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E-Documents
April 2010 – Issue 2
Special Edition: Earth Day,
April 22, 2010

America.gov site for Earth Day 2010

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**Earth Day,
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SIGNIFICANT E-DOCUMENTS

EMERGING LEADERS: HOW THE DEVELOPING WORLD IS STARTING A NEW ERA OF CLIMATE CHAGE LEADERSHIP. World Wildlife Fund. 2010.

More than a century of large-scale fossil fuel consumption and deforestation have altered the Earth’s climate system as the build-up of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere have led to higher surface temperatures, shifting climate pat- terns and an overall destabilization of the global climatic system. There is a widespread belief that developing countries do not take climate change seriously, are not taking steps to reduce emissions and will be an obstacle to reaching a new global agreement to stop climate change. In

reality, these countries are not only taking action to reduce their own emissions, but many of them are also playing a constructive role in the international climate negotiations. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

http://assets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_emerging_leaders_paper_web.pdf [PDF format, 15 pages].

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES ON ITS FIFTEENTH SESSION, HELD IN COPENHAGEN FROM 7 TO 19 DECEMBER 2009. U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change. March 30, 2010.

The full text is in English. Other languages, including Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian, and Spanish is expected.

<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/cop15/eng/11a01.pdf> In English [PDF format, 43 pages].

DOE CELEBRATES THE 40th Earth Day. [U.S. Department of Energy]. April 14, 2010.

On April 22, 2010, the United States celebrates the 40th anniversary of the founding of Earth Day, which marked the beginning of the modern environmental movement. DOE's theme for 2010 is "Earth Day, Every Day! Reducing DOE's Carbon Footprint."

<http://www.hss.energy.gov/nuclearsafety/env/earthday40.html> [HTML format, various paging].

http://www.hss.energy.gov/nuclearsafety/env/2010_earth_day.pdf Schedule of Events [PDF format, 1 page].

EARTH DAY 2010. Los Alamos National Laboratory. April 2010.

The Laboratory focuses on how people can sustain and improve the environment. The website provides "acts of green" done individually and organizationally.

<http://www.lanl.gov/environment/earthday/index.shtml> [HTML format with links].

EARTH DAY 2010: TAKE ACTION; COMMIT TO A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE. Federal Energy Management Program. April 2010.

The Federal Government has a responsibility to use energy wisely: to reduce fossil fuel use; purchase energy-efficient products from suppliers with a clear commitment to sustainability; choose domestically produced alternative fuels; and generate renewable energy resources. By taking concerted actions and making smart energy decisions to meet these goals, we will reduce greenhouse gases, save billions in energy costs, and create new jobs for America.

<http://www1.eere.energy.gov/femp/services/earthday.html> [HTML format, various paging].

EARTH DAY AND EPA HISTORY. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. April 2010.

It may be hard to imagine that before 1970, a factory could spew black clouds of toxic into the air or dump tons of toxic waste into a nearby stream, and that was perfectly legal. They could not be taken to court to stop it. How was that possible? Because there was no EPA, no Clean Air Act, no Clean Water Act. There were no legal or regulatory mechanisms to protect our environment. In December 1970, Congress authorized the creation of a new federal agency to tackle environmental issues, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

<http://www.epa.gov/earthday/history.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY AT NASA. National Aeronautics and Space Administration. April 2010.

NASA sees Earth Day as the annual celebration of the environment and a time to assess the work still needed to protect the natural gifts of our planet. It affirms that environmental awareness is part of our consciousness and that the idea of protecting the environment has moved into the mainstream.

<http://science.nasa.gov/earth-science/earth-day/> [HTML format with links].

GAYLORD NELSON AND EARTH DAY. The Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. April 2010.

Gaylord Nelson was a leading figure in the fight against environmental degradation and social injustice in the twentieth century. After his election to the Senate in 1962, Nelson discovered that Washington had no environmental political agenda. In 1969, his idea of “national day for the environment,” the first Earth Day on April 22, 1970, brought significant public pressure on Washington, D.C. to create a national environmental agenda. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://www.nelsonearthday.net/nelson/index.htm> [HTML format, various paging].

PRESIDENT OBAMA MARKS 40th ANNIVERSARY OF EARTH DAY. The White House. April 12, 2010.

President Obama speaks about forty years of Earth Day and his Administration’s efforts to fight for a healthier environment.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/photos-and-video/video/president-obama-marks-40th-anniversary-earth-day> [Video, 2:59].

RACHEL LOUISE CARSON: MOTHER OF THE MODERN ENVIRONMENTAL MOVEMENT. The Wilderness Society. 2010.

In 1962, Rachel Carson had a chilling vision. She saw a time when “On the mornings that had once throbbed with the dawn chorus of robins, catbirds, doves, wrens, and scores of other bird voices there was now no sound; only silence lay over the fields and woods and

marsh.” Carson took action based on her vision, starting the modern environmental movement. [Note: contains copyrighted material].

<http://earthday.wilderness.org/hero/carson.pdf> [PDF format, 1 page].

TIPS FOR GOING GREEN. The White House. April 2010.

The White House website, under Energy & Environment issue, offers ways to protect the planet’s air, water, and other natural resources for future generations.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/energy-and-environment/new-foundation/going-green> [HTML format with links].

**If you have any questions or want to reach the full text, please contact the
American Information Resource Center at 312-4577277.**
