



APRIL 2021

2021 NIH Earth Day

The NIH Earth Day event returns in a virtual format in 2021 to encourage all of us to protect the environment! This year's event will be conducted virtually for the first time ever to ensure the safety of all participants. A few campuses have arranged activities for Earth Day, which are described below.

Bethesda Campus: The Bethesda campus Earth Day activities will occur on April 22 to coincide with the NIH Take Your Child to (Tele) Work Day. The event will host activities for all school-age children (and adults too!) from 10am to 2pm using the Microsoft Teams platform. Registration for these activities has already begun! You can sign up too using the [Take Your Child to Work Day site](#). Here are a few of the activities:

- **Cleaning Up the Anacostia River** - 12pm to 1pm - The Anacostia Watershed Society will provide an interactive lesson about our local Anacostia watershed. The activity will guide participants through discussions of environmental issues facing the Anacostia watershed and present them with solutions for preventing its pollution. Participants can expect memory games, drawing activities, recorded video content and many other ways to learn about the environment!
- **Play the Recycling Quiz Game** - Open April 22 to May 1 - Test your knowledge about recycling with a fun trivia game. Learn which items can typically be recycled at your home, including which types of plastic can be recycled. The game is recorded, so you can play at your own pace or sort your recyclables as you play!
- **Build Your Own Bee Hotel** - 11am to 12pm - EarthShare will lead an activity to construct your own bee hotel from materials found around the house. Bees are pollinators that play a crucial role in our ecosystem. Learn about the importance of bees, then place your bee hotel outside your house to help them!

Research Triangle Park Campus: The RTP campus will host a virtual seminar by Jeremiah Johnson, Ph.D., an associate professor of Environmental Engineering at North Carolina State University. The seminar will occur on April 22 at 1pm and will feature the topic of "Power-to-X" or "P2X." This topic describes using electricity conversion, power storage and power reconversion to efficiently manage power sources. The "X" in this concept can refer to any number of techniques, such as Power-to-Hydrogen, Power-to-Fuel, Power-to-Power, etc. This concept is important for the future of power generation since utilities like electricity are produced in excess of demand to ensure a consistent supply. The excess electricity can be stored for future use or transferred to other grids for immediate use. This concept is also key for the implementation of inconsistent power sources, such as solar or wind power.

NIEHS will also promote sustainable computing by sharing tips for conserving energy, reducing printing resource consumption, and by informing staff of the computing resources and default settings for their IC. NIEHS will also share results of its 2021 Green Researcher Self-Assessment and update staff on their progress on the Freezer Challenge.

We encourage all NIH staff to participate in the 2021 Earth Day activities. One of the most significant reasons for hosting an Earth Day event is to increase awareness of environmental issues. We can make a difference through our combined efforts, but we can only make changes to the issues we are aware of. Join an Earth Day activity to expand your environmental knowledge in 2021! Please check the [NEMS Earth Day website](#) for the most up-to-date information on Earth Day activities at NIH locations.

SPOTLIGHT

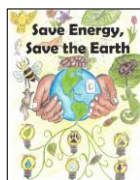


The Year of Brood X Cicadas

The late spring of 2021 will mark the arrival of the Brood X periodical cicada. This type of cicada emerges from the ground every 17 years with their numbers in the millions. Read the full article to learn more about these cicadas.

[LEARN MORE](#)

POSTER CONTEST



NIH Winners of the 2021 HHS Kids' Earth Day Poster Contest

We received dozens of artistic submissions for the 2021 HHS Kids' Earth Day Poster Contest! A single winner was chosen from each age group to compete at the HHS level against the other OPDIVs. Click the link below to see the winners!

[LEARN MORE](#)

NEMS TRAINING

Did you know? Earth Day has been recognized in the U.S. for 51 years and has been a part of the NIH calendar for decades. The annual NIH Earth Day event is a fantastic way to learn new methods for protecting the environment, for both children and adults! To learn more about outreach activities at the NIH, please visit the [NEMS Training webpage](#) to view a short (20 minute) NIH environmental awareness training video.