, fire suppression– Hines

Address Oak Wilt with the Golf Course and provide report to Council - Rasco

Other pending business:

POSAC grant execution – Parks

Community Block Grant – Grummert

ARPA (2nd round)– Grummert + Platinum Panel + Bailey

Other Parks' Grants – Parks and Grummert (Texas Parks and Wildlife)

Concepts to work on

Community Garden – on city property by water tower?

Dog park at south entrance?



EARTH DAY ACTION TOOLKIT



ABOUT EARTH DAY

Every April 22nd, stakeholders of all backgrounds come together to advance sustainability and climate action in commemoration of Earth Day.

Our world needs transformation. It's time for the people of the world to hold governments and the private sector accountable for their role in our environmental crisis while also calling for bold, creative, and innovative solutions. This will require action at all levels, from business and investment to city and national government.

That's where you come in: as an individual, you yield real power for change through your influence as a consumer, a voter, and a community member.

Don't underestimate your power. When your voice and actions are united with millions of others around the world, we can create an inclusive and impactful movement that is impossible to ignore.

Throughout April, we commemorate Earth Month with marches, rallies, volunteer events, and more. United together, we'll drive a year of energy, enthusiasm, and commitment to a sustainable and equitable future for our planet.

WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT. WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT. WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT.

AL MOVEMENT. WELCOME TO THE WORLD'S LARGEST ENVIRON-





2023 THEME

INVEST IN OUR PLANET

This year, we rally behind the theme “Invest In Our Planet”, which highlights the importance of dedicating our time, resources, and energy to solving climate change and other environmental issues. Investing in our planet is necessary to protect it and the best way to pave a path towards a prosperous future.

When we **Invest In Our Planet** together, we are supporting healthy, happy, and wealthy communities worldwide.

Visit [EARTHDAY.ORG](https://www.earthday.org) to learn more and sign up for updates on our work.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Use our interactive map to register your own Earth Day events or find community events happening near you.

EARTH DAY EVENTS
Mobile version

Want to switch views? Click **Calendar** at the bottom to see and filter a list. **Search** by date and category below.

Are you planning an event?
Register it here

Event type:
No category selected

Age group:
All

Language:
All

Date range:
No date selected

Swap views at the bottom
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[REGISTER YOUR EVENTS HERE](#)

[FIND NEARBY EVENTS HERE](#)

MORE WAYS TO INVEST IN OUR PLANET



		
Plant Trees Our reforestation campaign has planted tens of millions of trees over the last decade, often for as little as \$1 per tree!	Participate In Advocacy Send a letter to your local elected officials, speak up at your next town hall meeting, or sign an Earth Day petition.	Sustainable Fashion Learn about the detrimental impacts of fast fashion, the importance of sustainable fashion, and commit to responsible consumption.
		
Reduce Plastic Consumption Make a plan to reduce your plastic consumption using our plastic calculator.	Vote Earth Use our Vote Earth hub to register to vote, learn your voting rights, and get reminders for important voting deadlines.	

*Click on the icons above to learn more about the many ways to invest in our planet and support our campaigns.

