



World Environment Day

June 5 is the official date for **World Environment Day**, and the United Nations selected Portland, OR to host the 2013 celebration.

What is World Environment Day?

The World Environment Day celebration began in 1972, and has become the main vehicle used by the United Nations to stimulate worldwide awareness of the environment and encourage political action around these issues. Part of the goal is to personalize environmental issues and help individuals understand their responsibility and power to affect change in their community.

There is a six week period that has become the focus of global environmental activism, beginning with Earth Day in April and culminating in World Environment Day in June. Throughout the six weeks, activities take place around the world, which are unique to individual cultures and locations. The global theme for 2013 is **Reduce Your Footprint**.

World Environment Day Events

There are a variety of activities taking place this year in Portland. Consider attending the family-friendly **World Environment Day rally** on Wed., June 5 from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. as part of the Rose Festival activities. This area of waterfront park will be filled with fun, educational activities for children of all ages and is free to the public. Or attend a panel discussion on Wed., June 5 from 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in the City Hall Lovejoy Room on food sustainability and global food waste.

The City of Portland is a primary partner in helping coordinate local World Environment Day activities. Learn more about the **World Environment Day events** taking place throughout May and June.

Everyday Choices are Important

World Environment Day is an opportunity for people from all walks of life to come together and encourage each other to make everyday choices that are greener, cleaner, and smarter. In many ways, Portlanders are already ahead of the curve in thinking intentionally about these decisions. Explore local opportunities for making greener decisions at home or at work with these **resources from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability**.