

▶ **Earth Day**

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2008

EarthFest 2008

Friday, April 18th • AT&T and Pegasus Plazas

Food, Fun, Festivities and your Environment



- exhibits open from 10:00 to 2:00
- music and entertainment begins at 11:00

Dallas' premier Earth Day celebration, featuring over seventy environmental exhibits.

Featured band: **TRASH**



Beginning at 9:00 am

The **Recycled Fashion Show**



Clean Air PAVILION

Featuring new technologies for clean air

Major sponsors for EarthFest 2008:



EarthFest 2008 media sponsor:



EarthFest is presented by:



The History of Earth Day by K. Lefebvre



Earth Day. What does it mean to you? Is it just another day or is there something bigger at stake?

Ever hear of the Cuyahoga River? It's a river in Ohio. Pretty unremarkable, except that it's caught fire. A river...on fire. It would be remarkable if it happened once, but in truth, it first caught fire in 1936 and several more times before June 22, 1969, when a fire on the river caught national attention. TIME magazine at that time de-

scribed the Cuyahoga as the river that "oozes rather than flows" and where a person "does not drown but decays." Ew.

This event was one among many incidents in the United States which started the modern day environmental movement. Events such as these resulted in the Clean Water Act and the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, among others.

In response to the dire state of our environmental resources in the United States at the time, Senator Gaylord Nelson called for an environmental teach-in to be held to help educate citizens of the precious gift we had been abusing. So, on April 22, 1970, more than 20 million people participated in the first Earth Day and the movement took off.

It's reported that the first Earth Day had participants from two thousand colleges and universities, ten thousand elementary and high schools and hundreds of commu-

nities across the United States. Today, more than a half billion people from all over the globe participate in some form of Earth Day recognition. Half a billion...wow.

So, no, Earth Day is not just *another* day. Something much bigger is at stake. So this April 22, stop and really smell those flowers. Look around you and marvel at the wonderful world and recall just how delicate it all is; realize just how fragile our little planet can be; remember this is the only home we have. Good planets are hard to find.



April Training Schedule

Waste Disposal and Manifesting (RCRA 203)

Date: April 1, 2008
 Time: 10-11 am
 Location: LI Conference Room A

Determine Waste Generator Status (RCRA 201)

Date: April 3, 2008
 Time: 10-11 am
 Location: LIFN Conference Room B

Table Top Exercise (EMS 302)

Date: April 8, 2008
 Time: 10 am-12 noon
 Location: LIFN Conference Room C

Sustainability Organic Yard Maintenance (Stewardship)

Speaker: Michael Bosco [michael@soilssalve.com]
 Date: April 9, 2008
 Time: 12.00-1.30 pm
 Location: LIFN Conference Room B

Please RSVP!!! If there are not at least 5 attendees the class will be canceled.

For more information about training classes or to RSVP please contact Meghna Tare at (214)-670-1200 or at meghna.tare@dallascityhall.com.

Clean Air Act (CAA 101)

Date: April 10, 2008
 Time: 2-3 pm
 Location: LIFN Conference Room C

Refrigerant (SPL 101)

Date: April 10, 2008
 Time: 3-4 pm
 Location: LIFN Conference Room A

City of Dallas and Ozone Action (SPL 110)

Date: April 15, 2008
 Time: 10-11 am
 Location: LIFN Conference Room C

Table Top Exercise (EMS 302)

Date: April 17, 2008
 Time: 2-4 pm
 Location: LIFN Conference Room C

Green Ride and AirCheckTexas Seminar (Air Quality)

Date: April 3 and 15, 2008
 Time: 11 am -12 noon
 Location: LIFN Conference Room B April 3, LIFN Conference Room C April 15

Class descriptions are also located on the OEQ Intranet site.



Up Coming Events!

April 12th-Live Green in Plano Exposition @ Plano Convention Center from 9-5

April 18th-EarthFest 2008 @ AT&T & Pegasus Plazas from 10-2, **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** please call Sarah Kitchen @ 671-8139

April 20th-Green Apple Festival @ Fair Park

April 20th-Oak Cliff Earth Day @ Lake Cliff Park from 11-5

April 26th & 27th-Party for the Planet @ Dallas Zoo

Timeline since the original Earth Day...

