

# Earth Day 2020

## Virtual Events Guide

### Happy *Earth Day* from Asbury

In the past 5 years of our energy management partnership with Sodexo, we have...

REDUCED	LOWERED	REDUCED	SAVED
17 %	14 %	16 %	18.4 MIL
electric use	natural gas use	carbon emissions	gallons of water

#### THAT IS LIKE...



Saving the amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in 24 sec.



Saving the amount of carbon emissions sequestered by 8,058 acres of U.S. forests in one year.



Running 1.4 wind turbines in place of fossil fuels for one year

Taking 1,333 cars off of our roads for one year



Saving 694,275 gallons of gasoline



Saving enough energy to fuel 712 homes for one year



# Your Virtual Earth Day Guide

*Brought to you by Asbury & Sodexo*

Welcome to our celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day! While many of us are under stay-at-home orders, this guide will help us come together as a community to celebrate the earth. Take a simulated tour through a national park, challenge yourself with a crossword puzzle or participate in a conservation challenge; there are many ways to share our collective appreciation of nature.

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This Earth Day, we celebrate Asbury’s continued commitment to sustainability. In the past five years of our partnership with Sodexo Energy Management we have:

- Saved 18.4 million gallons of water
- Reduced our electricity use by 17 percent
- Reduced carbon (CO2) emissions 16 percent
- Lowered natural gas use by 14 percent

You are an important part of this success. You may have engaged in community councils to promote environmental stewardship, acted on a personal level, or upgraded your home’s energy efficiency. Thank you for your initiative and dedication!

We encourage you to connect virtually and share this Earth Day resource with family and friends. Please help us to spread the word. If you have insights to share or would like to tag a photo from nature, use the #AsburySodexoEarthDay2020 tag in your social media channels.

## Virtual Tours and Webcams

- [The Hidden Worlds of National Parks](#) – Follow rangers on a journey to most places people never go through a tour five national parks.
  - The National Park Service (NPS) teamed up with Google Earth to deliver jaw-dropping shots of National Parks in Alaska, Hawaii, Utah, New Mexico and Florida. Park rangers offer great introductory footage. Plus, you can use Google Earth controls to explore different adventures in each park.
- Explore 31 National Park adventures through [Google Earth](#). Although not narrated, the photos display beautiful glimpses of the parks – even allowing you to ‘hike’ to the bottom of the Grand Canyon from home.
- “Find your Chesapeake” created [11 virtual river tours](#). The website also features at-home activities, live stream events virtual tours and webcams.
- Enjoy virtual bird watching via webcams through [Cornell’s Lab of Ornithology](#)
- Smithsonian’s National Zoo & Conservation Biology Institute [webcam’s](#) featuring cheetah cubs, naked mole-rat, lion, giant panda and elephant cam’s.

## Flora and Fauna Apps

- These ‘flora’ apps help you identify plants and trees on your mobile device or tablet.
  - PlantSnap, iNaturalist; PictureThis; PlantNet
- The bird identification apps are great field guides for your mobile device or tablet.
  - Audubon Birds of North America; iBird; Larkwire; eBird; Song Sleuth

## Environmental Films

- [DC Environmental Film Festival](#)
  - Enjoy over 300 of past Festival Selections (many free) while social-distancing. This includes 60+ films from our 2020 Online Festival.
- [Beyond Plastics](#)
  - Plastic Pollution Virtual Film Series includes six exceptional films to educate you about the plastics pollution crisis and inspire you to act.
- [EnvironmentAmerica.org](#) created a [list of environmental films](#) that can be streamed from home
  - Including: Ken Burns: The National Parks (PBS; Amazon Video); PBS ‘Nature’ Series (PBS; Amazon Prime Video); Free Solo (Hulu; Amazon); Mountain (Netflix); Expedition Happiness (Netflix).

## Activities

- Take a walk outside to see if you can complete Environment America's [Bingo](#) game.
- Challenge your mind with an Earth Day [crossword puzzle](#).
- Calculate your Carbon Footprint through [EPA's online tool](#).
- Complete the [Improving Recycling and Reuse](#) chart.
- [World Wildlife Foundation](#) website features weekly livestreams, learning activities, arts & crafts, articles, and films.
- [Environment America's guide](#) to learning about the planet and how to protect it through six topics: climate change; waste reduction; plants; waterways, parks and conservation; protecting birds, bees and other wildlife; and healthier home and community.

## Take Action & Challenges

- Join REI in '[The Opt to Act Plan](#)' – 52 weeks of simple actions to reduce your impact, get active and leave the world better than you found.
- Take the [Earth Day Daily Challenge](#) – a 22-day series with actions and ideas at an individual level.

## Books to Read

- [List of books about nature](#) from Environment America's staff.
- [List of 11 environmental books](#) to read from EarthDay.org's staff.
- [List of 9 books](#) that bring the outdoors inside.

## Newsletters

[GreenBiz](#) is a media and events company that advances the opportunities at the intersection of business, technology and sustainability. Through its websites, events, peer-to-peer network and research, GreenBiz promotes the potential to drive transformation and accelerate progress — within companies, cities, industries and in the very nature of business. Their [newsletter's](#) cover food, transportation, circular economy, energy, sustainable business and the clean economy.

[DC Green Scene](#) is an aggregate calendar and newsletter for energy and environmental policy events in the DC region. It compiles all sides of current issues, providing notification on policy seminars, conferences, congressional hearings and media events in Washington.

## Learn More

Learn more about the 50<sup>th</sup> Earth Day & find digital events through [EarthDay.org](https://www.earthday.org).

Learn more about the UN's 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/).

Learn more about zero waste from the [Zero Waste International Alliance](https://www.zero-waste.com/) or through [USGBC's TRUE program](https://www.usgbc.com/true).

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has several resources to track and measure energy, water, and emissions. Resources are also available surrounding sustainable products, through recommended standards and labels for purchasing.

- [Energy Star Portfolio Manager](#)
  - An online tool you can use to measure, track and benchmark energy and water consumption, as well as greenhouse gas emissions.
  - [Energy Efficient Products](#)
- [Watersense](#)
  - Take steps each day to save water and protect the environment by choosing WaterSense labeled products in your home, yard, and business.
- [Greenhouse Gas Equivalency Calculator](#)
  - This calculator equates emissions to carbon dioxide equivalent and other metrics that are easy to understand, such as annual emissions from cars, etc.
- [Sustainable Marketplace: Greener Products and Services](#)
  - [Introduction to Ecolabels and Standards for Greener Products](#)
  - [Identify Greener Products and Services](#)

## Earth Day Webinar

- **Freedom in a Can – Finding Sustainability in 72sq ft;**
  - **Wednesday 4/22/20 from 5pm-6:30pm EST**
  - Sponsored by George Mason University's Social Action an Integrative Learning (SAIL), the Office of Sustainability, University Life, the School of Integrative Studies (SIS), Women and Gender Studies, and the Leadership Education And Development (LEAD) Office.
  - Finding Sustainability in 72sq ft: After 7.5 years of travel with their vintage tiny home, Shari & Hutch share their story of global adventure, stewardship, and personal growth. They sought a more sustainable and adventurous lifestyle and discovered much more along the way. Accompanied by stunning imagery, their story is sure to inspire, entertain, and challenge you to think differently about life on the open road. <https://zoom.us/j/740209848>