



# Earth Month Tampa Bay Calendar of Events

*presented by the Roots & Shoots Alliance*

## Thursday, April 3

### Connecting with Nature - Earth Month at 15th St Farm 9:00 – 11:00 am

Homeschoolers with kids of any age are welcome to come to the farm, enjoy some guided activities and play time. We'll start work on a Special Project and have some surprises! This week our focus will be Healthy Soil & Compost. Be sure to bring closed toe shoes, sunscreen, water - but please no snacks or food. Walkins are welcome!

### Jane Goodall - Reasons for Hope film screening 6:00 & 7:30 pm at MOSI

Join Roots & Shoots Tampa Bay for a screening of Dr. Jane Goodall's most recent film. Drawing on decades of work by the world's most famous living ethologist and environmentalist, Jane Goodall-Reasons for Hope, is an uplifting journey around the globe to highlight good news stories that will inspire people to make a difference in the world around them. A free Educator Guide is available to help kids learn more about Jane Goodall's four reasons for hope.

## Friday, April 4

### Eagle Crest Lake Cleanup 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful (KPB), Stewards of Our Urban Lakes (SOUL), the City of St. Petersburg, and St. Petersburg College for a cleanup at Eagle Crest Lake! Debris in storm water enters Eagle Crest Lake from the surrounding streets, neighborhoods, and campus, creating visual pollution and a threat to wildlife. Be a part of the solution by helping us restore this important ecosystem.

## Saturday, April 5

### 7th Grow Gardens Conference 9:00 am – 4:00 pm at Eckerd College & Farm

Whether you're a seasoned green thumb or just starting to dig in the dirt, join the Coalition of Community Gardens to learn about the Tampa Bay area's gardening community, featuring a regional panel, breakout sessions, a farm fresh lunch, a hands-on afternoon in the garden, and Happy Hour with live music from "Kudu."

### Folly Farm Invasive Removal 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Keep Pinellas Beautiful is teaming up with the City of Safety Harbor to host an invasive removal project at Folly Farm Nature Preserve! Volunteers will assist with the removal of invasive Caesar Weed, Potato Vine, and more. We hope you can join us for a rewarding morning of beautification and community improvement!

### Largo Cleanup at Southwest Recreation Complex 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful and the City of Largo for a cleanup at Southwest Recreation Complex. This event is free and open to all, so gather your friends and join us! Please Note: Volunteers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

## **Saturday, April 5 (continued)**

### **Lake Belleview Cleanup** 9:00 – 11:00 am

Come Join Clearwater Marine Aquarium's Sea Turtle Nesting Team for a lake cleanup! Get the chance to learn about sea turtle conservation and how you can help our local sea turtle population.

### **Sea Turtle Awareness Day** 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Celebrate Sea Turtle Awareness Day on April 5, 2025, at Clearwater Marine Aquarium from 10am through 2pm! The Sea Turtle Conservation Program at CMA will be preparing for sea turtle nesting season with nest stake painting, custom Protect the Nest plaques, and so much more! We will also have many sea turtle conservation partners and CMA teams joining us with additional information to help protect sea turtles and their habitats. This event is included with your general admission at Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

### **St. Pete Ocean Sweep Trash Collection Tournament** 12:00 – 3:00 pm

Join Water Warrior Alliance and partners for the St. Petersburg Ocean Sweep, a large-scale cleanup event to remove trash from waterways, shorelines, and stormwater outfalls. Open to volunteers, divers, boaters, and environmental groups, this event promotes marine conservation through action, education, and community engagement.

## **Monday, April 7**

### **Keep Pinellas Beautiful: All About Our Shores** 5:00 – 6:00 pm

For ages 7-12, Join the Keep Pinellas Beautiful Youth Advisory Council at Palm Harbor Library and learn about the importance of our shorelines here in Pinellas County. Find out why dunes and mangroves are such important habitats for local animals and why they're so important for protecting our homes and where we live! You'll get to see an awesome wave demonstration and have lots of fun while learning what we can do to conserve, restore, and protect our coastlines.

## **Tuesday, April 8**

### **Connecting with Nature - Earth Month at 15th St Farm** 9.00 - 11.00 am

Homeschoolers with kids of any age are welcome to come to the farm, enjoy some guided activities and play time. We'll continue work on our Special Project and have some surprises! This week we will explore Healthy Environments with a focus on zero waste. Be sure to bring closed toe shoes, sunscreen, water - but please no snacks or food. Walkins are welcome!

