

APRIL 2018



### Join NIH in Celebrating Earth Day!

Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970 throughout the United States as a way to increase environmental awareness. Millions of individuals participated in the first Earth Day, which was so successful that it contributed to the formation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency in July of that same year! Now, 48 years later, over 1 billion people participate in Earth Day events in 192 countries. To promote environmental stewardship, NIH hosts annual Earth Day activities at many of its locations. Activities are held in conjunction with Take Your Child to Work Day to help educate future generations about the importance of the environment. Earth Day activities feature interactive exhibits to teach children (and their parents)! Some of these Earth Day 2018 activities also share the central theme of "End Plastic Pollution."

**Rocky Mountain Labs (RML)** – The RML campus in Montana is hosting its third annual Earth Day Poster contest. The theme of this year's contest is: End Plastic Pollution. Submissions are due to [Kristine Schmitt](#) by April 19, 2018. Posters will be displayed and winners will be announced at the RML Take Your Child to Work Day on April 26, 2018. [Click here](#) to learn more about the contest!

**Research Triangle Park (RTP)** – The RTP campus in North Carolina is participating in an Earth Day 5K Run (held jointly with the EPA), an Earth Day Nature Knowledge Challenge and an RTP Campus Guided Nature Walk. In addition, the RTP campus is finalizing the location for hosting the Adopt-A-Highway Litter Collection. [Click here](#) to learn more about the RTP campus events and be sure to check back later for more information!

**Bethesda, MD** – The Bethesda campus is hosting a variety of exhibits at the Natcher Conference Center (Building 45) from 10am to 2pm on April 26, 2018. There will be approximately 30 exhibits with live animal displays and many educational activities. A few of these exhibits are the Seedling Giveaway, Scales and Tales, the NICHD Noisy Planet trivia wheel, the Enviroscope model and the ORS/ORF Pledge Tree. Additionally, NIGMS is conducting a "Waste Free Challenge" from April 23-27 and NIA is holding a ["Make-and-Take" event](#) for seed balls on April 26. [Click here](#) to see a full listing of the Bethesda campus events.

**Bayview, MD** – The Bayview campus is celebrating Earth Day on April 20, 2018! These activities will feature a variety of vendors and displays featuring Staples, Curtis Bay Energy, the Gaithersburg Distribution Center and many more. There will be collection areas for recyclables such as batteries, mercury-containing thermometers, cell phones, toner cartridges and more. [Click here](#) to see more information!

**Shady Grove, MD** – The Shady Grove campus will host a variety of activities on April 26. The planned events include a green roof tour, a demo of bird feeders made from recycled objects, a butterfly habitat, and safety activities including a fire extinguisher simulator. [Click here](#) to see the full event listing.

Please send any questions about Earth Day to the following coordinators: [Kristine Schmitt](#) (RML), [Paul Johnson](#) (RTP), [Josh Haines](#) (Bethesda), [James Pitt](#) (Bayview) or [Lorna Patrick](#) (Shady Grove).

## TAKE ACTION

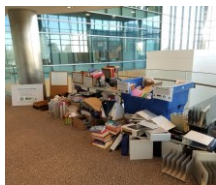


### Help Us End Plastic Pollution!

The global Earth Day theme this year is "End Plastic Pollution." Do you want to contribute to reducing/ending plastic pollution? Read more to learn a few methods for doing just that, both at NIH and at home!

[LEARN MORE](#)

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



### NIH IC Green Team Accomplishments from 2017

This month we're featuring the NIH IC Green Teams. The IC Green Teams are critical to the sustainability efforts at NIH and many of these teams host initiatives throughout the year. Click the link below to learn about a few accomplishments of the IC Green Teams from 2017.

[LEARN MORE](#)

## NEMS TRAINING

**Did you know?** Earth Day brings awareness to the importance of environmental stewardship. This annual event is a good opportunity to renew our commitment to reducing the environmental effects of our daily activities. The NIH DEP sponsors many programs to help. To learn more about the environmental initiatives at NIH, please visit the [NEMS Training webpage](#) to view a short (20 minute) NIH environmental awareness training video.