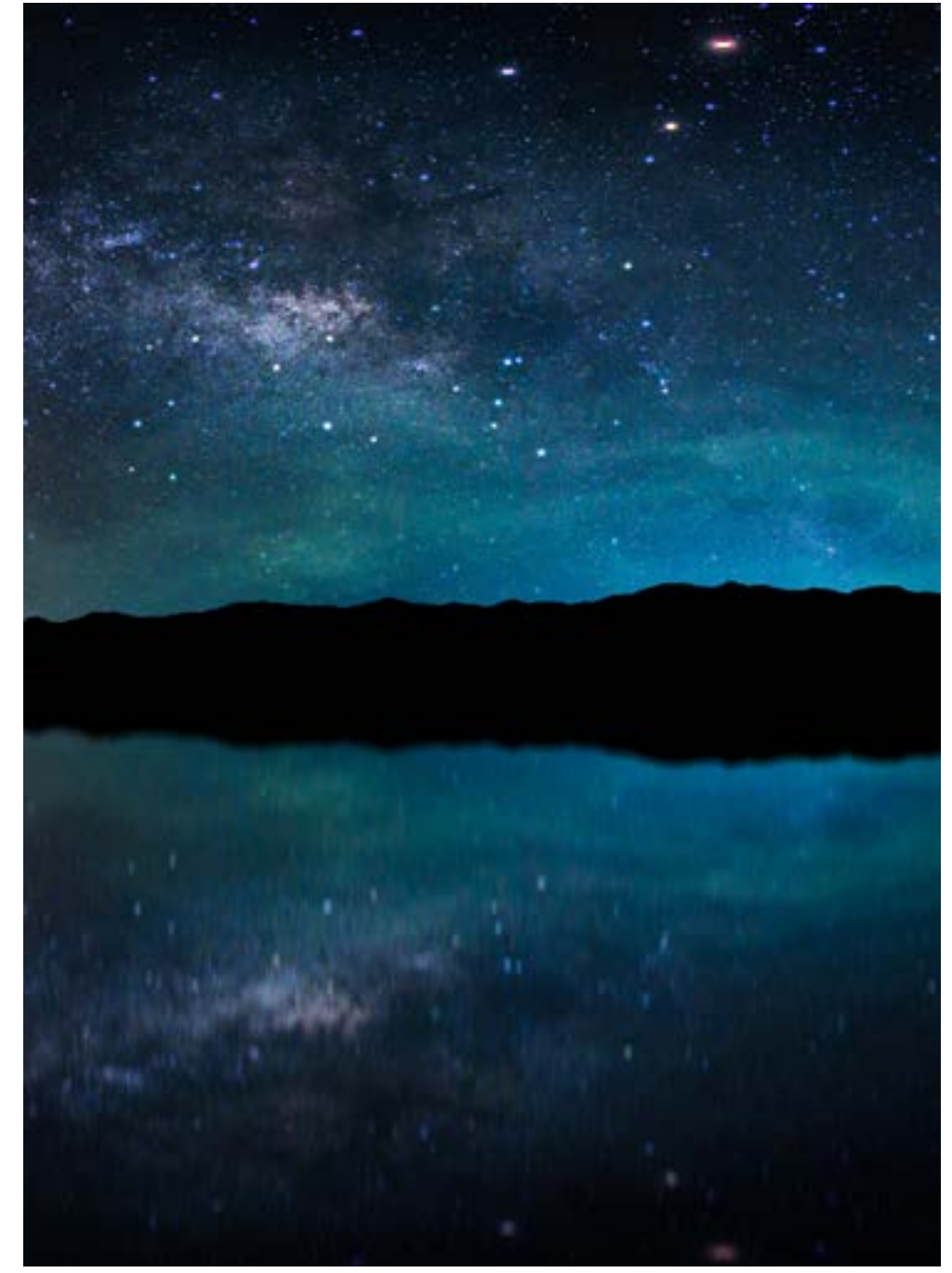
PLAN YOUR OWN EVENT

It's easy to start your own Earth Day event! Click on the toolkits below for step-by-step instructions on how to organize an Earth Day activity for your community.

 Plan a March or Rally

 Host a Community Cleanup

 Popular Earth Day Events





Plan a March or Rally

1. Select an appropriate site, date, and time

- Choose a public location for people to meet: a park, church, or a similar community site that is ideally accessible by public transportation or bicycle.
- Select a date. TIP: Earth Day is on April 22nd
- Select a Time: Depending on where you are, choose a time that allows for plenty of daylight and comfortable temperatures for volunteers. TIP: The time should reflect the needs of your community. If the rally is for students, is the meeting time after school hours?
- If you are planning on leading a march, select an accessible walking route. See step 3 to learn more about blocking off roads. TIP: Plan your route around significant landmarks, like city hall or the courthouse.
- [Register your rally to list your event on our map](#) and connect it to our global network of volunteers

2. Organize a planning group

- Decide who will be organizing the rally. Whether it is your friends, your organization, or just you!
- Invite members from local government, civic organizations, clubs, homeowner associations, churches, and media to serve on the planning committee. TIP: Having a diverse coalition can help the event run well.
- Appoint site captains who will manage the event and designate roles so that the event goes well.

3. Obtain the proper licenses and permits

- Peaceful protest is a constitutional right under the First Amendment of the US Constitution. However, there are certain governmental restrictions that dictate the time, place, or manner of rallies and

protests.

- In general, protest organizers should be prepared to obtain a permit in advance through an application and a small fee. Tip: It may take up to 90 days in advance to obtain a permit, so start this research ahead of time.
- Each state has its own form of protest laws, and some individual municipalities and cities may also have varying laws.
- Speak with a local attorney or contact your representative to learn more about your city's rules and regulations.

