

Living **Green** Off-Campus

Celebrating Earth Day, April 22, 2009

With Earth Day 2009 right around the corner, I thought it would be helpful for everyone to get a quick primer on the history of Earth Day.

- Earth Day was founded by U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson (Wisconsin) and was first recognized in the U.S. on April 22, 1970.
- Senator Nelson proposed the first nationwide environmental protest "to shake up the political establishment and force this issue onto the national agenda. " "It was a gamble," he recalls, "but it worked."
- Approximately 20 million Americans took to the streets, neighborhood, parks, beaches, etc. to make an impact on the first Earth Day.
- In 1990, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting the status of environmental issues on to the world stage.



A large part of the **Living Green Off-Campus** e-letters have focused on things you can do to be more environmentally responsible in your off-campus apartment. However, this is a good time to expand that thinking so it can positively impact your community, even if for just a day.

What can you do on Earth Day to make a difference? What if you take a few minutes on April 22, grab a trash bag or 2 and see how much trash/recycling you can pick up on the streets or block around your rental. *P.S. I bet your neighbors will also be pleasantly surprised.* Give it a shot and help your mother earth. 😊

For more information about Earth Day and Living green, take a look at the links below.

<http://www.earthday.net/>

<http://planetgreen.discovery.com/>