



OFFICE OF RESILIENCE

2023 APRIL NEWSLETTER

HIGHLIGHTS

Palm Beach County Earth Day Proclamation

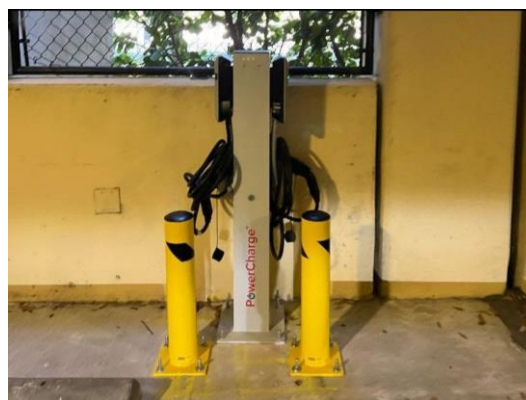
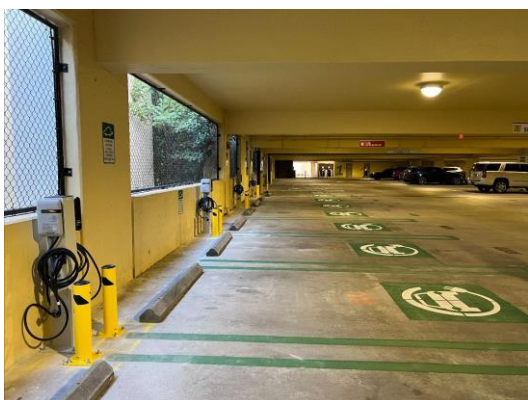


April 22 is a special day for environmental enthusiasts world-wide as it marks Earth Day, an annual event that celebrates and supports environmental protection. First held in 1970, Earth Day is now the largest secular observance event in the world, with over a billion people participating every year. This year's official theme for [Earth Day 2023](#) is "Invest in Our Planet," which highlights the urgent need to invest in sustainable practices and protect our planet's natural resources.

Palm Beach County (PBC)'s Board of County Commissioners (BCC) has declared April 22, 2023, as Earth Day!

Many County departments are hosting or participating in events to celebrate and raise awareness about environmental issues. See the 'Events' section below for ways to celebrate Earth Day in PBC!

PBC Installs EV Charging Stations at the PBC Convention Center



As of March 27, 2023, the PBC Office of Resilience (OOR) and Facilities Development & Operations Department have completed the next phase in PBC's electric vehicle (EV) charging pilot program. The [PBC Convention Center](#) in West Palm Beach, FL, now has 12 "Level 2" EV charging stations in its garage and is helping to make EV charging more available to community members. Guests and community members can use the EV stations whenever the lot is open, whether they are visiting the Convention Center or exploring the city. Charging rates will follow the surrounding market rate, and are currently set at \$0.40/ kWh.

Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce released its 2023 to 2025 Strategic Plan



[Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce](#) released its [Strategic Plan for 2023 to 2025](#). Developed in collaboration with Chamber Board of Directors, staff, and key stakeholders, the Plan focuses on economic development, advocacy, and member engagement. Notable strategies include expanding affordable housing supply, increasing equity and accessibility to essential infrastructure, and increasing community resilience

PBC Streamlines EV Charger Installation

On March 23, 2023, the PBC BCC voted to revise the Unified Land Development Code (ULDC) in response to the evolving EV market. PBC's Zoning Division, with support from OOR, presented revisions to streamline EV charging station installations. This new ULDC amendment revises the approval process to make it easier for those looking to install EV chargers, allowing for a more effortless transition as market supply and demand increase. By making this permit process easier, it helps PBC move closer to the goal of a more sustainable and environmentally friendly future.

PBC Presents at the South Florida Water Management District Resiliency Coordination Forum



On March 1, 2023, PBC's Chief Resiliency Officer, Megan Houston, and PBC's Water Resources Manager, Paul Linton, presented at the South Florida Water Management District [Resiliency Coordination Forum](#). They

focused on PBC climate change risk factors, including flooding and sea level rise, and impacts on the County's stormwater management systems, and the County's proactive approach to resiliency planning. They detailed the County's comprehensive resiliency efforts, which include conducting vulnerability assessments, mapping stormwater, improving drainage, and creating living shorelines. They also described the County's partnership with the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, a collaboration between four counties in South Florida to address climate change challenges. Thank you to the South Florida Water Management District's Dr. Carolina Maran for providing a valuable platform for sharing knowledge and best practices in resiliency planning and implementation! The next Forum meeting date is May 24, 2023.

OOR Welcomes New Resilience & Sustainability Analyst: Benjamin Delin



OOR is excited to welcome its newest member to Team PBC! **Benjamin Delin** is the new OOR Resilience & Sustainability Analyst. With a background in environmental conservation, non-profit work, and international research projects, Ben aims to increase awareness and further the goals of sustainability, environmentalism, resilience, and governance. He works to bring his experiences from other countries and organizations he has worked with, to approach sustainability and resilience from a different lens.