4. Gather volunteers

- Register your rally to list your event on our map and connect it to our global network of volunteers
- Advertise to your organization, family, friends, and/or community members
- TIP: people from different organizations and associations can help turn out volunteers and bridge community members through the rally ie: A reverend asking their ministry
- Online: Use Facebook or Eventbrite to create the event and manage volunteer sign-up, and share event information. Create a shareable flier to post to a wide range of social media platforms.
- Offline: Put up posters around the neighborhood, on the elevator in your apartment building, on the bulletin board in your building or dorm, etc. Get creative and make sure to include the important details of the rally in your flier!

5. Line up support and supplies

- Decide if you want to host a poster-making session before the event or on the day of. An art build is a great way to facilitate community bonding and get to know other individuals

passionate about the environment before the main event. Bringing people together beforehand can increase commitment and turnout to the actual event.

- Ask local vendors and restaurants to donate food for volunteers. Be sure that contributors get credit for their donations in promotions.
- Gather supplies:
 - Poster supplies: poster board, markers
 - Water and snacks
 - First aid kit
 - Sunscreen and bug spray
 - For larger events, a megaphone is helpful
- Print out fliers with QR codes to any petitions you want attendees to sign onto. We recommend our [petition to end plastic pollution](#), or you can make your own!

6. Start your rally day

- Closer to the date, check the weather, and plan to dress appropriately. Wear something you can comfortably move in!
- Send a reminder to all participants and key individuals that you hope to attend the night before or the day of.
- Invite local media outlets to cover the event and spread awareness.
- As a leader, arrive at the event early to set up before volunteers arrive.
- Have a check-in table and posters that are easily identifiable.
- Host an orientation and a brief safety talk once everyone has arrived.
- Direct your volunteers to sign a petition (we suggest using our petition to end plastic pollution, but you can also make your own)

7. Post to social media and follow up

- Take pictures throughout your rally and share them on Twitter and Instagram. Use handles #EarthDay and #InvestInOurPlanet
- Share your images with local newspapers, magazines, and EARTHDAY.ORG at info@earthday.org
- Write thank you emails to any cooperating government officials, businesses, and organizations.

8. Keep the momentum going after the rally. Share these resources with attendees to deepen the impact of your event:

- [Register to vote](#)
- Contact your local representative and encourage them to set achievable sustainability goals
- Sign our petition to end plastic pollution.
- Plan and participate in local cleanups – here is a link to find one near you
- Plant trees within your neighborhood and donate to The Canopy Project
- Make sure that your event is registered on the EarthDay event map to find more rallies, marches, cleanups, and other events.
- [Become a Volunteer](#) with EARTHDAY.ORG
- Become an Earth Day member
- [Take a quiz](#) to test your knowledge on individual action, climate and emissions, or conservation and restoration.
- Learn and understand the impacts of plastic pollution and make changes towards the movement to End Plastic Pollution.
- Divest from companies with a high environmental footprint, and instead invest ethically in sustainable companies—you'll be likely to make more money over time!



Host a Community Cleanup

1. Select an appropriate site, date, and time

- Choose a public location: a park, a river, or a similar community site that is ideally accessible by public transportation or bicycle.
- Select a date. TIP: Earth Day is on April 22nd and World Cleanup Day is on the Third Saturday in September).
- Select a Time: Depending on where you are, choose a time that allows for plenty of daylight and comfortable temperatures for volunteers. Most cleanups happen between 9:00am and 11:00am.

2. Organize a planning group

- Decide who will be organizing the cleanup. Whether it is your friends, your organization, or just you!
- Invite members from local government, civic organizations, clubs, homeowner associations, churches and media to serve on a cleanup planning committee. Having a diverse coalition can help the event run well.
- Appoint site captains who will manage the event and designate roles to assure cleanup goes smoothly.

3. Gather volunteers

- [Register your cleanup](#) so it appears on the Great Global Cleanup Map and is connected to our global network of volunteers
- Advertise your cleanup to your organization, family, friends, and/or community members

- TIP: people from different organizations and associations can help turn out volunteers and bridge community members through the cleanup; i.e.: A reverend asking their ministry)
- Online: Use Facebook or Eventbrite to create the event and manage volunteer sign up, and share event information.

