

APRIL – THINKING OF SPRING and MOTHER EARTH

April 22 is the 48th anniversary of the first Earth Day. Earth Day was created in 1970 by Wisconsin's own Gaylord Nelson, a U.S. Senator. Nelson was inspired by the student anti-war movement going on at that time and the emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution. April 22, 1970, saw 20 million Americans demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment. Earth Day celebrations have now expanded across the globe and have become a day of action to protect the Earth and the environment.

Today, we must continue our care of the Earth and the environment. In addition to taking part in local Earth Day clean-up activities, here is a list of things you can do year round to protect our Earth:

- Recycle – keep recyclables out of the landfill. Use the recyclable bin provided to Sturtevant residents. Check this website for more information on what can be put into the bin - <http://www.advanceddisposal.com/for-home/curbside-collection/recycling.aspx>
Did you know the Kestral Hawk landfill in Racine will be FULL in less than 6 years. Keeping recyclables out of the landfill will extend its life. Also check the village website for information on disposal of hazardous waste - <http://www.sturtevant-wi.gov/department-of-public-works>
- Compost – things like egg shells, vegetable peelings and coffee grounds can be part of a great natural fertilizer. Composting is easier than you think. Check out this link to get started in composting. <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home>
Or contact A MEMBER OF THE STUTEVANT BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE, jwoodruff96@wi.r.com or lindabusha@yahoo.com (your local UW Extension office) for helpful information on composting.
- Plant a garden – even a small area can provide healthy, nutritious vegetables for you and your family. Container gardening is also a great option for those with limited or no garden space. And don't forget the Sturtevant Community Garden. Grab a friend and share the work and the bounty of your own garden plot.
- Leave your car at home – walk or ride your bike when you can – great exercise and cuts down on fossil fuel emissions.
- Water use – pay attention to how you use water. Consider getting a rain barrel to collect rain water for watering your plants.
- Ditch the plastic – take your own reusable bags with you when you shop.

Thank you for caring for the Earth!