## **Wednesday, April 9**

### **Used Once, Lasts Forever Art Show** at Eckerd College 5:00 – 7:00 pm

*Used Once, Lasts Forever* is a show of artwork created with found and recycled plastics. Students from Eckerd and the broader community are invited to submit your artwork then join us on Wednesday, April 9 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. for the art show!

## **Thursday, April 10**

### **Living Shoreline Project** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteers to build an oyster shell bar at MacDill Air Force Base. The minimum age to participate is 15 years old. It involves shoveling fossilized and/or recycled shell into mesh bags and transporting the bags to be installed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars. This effort will help restore lost habitat by promoting new oyster growth, ultimately improving water quality and providing food sources and habitat for many species.

## Friday, April 11

### Living Shoreline Project 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteers to build an oyster shell bar at MacDill Air Force Base. The minimum age to participate is 15 years old. It involves shoveling fossilized and/or recycled shell into mesh bags and transporting the bags to be installed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars. This effort will help restore lost habitat by promoting new oyster growth, ultimately improving water quality and providing food sources and habitat for many species.

### Clearwater Beach Cleanup 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful and the City of Clearwater every month for a morning of service to keep Clearwater litter-free! Volunteers will assist with cleaning the beach and surrounding streets.

### Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful's Great Port Cleanup 8:00 – 11:00 am

Join Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful for the Great Port Cleanup on April 11th! This annual event features multiple cleanup sites around the Port of Tampa Bay, offering volunteers the opportunity to make a significant impact on our local waterways and environment. Whether you're helping on land or along the shoreline, your efforts will help protect marine life and keep our community beautiful. Come out, volunteer, and make a lasting difference!

## Saturday, April 12

### Woods, Water, and Wildlife Nature Fest 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

For the past 56 years, Nature's Classroom in Thonotosassa has been giving every sixth-grade public school student a safe environment to experience the outdoors while learning about our watershed and natural resource conservation. One weekend each year, our unique site on the Hillsborough River is open to the public. Join us for guided hikes, animal experiences, children's activities, boating, a drawing, and exhibits representing local organizations and agencies.

### Courtney Campbell Causeway Cleanup 8:00 – 11:00 am

Come out and join Keep Pinellas Beautiful and the City of Clearwater the second Saturday of every month as we work to keep the Courtney Campbell Causeway litter-free! Volunteers will assist with a shoreline, trail, and mangrove cleanup.

### The Art of Science's 10th Anniversary 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Art of Science in St. Petersburg is celebrating its 10th anniversary and Earth Day! Come join us on our lawn for hands on art and craft activities, planting seeds, our student art exhibit, and learning more about our program.

### Mirror Lake Cleanup 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Stewards of Our Urban Lakes and Keep Pinellas Beautiful for a cleanup at Mirror Lake! Volunteers will have the opportunity to assist with invasive vegetation removal along the shoreline, litter cleanup of the lake and surrounding area, and installation of native plants.

### STEMapalooza 2025 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Join Girl Scouts of West Central Florida for STEMapalooza at Florida Polytechnic University! Explore workshops, exhibits, and hands-on activities. Experience displays from our older girls and a new STEM fair at the Barnett Applied Research Center. Don't miss this exciting showcase of innovation for Girl Scouts, friends, and families!

## **Saturday, April 12 (continued)**

### **Earth Day Celebration Kayak / Watergoat Cleanup at Harborage Marina 9:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Join Water Warrior Alliance at Harborage Marina, where we will clean the Watergoat, use kayaks to clean the surrounding waterways, and clean up around the marina to help prevent wind driven debris from entering our waterways! (Kayaks are limited. Please bring your own if you have one.) Be a part of the solution and stop marine debris before it gets waterlogged and degrades into micro-plastics.

### **Watergoat Cleanup at Bartlett Park Salt Creek 1:00 - 3:00 pm**

Join Water Warrior Alliance to stop marine debris before it gets waterlogged and degrades into micro-plastics. A Watergoat cleanup involves the removal of trash and debris collected by a Watergoat, which is a floating trash trap typically placed in bodies of water such as rivers, streams, and drainage canals.