- Offline: Put up posters around the neighborhood, on the elevator in your apartment building, on the bulletin board in your building, etc. Get creative!

4. Line up supplies and arrange for disposal

- Ask for donations of trash bags, refreshments, and equipment. TIP: Local hardware stores are usually willing to donate these resources
- Coordinate with local waste management through a short phone call to ensure everything is being disposed of in accordance with rules and regulations.
- Be sure that contributors get credit for their donations in cleanup promotions
- Gather supplies:
 - Trash Bags or Buckets
 - Trash Grabbers
 - First Aid Kit
 - Gloves and Hand Sanitizer
 - Water/ Snacks
 - Table and chairs (we recommend two tables, one 6' and the other 4')

- Event Signage

- [Download and print this QR code](#) to have the attendees sign the Global Plastic Treaty petition

5. Start your cleanup day

- Closer to the date, check the weather and plan to dress appropriately. Wear something you don't mind getting dirty!
- Send a reminder the night before or day off to all participants and key individuals that you hope to attend.

- Invite local media outlets to cover the event and spread awareness
- As a leader, arrive to the event early to set up before volunteers arrive

6. Orientation and safety talk

- Safety is key. Two people make a team! Wear gloves, and closed toe shoes. Bring a hat, sunscreen & reusable water bottle
- Keep the environment safe. Vegetation is sensitive and wildlife is best kept wild
- What to remove:
 - Trash and Litter (Anything created by humans)
 - Recyclables
- What to leave:
 - Nature
 - Homeless Encampments
 - Dead Animals
 - Syringes, needles, and other hazardous

- materials.

7. Dispose of the waste

- Find a location to properly dispose of all of the waste you will clean up!
- Sort the waste into trash, recyclables, and hazardous waste.
- If you are unsure of where to dispose of any of this waste, contact your local municipality's waste department for further instruction.

8. Following up

- Help us track trash and have your cleanup be recorded on our public map by reporting your cleanup
- Take pictures before and after your collection and share to twitter and instagram. Use handles #EarthDay #GreatGlobalCleanup, #TrashTag, and #Plogging. EARTHDAY.ORG will be re-posting content to our social media
- Post your event on social media. Tag us at @thegreatglobalcleanup on Instagram and TikTok.
- Share your images with local newspapers, magazines, and EARTHDAY.ORG
- Write thank you emails to any cooperating government officials, businesses, and organizations.
- Learn more about [EARTHDAY.ORG's Great Global Cleanup](#).



Popular Earth Day Events

- Organize a teach-in to educate your peers or students about the importance of environmental action. Check out our [climate literacy resources](#) for an in-depth guide!
- Plant a pollinator garden using native species to support local populations of butterflies, bees, and other organisms that are critical to biodiversity.
- Form a community sustainability committee to create a happier, healthier, and wealthier environment for you and your neighbors.
- Help your family and friends register to vote using our [Vote Earth resources](#).

Be sure to [register any and all events you plan on the official Earth Day Map](#).

Post what you're doing this Earth Day and make sure to tag #EarthDay and/or #InvestInOurPlanet to possibly be featured on our social channels!





EARTH DAY IDEAS FOR COMMUNITIES

- 1 Universities
- 2 Professors
- 3 Students
- 4 Administrators
- 5 Home Owners
- 6 Parents
- 7 Schools
- 8 Businesses
- 9 City Governments
- 10 Faith Leaders
- 11 Community Groups
- 12 Senior Activists
- 13 Creators
- 14 Non-Profit Organizations

1 Universities

The future of civilization begins with higher education. The next generation of leaders are today's students, and it is essential students entering fields across all sectors are educated in how their work intersects with the climate and our environment. Students who implement sustainability in their careers are more likely to succeed, and universities who implement sustainability on campus and incorporate climate education in all classrooms are essential.

2 Professors

- Plan a protest or volunteer event with your student organization! Make sure to [register your events on our Earth Day Map](#) to connect them to volunteers in your area and be recognized in the official commemoration of Earth Day 2023.
- Write a letter to your school administrators demanding your university take measures to improve campus sustainability and make climate investments.
- Host a tabling event in your university common area to educate your peers and get them involved in upcoming opportunities.
- Join the Climate Education Coalition and become an advocate for climate literacy in education policy. To join, email Johnny Dabrowski at dabrowski@earthday.org

3 Students

- Make Climate a Class by planning a teach-in for your students on Earth Day. Visit our [Toolkit for Professors](#) or our [Education Resource Library](#) for inspiration to plan your lesson.
- Share our [Earth Day Map](#) and information on environmental events & volunteer opportunities with your students to help them get involved this Earth Day.
- Consider extra credit for participation to incentivize your students!

