



## EERC

### April 20 Newsletter

*"Keep your face always toward the sunshine - and shadows will fall behind you." - Walt Whitman*



Dear Community Members,

The major disruptions to nearly every facet of our lives along with human tragedy brought on by coronavirus cannot be understated. Yet perhaps there is also a glimmer hope offered through the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day coming right up Wednesday, April 22. Stay at Home orders have slowed our pace and resulted in significantly improved air quality in previously heavily polluted areas demonstrating that nature has the capacity to heal if given a chance.

While the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970 focused on industrial pollution, we now face the dual challenges of coronavirus and climate change. This week's 50th anniversary of Earth Day will unfortunately not provide opportunities to bring widespread attention to climate through marches, demonstrations, and teach-

fighting for a healthy climate and sustainable future. The current array groups offer a wide variety of ways to engage for nearly every interest from climate science education, youth empowerment, policy advocacy, climate justice, sustainable agriculture, at-home permaculture, and more. How might this Earth Day 2020 be a time to consider a few new ways to support a healthy planet earth as we also move towards a healthy human family and economic recovery.

This is a challenging time for everyone. We hope you may find some of the Earth Week 2020 activities and resources listed here to be informative and inspiring.

### For Families



#### 1 - Think Like a Scientist, One Small Patch of Earth.

As we celebrate Earth Day, how might we also celebrate the earth right below us. Just beneath your feet lies hundreds of living things vital to all life on earth and human existence. What can you and your family find in one small patch of earth in or near your back yard. Lay an 8 ½" piece of paper or manila folder on a small area of ground, dig around a little bit to find out. Record, draw, or photograph a few of the many living things you see. Use the iNaturalist app to help identify some of these critters. Have a look at National Geographic Society article [here](#) for their fascinating One Cubic Feet of Earth Project.



## 2 - Check out the informative and fun virtual Earth Week activities planned at UW – Bothell and UW – Seattle

Earth Week at UW – Bothell and Cascadia College. See the list of creative virtual activities jointly presented by the UW Bothell and Cascadia College, including learning opportunities for community members.

<https://sites.google.com/view/earthweek2020/home?authuser=1>

Earth Week at UW – Seattle. Join UW Seattle in taking the Office of Sustainability's new "50 for 50 Pledge", featuring 50 actions you can take to embrace the principles of sustainability. Each participant can choose which activities are appropriate for themselves or use this list as a starting point for your own ideas. <https://green.uw.edu/earth-day-2020/pledge>

## 3 - Consider deepening personal interests in sustainability and climate health by learning more about one or more of the organizations listed here.

### For Families and Educators

**National Environmental Education Foundation** – see the inspiring and informative array of activities developed by NEEF for each day of Earth Week. <https://www.neefusa.org/education/eeweek>

**E3 Washington** is the statewide association for Environmental and Sustainability Education and supports families, teachers, and educators now teaching and learning at home. E3 has compiled a wide array of virtual environmental and sustainability education resources which are now accessible in home settings. <http://www.e3washington.org/>

**ClimeTime.org** – Washington State's Climate Science Education teacher training programs, curricula and linking Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) and climate science.

### For Everyone

**Project Drawdown** – seeks to help the world reach the point in time when levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere stop climbing, start to steadily decline, and offers quantifiable ways citizens can participate in helping to reach this goal. <https://drawdown.org/>

events occurring in the Puget Sound Region. <http://cascadiaclimateaction.org/>

### **For State and Regional Climate Policy**

**Climate Solutions** - working to accelerate clean energy solutions to the climate challenge.

<https://www.climatesolutions.org/>

**Front and Centered** - builds and amplifies a more powerful movement by engaging and bringing leaders from people of color and lower income communities together, building capacity; and providing coordination and technical support.

<https://frontandcentered.org/>

**350 Seattle** - 350 Seattle works toward climate justice by organizing people to make deep system change:

<https://350seattle.org/>

**350 Eastside** – works to bring people together for the purpose of creating a world in which all can thrive now and in the future. <http://350eastside.org/>

### **For Tree Planting**

**Forterra** – Green City Partnerships

<https://www.greenseattle.org/>

[https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/parks/About\\_Parks\\_and\\_Community\\_Services/Green\\_Kirkland\\_Partnership.htm](https://www.kirklandwa.gov/depart/parks/About_Parks_and_Community_Services/Green_Kirkland_Partnership.htm)

<https://forterra.org/subpage/green-redmond-partnership>

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust**

<https://mtsgreenway.org/>

### **For Sustainable Agriculture**

**Tilth Alliance**

<http://www.tilthalliance.org/>

**Savor Snoqualmie Valley**

<https://savornoqualmievalley.org/blog/farm-stands/>

**21 Acres**

<https://21acres.org/>

### **For Youth**

**Sunrise Movement** – building a cadre of young people to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process. jobs in the process.

<https://www.sunrisemovement.org/>

**Friday for the Future**

<https://fridaysforfuture.org/>

## Help the EERC Grow

Please forward our newsletter to your friends, family and colleagues.

**Visit us and add your pictures and experiences of St. Edward State Park on the EERC's Face Book and Instagram.**

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR MAILING LIST](#)

### *The EERC's Community-Informed Vision, Mission, and Program Framework*

**Vision** - *The EERC is a living laboratory where experience transforms learning and stewardship takes root.*

**Mission** - *The EERC provides integrated environmental education and research experiences to broad and diverse communities with the purpose of advancing public understanding, connection with nature, scientific knowledge, skills and stewardship of Pacific Northwest ecosystems.*

**Programming** - EERC's programming will be targeted to support three distinct yet overlapping interest areas identified by the community.

- Community, Youth and Family Outreach and Interpretation Programs
- Community K-12 School Partnered Programs
- Community Engaged Science Research and Monitoring Programs



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