### **Worms vs. Waste: Vermicomposting for a Zero-Waste Home Webinar 2:00 pm**

Join Laica Worms for an engaging webinar on worm farming and how it can help reduce waste, improve soil health, and support sustainable living. Designed for environmentalists and eco-conscious individuals.

## **Sunday, April 13**

### **Davis Island Boat Ramp Clean Up 8:00 – 10:00 am**

PURE Initiative is always looking for volunteers to help clean the waterways in Tampa Bay. Whether you bring your kayak to help in the water or follow onshore, there is plenty of trash to be cleaned!

### **Woods, Water, and Wildlife Nature Fest 9:00 am – 3:00 pm**

For the past 56 years, Nature's Classroom in Thonotosassa has been giving every sixth-grade public school student a safe environment to experience the outdoors while learning about our watershed and natural resource conservation. One weekend each year, our unique site on the Hillsborough River is open to the public. Join us for guided hikes, animal experiences, children's activities, boating, a drawing, and exhibits representing local organizations and agencies.

### **Save the Whales "Artivism" Workshop 10:00 - 11:00 am**

We have two beautiful, endangered whales that live off the Florida coast. Rice's whales were only just discovered in 2021, and they only live in the Gulf. North American right whales migrate to the northeast coast each year to birth their young. In this workshop we will learn a bit about both whales then learn how art can help us connect people to a message that we feel strongly about. We'll be making a post card to send to our leaders showing them how we feel about protecting these whales. The workshop is hosted by Madison Wurthner, High School Ambassador with ScubaNAUTS International & Mia McCormick, Advocate with Environment Florida. This workshop is best suited for children in 2nd-8th grade.

## **Monday, April 14**

### **Invasive Species Lesson 6:00 – 7:00 pm**

For ages 5-12, join us at the Largo Public Library for a lesson on invasive species presented by Keep Pinellas Beautiful's Youth Advisory Council! We will be doing some fun hands-on activities and learning what "native" and "invasive" plants and animals are, why native plants and animals are so important, and what we can do to help protect native plants and animals.

## **Tuesday, April 15**

### **Forest Bathing: A Guided Therapeutic Walk** 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Leave the stress of the day behind and immerse yourself in the calming embrace of nature. Join Take MAR for Forest Bathing (Shinrin-Yoku), a mindful, immersive experience designed to help you relax, recharge, and reconnect with the natural world. This guided walk invites you to slow down, awaken your senses, and melt away tension in a peaceful forest setting.

## **Thursday, April 17**

### **Connecting with Nature - Earth Month at 15th St Farm** 9:00 – 11:00 am

Homeschoolers with kids of any age are welcome to come to the farm, enjoy some guided activities and play time. We'll continue work on our Special Project and have some surprises! This week our focus will be Healthy Plants & Seeds. Be sure to bring closed toe shoes, sunscreen, water - but please no snacks or food. Walkins are welcome!

## **Saturday, April 19**

### **Gandy Beach Cleanup** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful the third Saturday of every month at Gandy Beach! Volunteers will assist with cleaning the shoreline and mangroves along South Gandy Beach in St. Petersburg.

### **Conservation Connections at ZooTampa: World Tapir Day** 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Visit ZooTampa this Earth Month to celebrate World Tapir Day! Learn about this fascinating animal and some of the unique adaptations that help it survive. Discover how you can make choices that help protect tapirs and the rainforests they call home! Join us all year long for our Conservation Connections series. Participate in interactive activities, collect unique stamps, and find out how you can BE involved in conservation in your own backyard!

### **The James Museum Downtown Cleanup** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

The James Museum and Keep Pinellas Beautiful are joining forces to host a downtown cleanup on Saturday, April 19th in honor of Earth Day. This event is free and open to all, so gather your friends and join us!

## **Tuesday, April 22 EARTH DAY**

### **Connecting with Nature - Earth Month at 15th St Farm** 9:00 – 11:00 am

Homeschoolers with kids of any age are welcome to come to the farm, enjoy some guided activities and play time. We'll continue work on our Special Project and have some surprises! This week our focus will be Healthy People. Be sure to bring closed toe shoes, sunscreen, water - but please no snacks or food. Walkins are welcome!

### **Living Shoreline Project** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteers to build an oyster shell bar at MacDill Air Force Base. The minimum age to participate is 15 years old. It involves shoveling fossilized and/or recycled shell into mesh bags and transporting the bags to be installed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars. This effort will help restore lost habitat by promoting new oyster growth, ultimately improving water quality and providing food sources and habitat for many species.