4 Administrators

- Invest in a sustainable campus. Energy efficient buildings with sustainable water and heating systems will save your institution a significant amount of money and also contribute to a healthy climate. Cultivating a biodiverse, green space will create a healthy and enriching campus environment for your students.
- Support the global call for climate education by signing the [Climate Literacy Letter](#) on behalf of your institution.

5 Home Owners

A sustainable home is a happy home. If you are a homeowner, Investing in Our Planet is essential to financial success. A home that is equipped with efficient power/water/heating systems, coupled with renewable energy, will save you thousands of dollars per year while drastically reducing your impact on the environment. With the newly passed Inflation Reduction Act, you could also be eligible for massive tax breaks when you implement sustainable home improvements.

- Learn about the tax opportunities for sustainable home improvements in the Inflation Reduction Act and make a plan to take advantage of these benefits this year.
- Install rooftop solar panels, explore ways of making your home energy efficient, and save

your family money.

- Install a smart thermostat to lower your energy consumption (and your heating bill!).
- Switch to LED lightbulbs to dramatically reduce the amount of power needed to light your home. LED lights last 100x longer than traditional light bulbs!
- Seal air and water leaks in your home to improve efficiency and reduce your utility bills.
- Install modern low-flow shower heads, saving carbon emissions, energy costs, and up to 15,000 gallons of water per person per year!
- Learn how to compost and reduce the carbon impact of food waste; plus, this will give you a free source of soil if you have a garden!
- Plant native species and pollinators to support biodiversity and beautify your

outdoor living space. If you want to keep some grass in the lawn, maintain it with an electric mower.

- Display a yard or window sign to showcase your commitment to sustainability and get your neighbors on board.
- Talk to your homeowners association about its current regulations related to climate and the environment. Discuss how the community can improve these policies.



6

Parents

Every parent wants their children to grow into responsible, considerate, and successful adults. Commemorating Earth Day as a family is key to nurturing these values and ensuring that nature and sustainability are an important part of your child's identity.

- Have a conversation with your children about the importance of living sustainably and identify ways that your family can improve together.
- Work together as a family to implement as many of these [52 Actions and Tips](#) to make a difference.
- Take your family to a local cleanup, or start your own in the neighborhood or a nearby park!
- Plant a pollinator garden with your kids for a fun, impactful, and educational day outside.
- [Use our plastic calculator](#) with your kids and discuss how your family can reduce plastic consumption.

