

Events Celebrating Earth Day, National Gardening Month, Arbor Day, and More!

Food For Thought Film Festival

Community Space at Good Shepherd

108 Cooper Street at 207 Street in Inwood

Saturdays: April 5, 12, 19, www.foodfilmfest.com

This Festival aims to educate and promote action on current food issues and sustainability. This year's program includes feature films *King Corn*, *Life & Debt*, and *Black Gold*, film shorts *The True Cost of Food* and *The Matrix* series, among other screenings.

Sustainable Cities: Towards a Definition

Design 21: Social Design Network, 10 West 56th Street

April 15, 6-8pm, www.sustainabilitypractice.net

Seeking answers to the question "What makes a city sustainable," a panel of experts will speak about sustainable cities around the world and assess New York City's PlaNYC 2030 in comparison. A major focus will be on the role of green buildings in helping cities meet sustainability goals.

All life is interrelated...Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Grand Central's Earth Week

Grand Central Terminal

April 14-22, www.earthdayny.org

This annual event offers fun for all ages with both The Giant Earth Images show and the EarthFair. The Giant Earth Images show features earth-related artwork, photographs, quotes, and eco-tips projected onto two giant pillars in the Main Concourse of Grand Central Terminal.

EarthFair - Vanderbilt Avenue at 42nd Street

April 18, 12-7pm; April 19, 11am-5pm

Earth Week culminates with the EarthFair, a two-day festival of music, education, exhibits, and fun! More than 50 exhibitors, including environmental companies, non-profit organizations, and kid-friendly activity tables, will be set up in Vanderbilt Hall.

Youth Council Earth Day Celebration

Youth Resource Center, Prospect Park

April 19, 9am-4pm, www.prospectpark.org

Activities include reconstruction of flowerbeds and veggie gardens, removing invasive plants and more. Learn how to reduce waste, conserve energy and utilize holistic remedies to common ailments.

If we are to go on living together on this earth, we must all be responsible for it.

-Kofi Annan

Earth Day Weekend at the Zoo

Prospect Park Zoo

April 19-20, 11am-4pm, www.prospectpark.org

Go green for Earth Day at the Prospect Park Zoo! Visit the animals while learning what the zoo is doing to save wild animals such as primates around the globe.

Earth Day in Central Park

Rumsey Playfield, Central Park

Enter at 72nd Street and 5th Avenue

April 20, 12-4pm, www.nycgovparks.org &

www.greenapplemusicfestival.com

Pack a picnic and bring a blanket as you celebrate Earth Day at Central Park by making crafts using recycled materials, gardening, going on tree tours, and other eco-friendly fun for all. Musical performances will take place throughout the event as part of the Green Apple Music Festival.

Earth Week at the Prospect Park Audubon Center

Prospect Park Audubon Center

April 21-27; 12-5pm every day, www.prospectpark.org

Celebrate Earth Week at the Prospect Park Audubon Center. Each day has a new theme, with programming for environmentalists of all ages. Learn how to do your part through lectures, tours, activities, film screenings, workshops, recyclable crafts, and a daily exhibit. Visit the website for the full schedule.

MillionTrees NYC Lecture

The Horticultural Society of New York
148 West 37th Street, 13th Floor

April 22, 6-7:30pm, www.milliontreesnyc.org

April is MillionTrees NYC Month! Learn about the MillionTrees NYC initiative and the ambitious goal to plant and care for one million new trees across New York City over the next decade.

Pre-Arbor Day Celebration

Brooklyn Botanic Garden

April 24, 6-8pm, www.nycgovparks.org

Learn about gardening around street trees and other ways to make yours the greenest block!

Go Green Expo

The Hilton, 1335 Avenue of the Americas

April 26, 10am-6pm; April 27, 10am-3pm

www.gogreenexpo.com

Learn how you can make a difference in your everyday lives and businesses at the inaugural Go Green Expo. The Expo will showcase green products and services and includes more than 60 speakers and presentations. The theme of sustainability is incorporated throughout the event itself, and it offers many opportunities to learn about the newest green products and practices.

Spring Into Summer Park Beautification Days

Margaret Corbin Circle,

At the entrance to Fort Tryon Park

April 27, 10am-2pm, www.nycgovparks.org

Plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day. Come for part of the day or and enjoy refreshments afterwards. Gloves and tools provided. All ages are welcome.

Whatever you do may seem very small,
but it is important that you do it.
-Mahatma Gandhi

NYC Grows Garden Festival

Union Square Park

April 27, 10am-5pm, www.nationalgardenmonth.org

Co-hosted by the NYC Department of Parks & Recreation and the National Gardening Association, the NYC Grows Garden Festival celebrates gardening with kid-friendly activities, food samples, how-to demonstrations and much more.

Resources for More Fun and Educational Earth Day Events

www.nycgovparks.org – Eco-friendly events in April take place at City parks throughout NYC: McCarren Park, Salt Marsh Nature Center, Freshkills Landfill Hunt's Point Riverside Park, Pelham Bay Park and more!

www.earthday.net – The Earth Day Network, founded by the organizers of the first Earth Day celebration in 1970, has a mission to promote a healthy, sustainable planet worldwide through education, legislation, and action. Event listings for Earth Day are just the beginning of what their website offers.

www.solar1.org – Solar One, New York City's "green energy, arts, and education center," offers events year-round, and April is no exception. From their *Green Renter* lecture series to volunteer days in Stuyvesant Park, many great green events are coming up at Solar One!

Did You Know...?

- Apart from food, clothing shopping has the highest environmental impact of all consumer activities. This spring, consider buying clothes that are made by local producers out of renewable materials.
- Each year Americans throw away more than 75 million tons of packaging and containers – over 500 pounds per person! Buy in bulk where you can and avoid excessive packaging.
- Recycled paper uses up to 90% less water and half the energy required to make paper from virgin lumber. Buy recycled paper for all your office and personal needs.
- Over its life span, a mug will be used about 3,000 times, resulting in 30 times less solid waste and 60 times less air pollution than using cardboard cups. Use reusable travel mugs rather than disposables.