## **Tuesday, April 22 EARTH DAY (continued)**

### **Earth Day Cleanup: 4th Street North Mangroves** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful for this year's Great American Cleanup at 4th Street North! Volunteers will assist with cleaning the mangroves and shoreline. We can't wait to celebrate Earth Day with you!

### **Earth Day Cleanup: Blackthorn Skyway** 8:30 – 11:30 am

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful for this year's Great American Cleanup at Blackthorn! Volunteers will assist with cleaning the mangroves and shoreline. We can't wait to celebrate Earth Day with you!

### **Earth Day: Connecting for Conservation** 5:00 - 7:00 pm

Join Blue-Green Connections for an incredible lineup of local student and professional conservationists as we come together in our efforts to act local while thinking global this earth day! Light refreshments will be provided. Participating organizations include Clearwater Marine Aquarium, MOTE Marine Aquarium, Youth Making Ripples, Caladesi Island State Park, SPC, Blue-Green Connections, & City of Dunedin.

### **Take MAR's Earth Day Block Party** 5:30 – 8:00 pm

Join us for an unforgettable Earth Day Block Party celebration on the Pinellas Trail! This community block party brings together environmental enthusiasts, local businesses, and families for an evening filled with fun, sustainability, and eco-conscious living.

## **Wednesday, April 23**

### **Living Shoreline Project** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteers to build an oyster shell bar at MacDill Air Force Base. The minimum age to participate is 15 years old. It involves shoveling fossilized and/or recycled shell into mesh bags and transporting the bags to be installed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars. This effort will help restore lost habitat by promoting new oyster growth, ultimately improving water quality and providing food sources and habitat for many species.

### **Arbor Day Tree Workshop and Giveaway** 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Join UF/IFAS Extension Urban Forestry Agent, Alyssa Vinson, for an interactive educational presentation all about selecting, planting and maintaining the Right Tree for the Right Place. All attendees of the workshop will take home a tree to plant in their landscape. Workshop will take approximately 1.5 hours, and the tree giveaway will follow.

### **TRASHY: a zero waste film** screening & panel discussion, 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Join the University of Tampa's Roots & Shoots for an inspiring and eye-opening evening for the screening of *TRASHY: a zero waste film*. This engaging and funny documentary follows a woman on her 365-day journey of striving to live a waste-free life. Driven by the powerful idea of not throwing away anything for one year, she embarks on an adventure filled with challenges and triumphs as she learns to recycle, compost, and manage the waste that cannot be disposed of. A panel discussion with the filmmaker Heather Gustafson will follow the screening.

## Thursday, April 24

### Nourished by Nature 5:00 – 8:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch invites you to a one-of-a-kind culinary experience that celebrates the beauty and bounty of nature. Enjoy signature drinks and sample planet-friendly dishes crafted by talented local chefs, all while taking in breathtaking views of the Bay. Eco-conscious auction items will also be available, each thoughtfully chosen to inspire a more sustainable lifestyle. This special evening highlights the power of mindful eating, showing how the choices we make at the table can positively impact both our health and the environment. It's a chance to connect with nature, one bite at a time. Proceeds from Earth Night 2025 will benefit Tampa Bay Watch's marine science education programs, providing underserved local students the opportunity to explore and protect our vital ecosystem.

## Friday, April 25

### Invasive Tree Removal & Cleanup for National Arbor Day 8:00 - 11:00 am

Keep Tampa Bay Beautiful invites you to celebrate National Arbor Day by giving back to our environment! Join us at River Blvd Park (5401 N River Shore Dr.) on April 25th at 8 AM for an impactful morning of invasive species removal and community cleanup.

### Earth Week Cleanup: North Gandy Beach 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

For Earth Week, Keep Pinellas Beautiful and the Institute for Strategic Policy Solutions are hosting a cleanup at North Gandy Beach on April 25th! Volunteers will assist with cleaning the shoreline and mangroves. We can't wait to see you there!

## Saturday, April 26

### EcoFest 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Join Learning Gate Community School for a celebration of sustainability, green living, and eco-friendly innovation!

### Green Thumb Festival 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

St. Petersburg's annual Arbor Day Celebration, the Green Thumb Festival, brings together plant and flower lovers, as well as individuals and families looking for a fun weekend activity. With more than 120 garden, plant and flower vendors and exhibitors, the annual event brings the community together for a weekend of fun.