- In 1970, Congress amended the Clean Air Act to set national air quality standards.
- In 1972, Congress passed the Clean Water Act, limiting the sewage and pollutants that could be discharged into rivers, lakes and streams. At that time, only around 36% of America's stream miles were safe for use for fishing and swimming; today, around 60% are safe. Can you imagine how little we would have today if they hadn't acted?
- In 1973, EPA starts phasing out leaded gasoline, resulting in dramatic drops in air-borne lead levels over the next few decades.
- In 1974, Congress passes the Safe Drinking Water Act, giving EPA the power to regulate public drinking water.
- In 1976, Congress passes the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, RCRA, which regulates hazardous wastes from production to disposal.
- Also in 1976, President Ford signs the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce environmental and human health risks.
- And finally in 1976, EPA begins the phase-out of the carcinogen PCB in the United States.
- In 1977, President Carter signs the Clean Air Act Amendments to further strengthen air quality standards to protect our health.
- In 1980, Congress created Superfund, or CERCLA, to clean up hazardous waste sites. This made polluters responsible for the mess they left!
- In 1983, cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay begins to remove pollution from sewage plants, urban runoff, and farm wastes.
- In 1986, Congress reauthorizes Superfund under SARA.
- In 1987, the United States signed the Montreal Protocol, pledging to phase-out production of CFCs and to reverse the degradation of the ozone layer.
- In 1988, Congress bans oceanic dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste.
- In 1990, Congress passes the Clean Air Act Amendments once more.
- Also in 1990, the EPA's Toxic Release Inventory tells the public what pollutants are being released in their communities and from where.
- And finally in 1990, President Bush signed the Pollution Prevention Act and the National Environmental Education Act.
- In 1991, Federal agencies begin using recycled content products.
- In 1992, EPA launches the Energy Star® Program to help consumers identify energy-efficient products.
- In 1993, President Clinton directs the Federal Government to use its annual purchasing power to buy recycled and environmentally preferable products.
- In 1994, the EPA launches the Brownfields Program to clean up abandoned contaminated sites.
- Also in 1994, EPA issues new standards for chemical plants which reduce toxic air pollution by more than half a million tons per year.
- In 1996, President Clinton signed the Food Quality Protection Act to tighten restrictions on pesticide usage on food to ensure foods are safe for us to eat.
- In 1998, President Clinton announces the Clean Water Action Plan to continue making America's waterways safe.
- In 1999, President Clinton announces new emission standards for cars, SUVs, minivans and trucks, requiring them to be 77-95 percent cleaner than in 1999.
- In 2003, more than 4,000 school buses are retrofitted aimed to remove 200,000 pounds of particulate matter from the air over the next 10 years.
- In 2005, EPA issues the Clean Air Interstate Rule and the Clean Air Mercury Rule.
- In 2006, WaterSense is launched to increase awareness about water conservation and efficiency.





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OEQ NEWS

Earth Day Every Day

BIODIESEL
CFC
HYBRID
PESTICIDE
BROWNFIELD
EPA
HYDROGEN
RCRA
CCA
ETHANOL
PCB
SARA

OEQ

The Office of Environmental Quality (OEQ) was formed by the City Council in February 2004 to serve as an internal resource to City of Dallas staff on environmental issues. These issues range from compliance with regulatory requirements to conduct public outreach events and raising awareness related to our environment.

OEQ currently supports the Key Focus Areas of “ Staff Accountability” and “Economic Development” in the City of Dallas structure with three services: Environmental Management System, Inspections and Spills, and Outreach and Training.

The first employee to fax a completed and correct puzzle will win a prize from OEQ!

Earth Day

S	N	X	J	K	S	B	N	O	Y	I	I	Y	H	Z
M	A	Z	V	X	M	R	G	E	R	O	F	D	W	O
M	U	R	B	X	W	O	L	N	G	G	L	L	O	V
P	J	X	A	B	O	W	O	C	S	O	H	O	J	Z
X	A	M	F	R	D	N	N	O	F	P	R	X	L	E
C	T	R	Z	I	Y	F	A	M	A	C	T	D	P	H
C	M	A	R	S	N	I	H	R	X	Z	P	A	Y	P
A	K	B	M	I	J	E	T	W	V	K	F	F	E	H
J	Y	F	M	K	A	L	E	U	M	R	Y	S	C	M
H	Z	Z	I	K	A	D	Z	F	B	C	T	V	Y	K
O	E	Z	L	J	X	E	T	A	Q	I	L	A	J	I
G	A	M	U	R	U	I	X	O	C	N	H	V	L	E
W	L	E	S	E	I	D	O	I	B	R	C	R	A	S
D	E	O	Q	V	G	E	D	B	C	P	S	H	C	G
S	O	P	B	R	X	E	D	H	W	V	B	Q	Y	Q