Benjamin holds an M.S. in Environmental Policy Design, with a focus on Urban Environmental Policy, and is finishing his thesis for his M.P.P in Public Policy with a focus on Political and Social Governance from Lehigh University. He also attended Muhlenberg College where he earned a B.A. in Sustainability Studies with a focus on International Environmental Policy and Environmental Ethics.

NEWS

[United Nations Finalize Text of International Ocean Treaty](#)

Over 190 countries have reached a historic deal to protect global ocean biodiversity by establishing a framework for creating new protected areas in international waters. United Nations diplomats finalized the treaty after years of negotiations. This treaty is a critical step forward in marine conservation. While the ocean makes up two-thirds of the Earth's surface, only 1.2% of the seas have current environmental protections in place. The treaty creates a mechanism for nations to designate marine protection areas in international waters for the first time, making it easier to achieve the 2020 U.N. Biodiversity Summit goal of protecting 1/3 of the Earth's lands and oceans by 2030.

EVENTS

[UF-IFAS Earth Day Webinars: Greening your South Florida Landscape](#)

Location: Virtual
Date: Friday, April 21, 2023, 10:00 AM- 12:00 PM.
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2023-earth-day-greening-your-south-florida-landscape-tickets-591524524777>

[Okeehetee Nature Center Earth Day Celebration](#)

Location: Okeehetee Nature Center, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33413
Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023, 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

[Earth Day at Daggerwing Nature Center](#)

Location: Daggerwing Nature Center, 11435 Park Access Rd., Boca Raton, FL 33498
Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023, 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM
Details: This special event will feature live animal encounters, interactive activities, butterfly plant sale, ladybug release, crafts and much more!

[Earth Day Activities at PBC Libraries](#)

Locations: Multiple PBC Library Branches
Dates: Multiple
Details: Programs are free, but pre-registration required for some programs. See individual programs for more details.

[Adventure Awaits Programs with the PBC Environmental Resources Management Dept.](#)

Locations: Multiple PBC Natural Areas
Dates: Multiple
Details: Programs are free, but registration is required. See individual events for more details.
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/pbc-dept-of-environmental-resources-mgmt-erm-11041382410>

Village of Wellington Earth Day & Arbor Day Celebration

Location: Wellington Town Center Promenade, 12150 Forest Hill Blvd, Wellington, FL 33414
Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023, 11:00 AM- 1:00 PM

BEE Kind to Our Planet Earth Day Celebration in Palm Beach Gardens

Location: Downtown Palm Beach Gardens, 11701 Lake Victoria Gardens Ave., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Date: Saturday, April 22, 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bee-kind-to-our-planet-earth-day-celebration-tickets-579555705717>

Cornell Art Museum Earth Day Celebration

Location: Cornell Art Museum, 51 N. Swinton Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444
Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023, 12:00 PM- 5:00 PM
Details: Visit the "World of WATER" exhibition and watch the film "Fish People" at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM by the PBC Surfrider Foundation.

Community Greening Tree Nursery Volunteer Day

Location: Community Greening Nursery (at the HabCenter), 22313 Boca Rio Road, Boca Raton, FL 33433
Date: Wednesday, May 3, 2023, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tree-nursery-volunteer-day-general-public-tickets-570738683767>

Earth Day Beach Cleanup & Brunch

Location: Highway A1A Delray Beach, FL. Please meet on the corner of Atlantic and A1A for the cleanup.
Date: Saturday, April 22, 2023, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/earth-day-beach-cleanup-brunch-registration-616480057447?aff=erelexpmlt>

LIFESTYLE

How to Celebrate Earth Day 2023 in Palm Beach County

As members of the PBC community, we have a responsibility to contribute to environmental conservation efforts and make a positive impact on our local ecosystems. There are numerous ways you can celebrate Earth Day and get involved in protecting the environment in PBC. Plant trees, clean up litter, reduce your carbon footprint, continue to learn about environmental issues, or get involved in environmental advocacy. As we celebrate PBC Earth Day 2023, with the theme of "Invest in Our Planet," let us renew our commitment to environmental conservation and take actions that will create a positive impact on our local ecosystems. By working together, we can contribute to a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for PBC and beyond. Check out the PBC Earth Day events below for ways to celebrate this weekend. Happy Earth Day!

READING & LISTENING

PODCASTS



[Tips and Tricks To Grow Your Garden in a Changing Climate](#)

By: Science Friday



[Hurricanes and Heatwaves- How Does Extreme Weather Affect Birds?](#)

By: The Science of Birds



[How Sharks Devoured My Career](#)

By: Overheard at National Geographic

BOOKS



[The Dragon Behind the Glass](#)

By: Emily Voigt



[Under a White Sky](#)

By: Elizabeth Kolbert

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS, SPEAKING EVENT REQUESTS, OR OTHER
FEEDBACK ?**

[Email us](#)