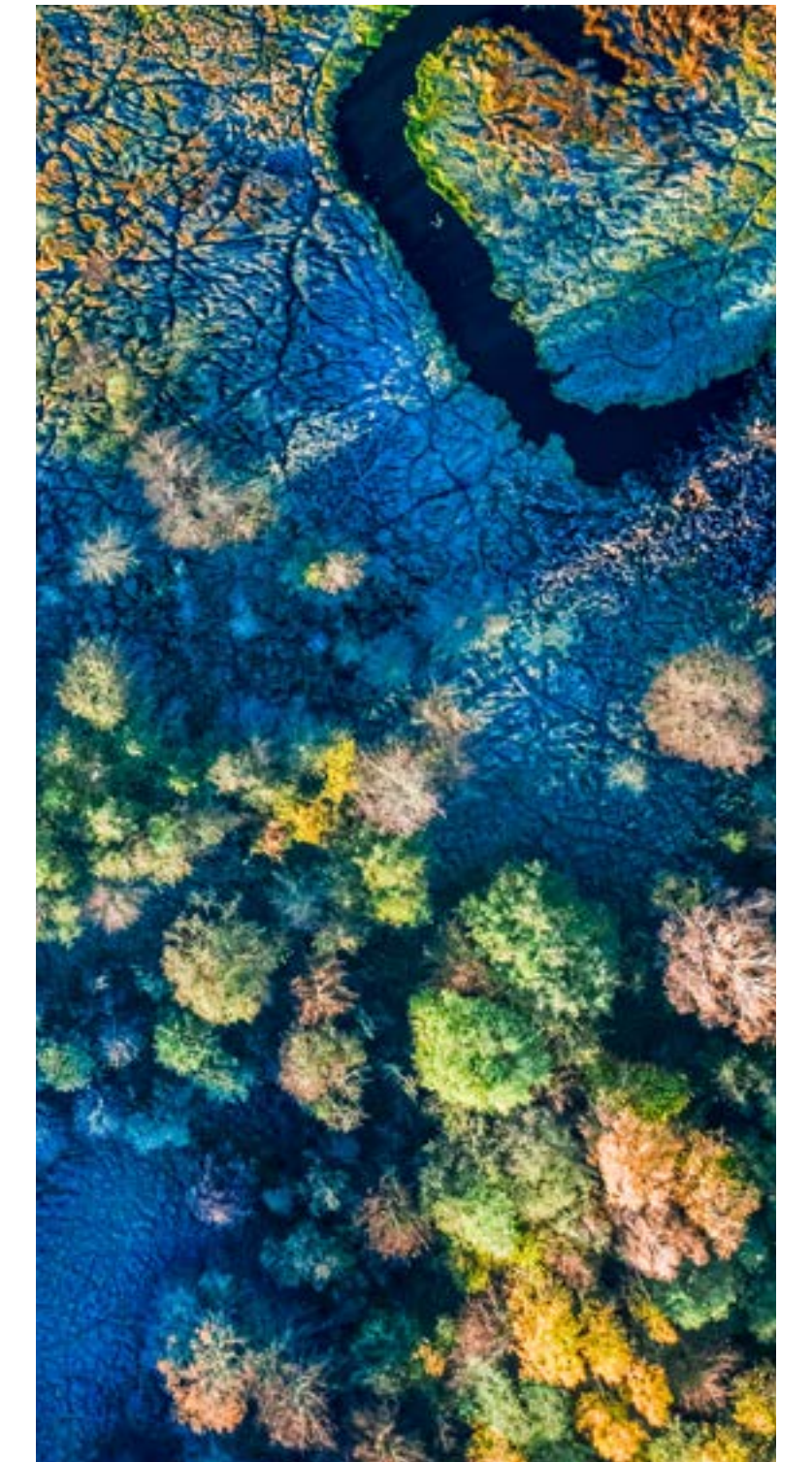
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Schools

Education is the foundation of a prosperous and thriving civilization. A successful society is one which respects nature, and these values are born in the classroom. Teachers and school administrators are in a unique position to nurture our children to grow into intelligent and responsible citizens. Every school can use Earth Day to ensure that environmental values are passed along to the next generation!

- [Register your institution as an Earth Day School!](#) Put your school on the map and ensure that your community's Earth Day efforts are recognized.
- [Become an Education Champion](#) by joining our global network of educators who work together to bring climate education to communities everywhere.
- Sign the climate literacy petition to advance environmental education worldwide:

- [Sign the petition on behalf of your school or organization](#)
- [Sign the petition as an individual](#)
- [Plan a teach-in](#) to educate your students about the climate crisis and how each of us can be part of the solution. Use our [Education Resource Library](#) to help guide the conversation.
- Use our [Climate Literacy Communications Toolkit](#) to spread the word about the importance of climate education in schools.
- [Visit our page for Climate and Environmental Literacy](#) to learn more about how schools are critical to a sustainable future.



8 Businesses

The business world is among the most significant emitters of greenhouse gasses and other pollutants. However, they are also in a position to profit significantly from a sustainable transition. When businesses Invest in Our Planet, they are aligning themselves with the modern economy, invariably leading to a more cost efficient, respected, and profitable enterprise. Companies that invest early and often are already seeing gains and are on track for prosperity in the 21st century.

- Invest in sustainable infrastructure for your business. A workplace that operates using renewable energy and has taken measures to ensure energy efficiency will see vast reductions in their operating costs, increasing the profit margin.
- Go paperless as much as possible. Electronic records are better maintained and are less resource intensive.
- Offer bike-to-work incentives or

- work from home opportunities for employees, increasing quality of life and job satisfaction for your workforce while eliminating a significant source of carbon emissions from your business.
- Expand your sustainable investment portfolio. Institutions that have made these investments early and often are already seeing the returns, which continue to grow as the world inevitably transitions to a sustainable economy.
- Mitigate the carbon impact of your business [by planting a forest with the Canopy Project](#), our reforestation campaign that has collaborated with institutions including several major Fortune 500 companies to plant over ____ million trees in the last decade. Email Kathryn Stoddard, Chief of Marketing, at stoddard@earthday.org for the best opportunities for your business to participate in the Canopy Project.



