

Earth Day: More than Just Recycling Paper

Some people may argue that recycling paper is highly relevant to Earth Day and keeping our environment safe and clean. But it is only one step out of many things we can all do to keep our earth in great shape. With Earth Day coming up on April 22nd, there are a few events that celebrate the earth, and the many ways we are able to help maintain our ecosystem.

Residents who have strong green thumb and a tendency for the more well-known, may be intrigued by the Epcot International Flower and Garden Festival. Going on now, until May 16th, there is plenty to do for everyone. Kids can enjoy the Disney-themed gardens, while adults are able to enjoy the many types of flowers blooming for the event. During the weekends, highly regarded horticulturists attend the event to give helpful gardening tips, public demonstrations and recommendations for your garden.

There are also quite a few local events. On April 24th, attendees of all ages can travel to Central Florida Earth Day 2010. Located in Lake Eola Park, this event features a number of different activities, nightly concerts to henna art. "Central Florida Earth Day is unique because it is the largest grassroots event in Florida," says Larry Rumbough, a representative the Vegetarians of Central Florida, a local sponsor for the event, "and we try to attract a wide audience to this event". In its 5th year, Central Florida Earth Day has managed to accommodate around 20,000 visitors, "and we expect more than that this year," says Rumbough. Central Florida Earth Day promotes many different facets of Earth Day, including vegan eating, environmental education, and even a kids area where the children engage in activities that encourages them to recycle. "This event gives back to the community because all money earned goes directly to the different community outreach programs in Central Florida," explains Rumbough. Now that's giving back to our community.

While it is not directly involved with Earth Day, the Orlando Science Center is holding an exhibit known as H2Now, where the concept of alternative energy takes a familiar form: H₂O. By visiting this demonstration, attendees can learn about the importance of hydrogen, its origins and how we can use it to sustain and possibly enhance our living. By answering questions about the effectiveness of hydrogen, you gain the ability to use a hydro cell to energize the miniature town of Hydropolis.

Although these Earth Day events occur once a year, it doesn't mean we have to stop thinking about our environment once Earth Day is over. Consider what you can do for your community, and start helping!