



IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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MEDIA ADVISORY

April 22

**DEP CELEBRATES EARTH DAY AND EARTH WEEK AT MULTIPLE EVENTS
AROUND NEW JERSEY**

Comprehensive, Statewide Earth Day Calendar of Events Posted Online

TRENTON – Key personnel from the Department of Environmental Protection are scheduled to attend multiple events commemorating the 43rd anniversary of Earth Day on Monday, April 22.

Media attending these events are invited to speak with DEP staff about Earth Day and environmental issues. Some Earth Day events featuring DEP personnel include:

- Paterson Great Falls Clean Up (9 a.m.- 12 noon): At Paterson Great Falls National Park, the falls will temporarily be shut down to allow local high school students to do litter cleanup. Sponsored by Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission. DEP staff attending: Deputy Commissioner Irene Kropp and Environmental Justice Coordinator Riche Outlaw.
- Rider University Earth Day Celebration (11 a.m. – 1 p.m.): Outdoor campus event showcasing stewardship and sustainability initiatives on campus. DEP staff attending: Assistant Commissioner, Sustainability & Green Energy Bob Marshall and Research Scientist Athena Sarafides.
- Willow School Groundbreaking Ceremony (8-9 a.m.): The Willow School in Gladstone, a 2012 DEP Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards winner, will host a groundbreaking ceremony for its new Health, Wellness and Nutrition Center. DEP staff attending: State Park Service Director Mark Texel.
- Summerfield Elementary School Environmental Lessons (9:30 a.m.- 12 noon): Fourth and fifth grade students at Summerfield Elementary School in Neptune will conduct environmental science lessons for pre-K students. DEP staff attending: Director of Office of Permit Coordination and Review Scott Brubaker.
- Bergen County Technical High School Earth Week Celebration (1:30-3 p.m.): Discussions with students at the West Teterboro school on environmental protection priorities on what students can do to help the environment and to foster potential environmental careers. DEP staff attending: John Gray, Executive Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner.

If you're interested in finding an Earth Day or Earth Week event in your area, the DEP has assembled and posted an Earth Week Events calendar, detailing more than 80 fairs, cleanups and celebrations across the state. Some of them begin this weekend, while others are occurring on Earth Day and through next week.

The Earth Week calendar can be found at: <http://www.nj.gov/dep/seeds/earthday/april.htm>

For more on Earth Day in New Jersey, visit: www.earthdaynj.org

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