Earth Day 2018 brings something for everyone across Nebraska

A week-long celebration of Earth Day 2018 offers locally organized events across Nebraska that will continue throughout the month of April. Most are family-friendly, intended to get all ages involved in learning about our planet and understanding ways of ensuring it’s still around for future generations. Following are just a few of the celebrations being planned, along with links for further information about each of them.

Sustainability Expo Lincoln
UND Wellness Community Engagement Center Thursday, April 5 In celebration of Earth Month, the Sustainability Expo is designed to engage students, faculty, and staff about sustainability problems and solutions, ranging from environmental to social justice issues. Over 20 sustainability-related organizations from the Omaha-Metro area will be on hand to discuss their work and answer any questions people may have about their efforts. The workshop will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Penhalingle Science Fair & Earth Day Celebration Scottsbluff, Gering, North Platte & Chadron Sunday, April 22 The Science Fest & Earth Day fair will feature local science groups, experiments, crafts, agriculture, and animal encounters. Exhibits and booths will be available from local environmental groups, gardens, crafts, artists, tabloids, animal encounters and more will be featured at the Riverside Discovery Center, 401 S. Beltrione Highway in Scottsbluff; Organizations from Gering, North Platte, Chadron, and other communities in the area will be participating. For more information visit http://business.acottbusғing/ eventool/details/science-fair-earth-day-7857.

Earth Week at Central Community College Grand Island, Kearney & Columbus April 15–28 Central Community College has a host of activities planned for their campuses in Grand Island, Kearney, and Columbus during the week. From learning more about wind turbines and bees, sharing bikes and local foods to energy use in buildings and avian wildlife, including predators, there will be something for everyone. On Thursday, April 19, the expo will be in Grand Island; at Kearney Center on Wednesday, April 25; in Columbus on Thursday, April 26, and in Hastings on Saturday, April 28. Each of these events will be a Pow Wow Corn event and drum performance. For more information visit http://cc.edu/earthweek.

Cleaning the Fork Earth Day Celebration Norfolk Saturday, April 21 Johnson’s Park For the first year, several community groups are sponsoring a city-wide clean-up on Earth Day! Help pick up both from the banks of the North Fork and the streets of North from 9 a.m to noon. Check out the community picnic, sponsored by Lincoln

Thriftway from noon till 3 p.m. with live music from Tucker Hill. Citizens Brigade and Friends. More info: thriftway.com/events/326797375316783/

Lincoln Earth Day Expo Lincoln, Nebraska Saturday, April 28 Union Plaza Park 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Musical performances, hands-on demonstrations, food trucks, green vehicles, exhibits, yoga, and a bike rodeo highlight this year’s event. More info: https://www.facebook.com/LincolnEarthDay.

Annual Earth Day Expo Lincoln April 1–April 30 An Environmental Arts Festival, Music Festival, sustainable communities forum, poetry reading, block party, environmental and more are part of the highly successful Earth Day in Lincoln, Four Weeks to Learn and Grow. Produced by the student collaboration, Green Hills, the events are sponsored by the Nebraska Environmental Trust, US Student Government and Green Water For Food Global Institute at UNL, School of Natural Resources.

Earth Day at Creighton University Omaha Saturday, April 21 Elmwood Park 11 a.m.–6 p.m. For 26 years, Earth Day at Creighton has been dedicated to organizing, directing, and producing Omaha, Nebraska’s annual Earth Day event, providing a showcase for the many charities, scientists, and educational efforts advocating for sustainable environmental practices and lifestyles. Music, yoga, activities for children, National Geographic wildlife photographer Jon Gar- torm, Greensburg (Kansas) Mayor Bob Dixson, and much more will be featured. Visit http://earthdayomaha.org for more information.

Creighton University Earth Week Omaha April 17–30 Clothing and furniture swaps, Skyroom recycling, concerts, panels, poetry readings, a meeting of the Earth Day Committee, are part of Creighton University’s observance of Earth Week, sponsored by the University’s Office of Sustainability Programs. More info: https://creighton.edu/filesadmin/user/othersustainability/docs/Evene_of_Earth_Week_4- 30_20180324.pdf

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NEWS FROM JOSLIN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Wayne State College Green Adventures - team events throughout the community April 13–22 The Wayne Green Team is sponsoring a Zero Waste Coffee with the Wayne Chamber of Commerce, a household hazardous waste disposal event, among other events and exhibits. The group also will be screening the award-winning documentary Before the Flood at 6:30 p.m on Sunday, April 22 at the Majestic Theatre. All events are free.

Questions about location, management, ownership, financing, and whether a public market might be a viable economic project. As universities, have been key factors in the success of thriving markets, according to Jerry Cornett of Omaha Earth Day. Lisa Pylyk Zillig, Senior Research Associate at the Nebraska Policy Center, helped to conduct research surveys for the committee, and was key to organizing much of these surveys. Residents of Lincoln, Omaha, Grand Island, and South Dakota have seen various food hubs and food hub in Lincoln, noting it would be a positive cultural, educational, social, nutritional, and economic project.

Work Toward a Regional Food System and Public Market Moves Forward

The final meeting of a USDA grant-funded project to undertake strategic planning for a regional food system was held at innovation Campus in Lincoln in mid-March. The Joslin Institute administered the grant, which was awarded to Lakenhake Farms.

In September, attendees receiving a Strategic Planning Committee has met over the past year and a half about how a year-round food hub and public market might impact the Lincoln region, its food producers, processors, distributors and consumers.

Transforming our food supply within Nebraska and across the state, as well as a key area of the surprising Omaha Earth Day event, providing a showcase for the many charities, scientists, and educational efforts advocating for sustainable environmental practices and lifestyles. Music, yoga, activities for children, National Geographic wildlife photographer Jon Garrett, Greensburg (Kansas) Mayor Bob Dixson, and much more will be featured. Visit http://earthdayomaha.org for more information.

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