

# Take the Earth Year Challenge!

Find out how to reduce your environmental impact on our air, water, and climate through the Earth Year Challenge designed to educate and inspire! Be a planet protector and earn digital badges!

Families or individuals can complete activities and earn badges for:

- Doing a family nature scavenger hunt
- Pledging to make specific choices in daily living to reduce your impact on the environment.
- Learning about environmental issues through reading and watching videos.
- Participating in one or more Citizen Science projects to contribute data to scientific studies.

Sign up now to participate in the Earth Year Challenge using Beanstack, the tool to track all of your activities. If you have already registered for the Earth Year Challenge in 2020 or for any of our other challenges using Beanstack, use your existing account to register for WEY Challenge 2021.

If you are new to Beanstack, register on our website.



More Earth Year events will run through September 2021. Check our website or future brochures for more information.

## About Earth Year

Wilmington's Earth Year 2021 is a series of programs and initiatives, funded by the Friends of the Library's 2019 Annual Appeal, aimed at raising awareness of environmental issues. Programming was initially scheduled to begin April 2020 but had to be scaled back during the first several months of the pandemic. The series is kicking off in earnest again starting April 2021 and will run through September 2021. Through education and action, we can help to make Wilmington and the world a better place.

### Photo & Video Collection

Help us create a photo and video collection for Wilmington's Earth Year! We are looking for photos and videos in the following categories:

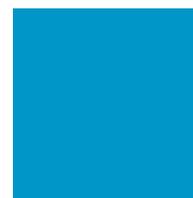
- Nature Scenes and Wildlife of Wilmington
- Beautify Wilmington (picking up trash, areas that need beautifying, etc.)
- Green Living (how you are living an Earth friendly life)



Submissions can be made at [wilmlibrary.librariesshare.com/wmleearthyear](http://wilmlibrary.librariesshare.com/wmleearthyear).



# Wilmington's Earth Year 2021 April Events



Most events require registration. For more details about each event and to register go to [wilmlibrary.org/events](http://wilmlibrary.org/events).

175 Middlesex Ave.  
Wilmington, MA 01887  
978-658-2967 • [wilmlibrary.org](http://wilmlibrary.org)

# Youth & Family

To register, go to [wilmlibrary.org/events](http://wilmlibrary.org/events).

## Why Native Plant Landscapes Matter (Zoom)

**Monday, April 5, 2:30pm (Adult)**

Presenter Claudia Thompson, founder of Grow Native Massachusetts, will give a “tour” of her garden showing its steady transformation from a conventional urban yard to a landscape rich with native plant species and habitat for birds, butterflies, and wildlife. This program will help you “get” why native plants are so important and inspire you to use your own garden to make the world a better place!

## Introduction to Citizen Science (Zoom)

**Monday, April 5 at 6:30pm (All Ages)**

Come learn about all of the ways that you and your family can contribute to scientific research projects. Watch a short video, view our new Citizen Science kits and see projects that you can participate in involving field observation, data reporting, and other hands-on activities that can be done outside or inside to help real scientists with their research and accelerate discovery.

## Green Chemistry: Inventing a Circular Economy (Zoom)

**Thursday, April 8, 7pm (Adult)**

John Warner, co-founder of the Warner-Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry, will speak on the role of green chemistry in helping to create a low waste circular economy that in turn will help to maintain the world’s intricate ecosystems.

## Family Craft Night (Zoom)

**Wednesday, April 14 at 6:30pm (All Ages)**

Join us for a night of crafting with the whole family! Registered groups can pick up a bag of craft supplies and join Nicole for a virtual event full of fun and creativity! This month’s theme is: Earth Day!



## Outdoor Photography in the Wildwood Cemetery

**Saturday, April 17, 10am (Adult)**  
**(Raindate: Tuesday, April 20 6:30pm)**

Experienced photographer Lennie Malvone will teach you how to take beautiful photos outdoors. You will learn the basic composition, best use of light and how to approach pictures of plants, people, and landscapes. Bring your camera or your smartphone and meet at the back of the library. *Masks required*

## Family Walk in the Town Forest

**Wednesday, April 21, 10 am (All Ages)**

Join Wilmington Conservation Agent Cameron Lynch for a walk along the trails of the 157-acre Town Forest, the largest piece of Conservation Land in Wilmington. There will be activities for all ages, including a nature scavenger hunt for the whole family. Hiking boots are recommended. This event is weather dependent, so check our website for updates. Please park at Camp 40 Acres. *Masks required.*

## Polar Bears in a Changing Climate (Zoom)

**Wednesday, April 21 at 6:30pm (All Ages)**

Learn how climate change affects one of our biggest, yet most vulnerable, species from an educator at the Alaska Zoo. We will get to virtually visit the zoo’s polar bear.

## Great Green Giveaway (WML Front Lawn)

**Thursday, April 22, 11am-4 pm (All Ages)**

We’ve been spring cleaning! Rather than throw away, we want to recycle stuff we no longer need. Stop by the library front lawn on Earth Day for some free surplus items including stationery, art/craft supplies, technology, books, LEGOS and more. You can also enter to win some awesome items such as an older American Girl Doll, LEGO Mindstorms set and more. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Wilmington Library. Thank you for upcycling. *Masks required.*

## Vernal Pool Exploration (Behind the WML)

**Thursday, April 22, 6:30 pm (All Ages)**

Explore and learn about vernal pools from local environmentalists and Headwaters Stream Team members Martha Stevenson and Suzanne Sullivan, who will lead a walk to find vernal pools in the area behind the library. Vernal pools serve as essential breeding habitats for certain species of wildlife, including salamanders and frogs, which provide an important food source for small carnivores as well as large game species. Please wear appropriate footwear and dress for the weather. *Masks required.*

## Family Earth Day Trivia (Zoom)

**Friday, April 23, 6:30 pm (All Ages)**

How much does your family know about conservation? Show off your environmental knowledge in this friendly competition. Prizes will be awarded!

## Trash to Treasure (WML Parking Lot)

**Saturday, April 24, 10am - 12pm (All Ages)**

Help keep Wilmington beautiful. Reflector vests, latex free gloves, and biodegradable bags will be available for pick up starting April 12. During Earth Day week (April 18-April 24) spend an hour or so picking up trash around Wilmington—you pick the spot (walk your neighborhood streets, clean up one of the parks or other town properties, etc. just be sure to keep safety in mind). Take photos during the clean-up to be added to the library’s Earth Year collection. Bring your bag of trash to the library parking lot on Saturday, April 24 between the hours of 10 am and 12 pm and turn your trash into treasure. Spin the prize wheel and redeem your bag of trash for an Earth friendly gift. **Only the biodegradable bags supplied by the library will be accepted.** *Masks required.*

## Author Talk: Doug Tallamy - Nature’s Best Hope (Zoom)

**Tuesday, April 27, 7pm (Adult)**

Professor Tallamy will discuss simple steps that each of us must take to reverse declining biodiversity.

## Tree Seedling Giveaway (At the WML)

**Friday, April 30, 9am - 5pm (All Ages)**

In support of Arbor Day, the library is giving away 300 Pin Oak Tree seedlings, which are native to Massachusetts. Stop by the library to pick up your seedlings. Limit one per individual or two per family. The tree seedling giveaway helps Wilmington to be designated as a Tree City.

Keep up-to-date with library events and service changes - sign up for our weekly newsletter!