9 City Governments

Local elected officials have the greatest opportunity to directly impact the quality of a city’s air, land, water, and climate—the natural resources that their constituents depend on.

When city governments Invest in Our Planet, they are taking an essential step in securing a happy, healthy, and wealthy future for their community, all while saving millions of taxpayer dollars.

- Lead by example by implementing sustainable solutions in government buildings and institutions.
- Work with your department of parks and recreation to plan events such as cleanups, pollinator gardening, and habitat restoration for the community on Earth Day. Be sure to [register these events on our map](#).

As the world commemorates five years since the signing of the Paris Agreement, the United Nations has declared that officials at all levels of government, especially local leaders, should take stock of the progress they have made and adapt their plans for implementation by 2030. EARTHDAY.ORG is

partnering with ICLEI—Local Governments for Sustainability to support cities around the world in hosting their own Paris Agreement “local stocktake” event on or around Earth Day. Email Evan Raskin, National Campaign Manager, at raskin@earthday.org to get involved.

- Set high building efficiency standards for development projects and building upgrades.
- Develop and implement a plan for all public transportation to run on renewable energy.
- Mandate green roofs for all buildings and plant trees to protect human health, conserve natural spaces, and mitigate climate impacts.
- Significantly expand or create pedestrian and bicycle-only zones in the city.
- Establish a carbon pricing or taxing scheme.
- Launch a major clean energy or green infrastructure project, taking climate justice into account.
- Develop a biodiversity protection strategy & establishing green corridors for wildlife in your city.
- Expand or create significant stretches of

new green spaces, especially in marginalized and low-income areas.

- Revitalize waterfronts to mitigate pollution and beautify communities.
- Ban or tax single-use plastics, especially those used in food serviceware and create a Zero Waste or Circular Economy plan.
- Pass stricter clean water and clean air ordinances.
- Expand access to recycling and composting services.
- Create catchment basins and place nets around drainage pipes to stop waste from polluting waterways.

10 Faith Leaders

Houses of worship bring people together and form communities bonded by shared values. As a faith leader, you are in an essential position to foster the community's identity and guide their values. Every religion and spiritual practice includes the call for humanity to act as stewards of creation—on Earth Day, bring your congregation together to ensure that your community is united in protecting nature.

- Form a sustainability committee composed of clergy and/or lay leaders, who will guide the congregation's implementation of sustainable improvements and plan

environmental volunteer activities for the community.

- Organize a volunteer event for your congregation. Popular events for houses of worship include community cleanups and planting intergenerational pollinator gardens.
- Discuss the spiritual call to protect nature in a sermon on or near Earth Day, April 22.
- Make sustainable improvements to your house of worship, such as the suggestions found in the "Homeowner" section.
- A more energy efficient congregation will save money, which can be used to support the community and further the mission of your faith.

11 Community Groups

Are you part of a community organization such as a running team, garden club, or fishing group? Bring your organization together for Earth Day and give back to the public spaces that your group calls home.

- Host a cleanup event in a park that your club typically meets in.
- Take time at your next meeting to discuss how to improve the sustainability of your club's activities.
- Attend a local march or rally as a group.

12 Senior Activists

Our senior activists are a respected source of wisdom and guidance for our families and communities. This Earth Day, make a valuable contribution to conserving our common home.

- [Donate to the Canopy Project](#) to plant a forest in your family's name for as little as \$1 per tree.
- [Call your mayor](#) and tell them to support healthy communities by Investing in Our Planet.
- Hold a conversation with your family on the importance of sustainability and climate action.



13 Creators

Content creators and artists play a critical role in communicating the importance of climate action. Share your vision and inspire the public to make a difference!

