

# CELEBRATE EARTH DAY ALL SPRING LONG!

Earth Day is on April 22nd, but why not expand your efforts to help clean the environment to more than just one day? This year, show your support for the health of our planet and our communities throughout the season with these clean-air tips and celebrations:

## MARCH



MARCH  
12

Get started early with [National Plant a Flower Day](#) on March 12th. This is the perfect time to plant fresh, California-native flora around your home or in your community. Involve kids in learning more about gardening and sustainability or look into starting a community garden in your area!



MARCH  
30

Mark [Earth Hour](#) on March 30th when residents and communities show their support by turning off all non-essential lighting for one hour from 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

## APRIL



April is [Keep America Beautiful Month!](#) Take time to beautify your area by reducing waste and finding creative ways to reuse old items and keep them out of landfills. Volunteer for a neighborhood clean-up event to pick up litter or plant trees.



April is also [National Lawn and Garden Month!](#) Now's the time to consider making changes with beautiful drought-resistant, California-native landscaping. Not only will you help our natural Southern California environment, but you may also save on water and maintenance costs for your yard!



As many Southern California cities examine ordinances to reduce the use of gas-powered lawn equipment, to trade in any old equipment for new, cleaner, quieter electric models. There are many incentive programs to help you choose a new green alternative, including [South Coast AQMD's Electric Lawnmower Rebate Program.](#)



APRIL  
22

April 22nd is [Earth Day!](#) This is a day to really focus in on our environment and what you can do to help keep it clean and healthy. Learn more about the annual celebration at [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org). This year's Earth Day focus is "Planet vs. Plastics" and reducing plastic waste at all levels of our society. Get involved with any of the numerous Earth Day community events being held in our region, from clean-up events at beaches, parks, city streets and other impacted areas, to visiting a community health and sustainability fair hosted by your city or local parks. Make your voice heard by supporting green businesses, especially those who've made the commitment to reduce or eliminate their use of plastics.



APRIL  
26

Finish up by celebrating [Arbor Day](#) on April 26th by planting trees. Join a tree-planting event and help combat climate change and extreme heat by broadening our local green spaces, especially in communities with heavily urban structure and little shade. Extreme heat can be deadly, especially in summer, so help keep neighborhoods healthy and beautiful with shade-giving trees.



Now is also a great time to start saving on your electricity bill by installing solar panels, requesting green power from your utility, or joining a community choice aggregator.



Shop smart and help your community thrive by buying locally grown produce and locally made products whenever possible. When ordering items to be delivered, consolidate packages to reduce shipping materials, and fuel used for transport.



Spread the word! Volunteer for clean air programs in your community!