

# EARTH DAY PROJECT IDEAS & RESOURCES



The **Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Math & Environmental Education** has many excellent resources for planning an Earth Day Project!

- ◆ For a list of activity guides, children's literature and equipment available to teachers for loan through our **Resource Clearinghouse**, visit our website: <http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/education/manuals.html> & [http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/teachers\\_resources.html](http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/teachers_resources.html)
- ◆ For information about projects that were done by schools during the past three years of the program, visit our website: <http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/education/earthweek/index.html>

**Here are project ideas and web links to get your class or youth group thinking about what YOU can do:**

- ◆ Plant a school or community garden that provides wildlife habitat, enhances human habitat, or provides food. <http://www.nwf.org/schoolyardhabitats/creatinghabitatsites.cfm> & <http://www.kidsgardening.com/>
- ◆ Build bird nesting boxes or bat boxes. <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/tools/birdhouse/birdhouse.htm>
- ◆ Organize an *Its Cool to Carpool* or *Walk to School Day* to address global warming.
- ◆ Organize a tree-planting project. <http://www.earthday.net/goals/trees/treeplanting.stm>
- ◆ Calculate your Ecological Footprint: <http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp#> & <http://www.lead.org/leadnet/footprint/intro.htm>
- ◆ Start a "Waste Free Lunch Program" <http://www.wastefreelunches.org/>
- ◆ Hold a recycling drive or set up an in-school recycling program: <http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/> & <http://www.resourcefulschools.org>
- ◆ Make a worm compost bin for your school cafeteria.
- ◆ Conduct a frog/toad calling or deformity survey. <http://wupcenter.mtu.edu/education/frog.htm>
- ◆ Conduct a forest, schoolyard, or stream clean-up.
- ◆ Conduct a storm drain stenciling project. <http://www.earthwater-stencils.com/> (Center has stencils you can borrow.)
- ◆ Display gallon jugs of water equal to what is used for various household activities and/or to produce various goods.
- ◆ Broadcast an Earth Day message over the school PA system or your local TV or radio station.
- ◆ Decorate paper bags for a local grocery store with earth-friendly messages: <http://www.earthdaybags.org/>

## Earth Day Websites

- ◆ Earth Day Network: <http://www.earthday.net/default.asp>
- ◆ Official Site of International Earth Day: <http://www.earthsite.org/>
- ◆ Earth Day at Kids Domain: <http://www.kidsdomain.com/holiday/earthday/index.html>
- ◆ Wilderness Society Earth Day Page: <http://earthday.wilderness.org/>
- ◆ EnviroLink Earth Day Pages: <http://earthday.envirolink.org/>
- ◆ U.S. Government: <http://www.earthday.gov/>
- ◆ U.S. Department of Energy: [www.eere.energy.gov/earthday](http://www.eere.energy.gov/earthday)
- ◆ Environmental Protection Agency : [www.epa.gov/earthday](http://www.epa.gov/earthday)
- ◆ National Institute of Health: [www.nih.gov/od/ors/earthday](http://www.nih.gov/od/ors/earthday)
- ◆ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration: <http://www.noaa.gov/earthday/>
- ◆ Department of Transportation: [www.dot.gov/affairs/earth.htm](http://www.dot.gov/affairs/earth.htm)
- ◆ Sierra Club : <http://www.sierraclub.org/earthday2003/epec/mi.asp>

## Resources for Environmental Education in Michigan

- ◆ Michigan Environmental Education: <http://www.michiganenvironmentaled.org/>
- ◆ Michigan Department of Environmental Quality: [http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307\\_3580---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/deq/0,1607,7-135-3307_3580---,00.html)
- ◆ North American Association of Environmental Education: <http://www.eelink.net/classroomresources-directories.html>
- ◆ EPA Environmental Education Kids Club: <http://epa.gov/kids/>

