

12 DAYS OF EARTH DAY CHALLENGE



HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

Join us for a virtual Earth Day 2020 celebration!

We've got a different community challenge each day for the next 12 days—choose as many or as few of the challenges you'd like to do! Keep track of your own points, and at the end of the month post your total points for a chance for a prize!

Our combined efforts DO make one big impact—how would these challenges impact the 168,122 people who live, work and play in the city of Springfield?

The Week in Review SUNDAY APRIL 19 - THURSDAY APRIL 30

Day 1: Trash to Treasure Day

Day 2: Make a Pledge Day

Day 3: Walk in a Park Day

Day 4: Celebrate Earth Day!

Day 5: Native Plant Day

Day 6: Nature Art Day

Day 7: Litter Pick Up Day

Day 8: Parade for the Planet Day

Day 9: Flush Responsibly Day

Day 10: Citizen Science Day

Day 11: Single Use Smackdown Day

Day 12: Consider Your Footprint Day

DAY 1

TRASH TO TREASURE DAY

Sunday, April 19

- Create a sustainable craft using items that might be considered “trash”.
Some ideas to get you started can be found on our [Sustainable Crafts page](#) (1 pt)
- Take a photo of your craft and post it to social media with the tag *#SGFEarthDay* (1 pt)
- **OUR COMBINED EFFORTS MAKE ONE BIG IMPACT:** On average, a Missourian creates 7.6 lbs of trash every day! Calculate how many pounds of trash would be sent to the landfill in one day for every citizen in the city of Springfield. (1 pt)

DAY 2

MAKE A PLEDGE DAY

Monday, April 20

- **Make a pledge to do something different that will help our environment and/or community. Write it down. (1pt)**
- **Post a picture on any social media with your pledge and encourage your friends to share it. Use hashtag *#SGFEarthDay* (1pt)**
- **OUR COMBINED EFFORTS MAKE ONE BIG IMPACT:
How would our community be affected if everyone took your same pledge?
Share your thoughts with us by commenting on our post. (1 pt)**

DAY 3

WALK IN A PARK DAY

Tuesday, April 21

- Take a walk anywhere outside and track your distance (1pt)
- Post a picture of your walk on any social media with the hashtag *#SGFEarthDay* (1pt)
- **OUR COMBINED EFFORTS MAKE ONE BIG IMPACT:** Estimate if everyone in our City took the same walk as you, how many miles would our city have walked? (1 pt)

DAY 4

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!

Wednesday, April 22

- Create a social media post wishing everyone a Happy Earth Day and use the hashtag *#SGFEarthDay*. Include the number of points you earned in the past 3 days on your post.(1pt)
- Check out the Community Earth Day Virtual Event Schedule and participate in activities. (1 pt each)
- Create a low-waste lunch and post your pictures of your Picnic in Place, tagging *#SGFEarthDay*. [Check out these tips for how to create a low waste picnic.](#) (1pt)

DAY 5

NATIVE PLANT DAY

Thursday, April 23

- **Did you know that Springfield is a member of the Mayors Monarchs Pledge, an initiative of the National Wildlife Federation which focuses on creating habitat for the Monarch butterfly and other pollinators? Research and pick a native plant that would attract pollinators to your yard or environment and explain why pollinators matter. (1 pt)**
- **OUR COMBINED EFFORTS MAKE ONE BIG IMPACT:
How would our community benefit from more plants that attract pollinators?
Post your answer to the comments of this event for an additional point. (1 pt)**

DAY 6

NATURE ART DAY

Friday, April 24

- Using only physical things found in nature, make a piece of natural art. (1pt)
- Post a picture of your work on any social media with the hashtag *#SGFEarthDay* (1pt)

DAY 7

LITTER PICK UP DAY

Saturday, April 25

- Go on a walk on a Springfield trail or in a park. Take a trash bag with you and fill the trash bag with litter you find. (2pts)
- Post a picture of your work on any social media with the hashtag *#SGFEarthDay* (1pt)
- **OUR COMBINED EFFORTS MAKE ONE BIG IMPACT:** Count how many bags of trash your family collected. How many bags of trash could be removed from our public places if everyone in our city collected the same number of bags that you just did? (1pt)

DAY 8

PARADE FOR THE PLANET DAY

Sunday, April 26

- Decorate your bike or wagon using recycled materials . Go for a walk around the neighborhood and show your family's parade for the planet (maintaining social distancing of course!) (1 pt)
- Take a photo and post your "parade" to social media using the hashtag *#SGFEarthDay* (1 pt)

DAY 9

FLUSH RESPONSIBLY DAY

Monday, April 27

We use a LOT of water as a city. In fact, our wastewater treatment plants treat approximately 44 MILLION gallons of water on average every DAY.

- **Count the number of times your family flushes the toilet in one day. If an average toilet uses 1.6 gallons per flush, how many gallons did your family use today? (1 pt)**
- **Post your number to the comments of this event for an additional point. (1 pt)**

DAY 10

CITIZEN SCIENCE DAY

Tuesday, April 28

- Today, you can be a Citizen Scientist! Join a citizen science project. Visit scistarter.org/citizen-science for project ideas and comment on this event to get a point by sharing the project you're participating in. (1 pt)

DAY 11

SINGLE USE SMACKDOWN DAY

Wednesday, April 29

In our society, we use a LOT of items every day only once.

In fact, about 150 million tons of single use plastic is produced worldwide every year.

(Single Use Plastics 101-Jan. 9, 2020. NRDC.org)

- Today we're challenging you to use as many reusable substitutes to single use items as possible. Post a picture of you with your reusable item *(for example, reusable straw, cup, shopping bag, sandwich bag, etc)* tagging #SGFEarthDay (1pt)
- Our Combined Efforts Make One Big Impact: According to www.earthday.org, Americans use approximately 13 plastic water bottles each month. If everyone in our City were to stop using plastic water bottles, how many bottles would we eliminate in one year? (1 pt)

DAY 12

“WHAT’S YOUR FOOTPRINT?” DAY

Thursday, April 30

- How many earth’s would it take if everyone lived like you?
Visit [footprintcalculator.org](https://www.footprintcalculator.org) to calculate your family’s ecological footprint. (1 pt)
- Create a social media post telling people about your footprint and how you might be able to reduce that number tag *#SGFEarthDay*. (1 pt)

WRAP UP

HOW DID YOU DO?

**Track your points here and post your points total on our FB page.
If you end the challenge as a top point earner you could win a prize!**

Challenge	Available Points	Earned Points
Trash to Treasure	3	
Make a Pledge	3	
Walk in a Park	3	
Celebrate Earth Day!	9	
Native Plant	2	
Nature Art	2	

Challenge	Available Points	Earned Points
Litter Pick Up	4	
Parade for the Planet	2	
Flush Responsible	2	
Citizen Science	1	
Single Use Smackdown	2	
What's Your Footprint?	2	

Total Available Points	Total Points Earned
35	