### Crescent Lake Cleanup 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join Keep Pinellas Beautiful (KPB) and Stewards of Our Urban Lakes (SOUL) each month for a rewarding morning of community improvement and beautification. Volunteers will assist with a litter cleanup and invasive vegetation removal from the lake. We hope you will join us in improving this local habitat! All ages are welcome to participate.

### SOAR: Sisterhood Bonding & Treetop Zip Tour 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Join Girl Scouts of West Central Florida to hike, zip, & conquer challenges as you strengthen your Girl Scout Sisterhood bond.

### Youth Program: Planet Protectors 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

For youth nature lovers, this thrilling program at Brooker Creek Environmental Education Center is full of educational fun. It is specifically designed for young Floridians to understand what can be done for the environment in their hometown and then express that knowledge through multiple artistic mediums. We'll also meet some very special animal ambassadors and get to interact with them! Presented by Paige Konger of Paige's Planet. Sponsored by the Friends of Brooker Creek Preserve.

## **Saturday, April 26 (continued)**

### **Manatee Magic: Snorkel Adventure!** 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Join Girl Scouts of West Central Florida to experience the Florida Manatee in its natural habitat! Enjoy a video presentation, followed by a Q&A on a relaxing boat ride to see the manatees up close. Our staff will assist first-time snorkelers. Learn about manatee history, behavior, and conservation in this unforgettable adventure.

### **Ocean Explorers: Girl Scouts at the Aquarium** 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

Join us for a special Girl Scout program at the Aquarium! Explore fascinating exhibits and learn about marine life from oceans, rivers, and coasts. Our knowledgeable staff will guide you through an unforgettable adventure, discovering the incredible species that inhabit our planet's waters.

### **Recycling is BeaUTiful Art Gala** 2:00 – 5:00 pm

The University of Tampa's Roots & Shoots invites area high school and college students to submit sustainable artwork for a chance at a grand prize. On April 26th, all submissions will be on display in UTampa's Fletcher Lounge for all to view and competition winners will be announced!

## **Sunday, April 27**

### **Green Thumb Festival** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

St. Petersburg's annual Arbor Day Celebration, the Green Thumb Festival, brings together plant and flower lovers, as well as individuals and families looking for a fun weekend activity. With more than 120 garden, plant and flower vendors and exhibitors, the annual event brings the community together for a weekend of fun.

### **Paddling Towards Progress** 12:00 – 1:30 pm

Join Helping Home at USF Riverfront Park on Sunday, April 27, from 12-2 pm for an afternoon of exploring environmental action in Florida! We'll have a mosaic art build and environmental justice zines. This event is FREE, with snacks and drinks provided. We encourage you to invite family, friends, and community members. RSVP here!

## **Tuesday, April 29**

### **Connecting with Nature - Earth Month at 15th St Farm** 9:00 – 11:00 am

Homeschoolers with kids of any age are welcome to come to the farm, enjoy some guided activities and play time. We'll start work on a Special Project and have some surprises! This week our focus will be Healthy Soil. Walkins are welcome!

## **Wednesday, April 30**

### **Living Shoreline Project** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Tampa Bay Watch is recruiting volunteers to build an oyster shell bar at MacDill Air Force Base. The minimum age to participate is 15 years old. It involves shoveling fossilized and/or recycled shell into mesh bags and transporting the bags to be installed on the shoreline to create a series of oyster bars. This effort will help restore lost habitat by promoting new oyster growth, ultimately improving water quality and providing food sources and habitat for many species.



**Wednesday, April 30 (continued)**

**Tween & Teen Environmental Education: Microplastics** 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Join the Keep Pinellas Beautiful Youth Advisory Council at Seminole Library to discover what microplastics are, how they impact the environment, and how you can make a difference. This lesson will be complete with fun demonstrations, activities, and crafts. Grades 4-12.

**Thursday, May 1**

**Sea Turtle Season Kick Off Event** 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Join Coastal Crusaders as we kick off Sea Turtle Nesting season with an evening beach cleanup and Hole Patrol. We will meet at John's Pass Park then head out to pick up any litter and fill in holes left on the beaches. Information and education on the importance of leaving the beaches Clean Dark and Flat. We will conclude the event with a beautiful Maderia Beach sunset!