- Create posters, banners and other art for nearby protests and rallies.
- Host a charity art auction and donate the proceeds to tree planting with the Canopy Project.
- Make posts and reels on Instagram/TikTok/Facebook encouraging your followers to volunteer, attend events, and become advocates for the planet.
- Be sure to share on social media using the hashtags #EarthDay and #InvestInOurPlanet

14 Non-Profit Organizations

- NGOs and civil society organizations play a vital role in the success of Earth Day! Climate and the environment are relevant to every nonprofit mission, join us in building a more sustainable, equitable future for communities everywhere! Your audience cares about making the world a better place; this April mobilize them to come together on Earth Day and advocate for our common goals!
- Plan a community event for your audience! Use the guides contained in this toolkit to plan a cleanup, a march or rally, or another volunteer event to help communities Invest in Our Planet.
- As a nonprofit organization,

your voice is especially powerful when it comes to advocacy. Organize a petition or letter writing campaign for your audience to sign onto and demand change from businesses, elected officials, or other decision makers!

- Use your media platform to spread the word about the importance of being an engaged member of the community; use the hashtags #EarthDay and #InvestInOurPlanet on socials.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOUR EARTH DAY EVENTS.

Be sure to [register any and all events you plan on the official Earth Day Map](#).

Post what you're doing this Earth Day and make sure to tag #EarthDay and/or #InvestInOurPlanet to possibly be featured on our social channels!



[Home](#)[Press Releases](#)[EARTHDAY.ORG Announces Theme for...](#)[Share](#)

October 20, 2022

Washington, D.C. (October 20, 2022)- EARTHDAY.ORG (EDO), the global organizer of Earth Day and the largest recruiter of environmental movements worldwide, announced today the theme for Earth Day 2023 – "Invest in Our Planet." Acting as a continuation of this year's well-received campaign, the theme is focused on engaging governments, institutions, businesses, and the more than 1 billion citizens who participate annually in Earth Day to do their part – everyone accounted for, everyone accountable.

"In 2023 we must come together again in partnership for the planet. Businesses, governments, and civil society are equally responsible for taking action against the climate crisis and lighting the spark to accelerate change towards a green, prosperous, and equitable future. We must join together in our fight for the green revolution, and for the health of future generations. The time is now to Invest In Our Planet," said Kathleen Rogers, President of EARTHDAY.ORG.

Investing in a green economy is the only path to a healthy, prosperous, and equitable future. Human influence is unequivocally to blame for the warming of the planet and the sad truth is some forms of climate disruption will be felt for centuries to come. However, we must collectively push away from the dirty fossil fuel economy and old technologies of centuries past – and redirect attention to creating a 21st century economy that restores the health of our planet, protects our species, and provides opportunities for all.

Governments around the globe enacted many significant green policy initiatives in 2022. Yet, nearly every country in the world is not on track to meet Greenhouse gas (GHG) neutrality by 2050. It is possible keep global warming below 1.5C, but immediate and significant action is needed now, and governments can't do it alone.

Unlike previous economic revolutions, this time there are two additional imperatives: saving humanity from the climate crisis and building green economies in every country so that everyone benefits from this green revolution. This can only be done if we invest in our planet's future together.

Governments, businesses, and citizens are essential in harnessing the revolutionary progress needed to save humanity from the climate crisis. Overcoming climate change is within reach if we work together to commit to action and invest in our planet and our collective future.

Businesses, inventors, investors, and financial markets must drive value for their institutions and society through green innovation and practices. Like other economic revolutions, the private sector has the power to drive the most significant change, with both the necessary scale and speed.

Governments must incentivize their citizens, businesses, and institutions to create and innovate, advancing the public's interests and creating the framework for an equitable and sustainable global economic system. Ambitious action on green energy generates increased energy security at a time where that has never been more important, while also simultaneously creating the positive environmental outcomes needed to tackle the climate crisis.

Individual citizens must push for sustainable solutions across the board as voters and consumers. Climate change mitigation, restoration, and adaption require the collective will and voice of the people to make the change the planet needs.

Item 2.

Like the industrial, space, and information revolutions of the past, all sectors of society can and must play major roles in the green revolution – this time with existential responsibilities to get it right. Together, we must invest in our planet.

To learn more about the 2023 theme, visit <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/>.

About EARTHDAY.ORG: EARTHDAY.ORG's mission is to diversify, educate, and activate the environmental movement worldwide. Growing out of the first Earth Day (1970), EARTHDAY.ORG is the world's largest recruiter to the environmental movement, working with more than 150,000 partners in nearly 192 countries to build environmental democracy. More than 1 billion people now participate in Earth Day activities each year, making it the largest civic observance in the world. Learn more at: <https://www.earthday.org>.