



In partnership between
Dutchess County & Vassar College



EARTH DAY EVENT & VOLUNTEER FAIR

Saturday, April 18, 10:00am - 1:00pm
At the Vassar Barn
(50 Vassar Farm Lane, Poughkeepsie)

ACTIVITIES

Spin to win, take home seedlings and plants, create crafts, and much more.

COMMUNITY

Get involved in environmental initiatives and learn about volunteer opportunities!

CONSERVATION

Find out about local conservation programs and our natural resources.

ECOSYSTEMS

Familiarize yourself with pollinators, invasive species, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife!

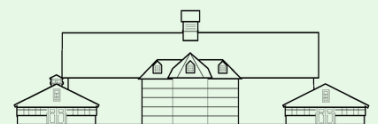
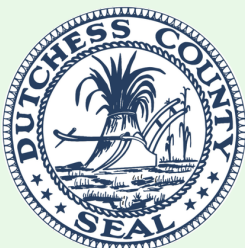
ENERGY

Learn about energy saving methods and alternative solutions.

SUSTAINABILITY

Discover sustainable practices, organics and creative repurposing ideas!

For more information and a list of all participating organizations, visit: dutchessny.gov/solidwaste



The Environmental Cooperative
at the Vassar Barns

2026 Earth Day Displays

ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL SUSTAINABILITY SCIENCE RESEARCH COURSE:

Make crafts out of riparian plants like willows and about the environmental projects this club is working on!

BIKE POUGHKEEPSIE & SPOKE:

Get a quick tune-up, information about biking, and more.

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF DUTCHESS COUNTY:

Learn how to save energy at home, about local climate change initiatives, and the No Child Left Inside.

CIDER MILL FRIENDS (KIMLIN CIDER MILL):

Discover the Kimlin Cider Mill, preserved by the Cider Mill Friends! You will also learn about their trails and native birds, apples and apple trees, their original cider press, and “Learn a skill at the Mill” volunteer opportunities at this local historic site!

CITY OF POUGHKEEPSIE:

The City of Poughkeepsie Sanitation and Recycling Coordinator will offer education on fighting recycling contamination and feature crafts, too!

CONSTITUTION MARSH AUDUBON CENTER AND SANCTUARY:

Learn about the Buttercup Farms Volunteer Program and the Young Professional Conservation Corps Volunteer Program for their 2026 field season! The table will feature an email signup sheet, the 2026 season schedule, upcoming habitat conservation work and educational programs, a Dutchess County bird-watching checklist, and a “Rooted in Action” interactive community display.

DUTCHESS COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT:

Find out about how to dispose of different materials, creative sustainability practices, and composting!

DUTCHESS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

See Dutchess County’s environmental planning and climate action work and the tools and resources available to help municipalities, landowners, and local organizations make environmentally sound land use decisions.

DUTCHESS COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COUNCIL:

Learn about what the EMC does and how communities can collaborate to protect our environment.

DUTCHESS COUNTY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION:

Grab a book and read up about the library programs and services in Dutchess County! People can sign up for or renew their library cards and there will be a play and reading lounge area (weather permitting) with activities for kids of all ages.

DUTCHESS LAND CONSERVANCY:

Spin to win their wheel for a prize while learning about this non-profit conservation organization dedicated to preserving the rural character, important resources and open lands of Dutchess County.

GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA:

Get information about sustainable fashion from local Girl Scouts and make your very own “passport” by visiting all the tables. Table displays will have stickers or stamps to add to your passport book!

HYDE PARK VISUAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE:

Learn about Hyde Park's environmentally conscious beautification initiatives that preserve its historic character, and how you can get involved! There will also be information on how to do soil blocking and take home your own seed cube, coloring pages, and crayons of bees and spotted lanternfly to take.

NORTHERN DUTCHESS BEE CLUB:

Discover honeybees and their importance, how you can help protect them, see a live beehive behind plexiglass, and taste different honey!

NYS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION:

Realize the impact of releasing balloons, and other single use plastic pollution, on the environment and discover sustainable alternatives.

POUGHKEEPSIE FARM PROJECT:

Find out about the Poughkeepsie Farm Project's volunteer opportunities, annual spring plant sale, and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) memberships!

RED HOOK HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB:

Learn about the school's sustainability initiatives, including their composting program in collaboration with a local farm, clothing and media swaps, a Zero Waste initiative with the cafeteria, and more!

REVIVE COLLEGE HILL PARK COALITION:

The Revive College Hill Park Coalition will have a children's craft, plants to give away, a collage of photos from the garden, and promotional information about their group.

SPACKENKILL HIGH SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB:

Get a glimpse of what overconsumption within the textile industry looks like and synthetics used in clothing. It will include both a "Mend It Station" in which volunteers teach simple sewing, darning, or button-fixing to extend garment lifespans, and a "Fabric Feel Test", which is a touch-and-feel display contrasting sustainable materials with synthetics, highlighting which materials release microplastics.

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION:

Learn about the Town of Poughkeepsie's CAC through their Natural Resource Inventory (NRI), Open Space Plan, the Town's food scrap recycling program, and more!

TOWN OF POUGHKEEPSIE CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE:

See their many sustainability initiatives including the Climate Adaptation Plan, Repair Cafes, volunteer opportunities, home electrification assistance to residents, textile recycling, and more! Emphasis will be on Climate Ready Hudson project and the opportunity for Town residents to participate in data collection.

VASSAR BARN:

Come explore the trails at the Preserve at Vassar through two guided nature walks, weather permitting!

VASSAR COMMUNITY GARDENS / WILD ONES MID-HUDSON VALLEY:

Wild Ones Mid-Hudson Valley promotes native plants to support our local ecosystems. Visit their table for family friendly activities and learn about plants, seeds and how they fly, and go home with a seed or two to plant for your future! Enjoy getting your hands in the dirt? Find out how you can volunteer with them, too.

WATERMAN BIRD CLUB:

Discover the many wonderful birds to be found in and around Dutchess County. There are games and activities for people of all ages to learn more. Members will be on hand to talk about some of the important conservation projects the club has been involved with, since its inception in 1958.