

The Gainesville Zero Waste News

Top Three Ways to Celebrate Earth Month

Earth month is an annual celebration of all the wonderful things we appreciate about our planet, and it's a great time for advocacy and making changes. But if you're feeling unsure just where to start, here are three actions you can take now that will help you show love for our earth all month long, and hopefully even beyond.

Befriend the soil – The literal earth under our feet could use a little TLC from us: tender loving compost! Active microbial life is the foundation of all life, but our modern practices of development and agriculture are rapidly depleting the organic matter content of our soil. How can you help? **Start a compost pile.** You'll not only help the soil, but you'll also stop having stinky trash. Contact our office – waste@gainesvillefl.gov – if you're unsure just how to start.



Befriend some pollinators – More than 1/3 of all the food we eat relies on pollinators – insects such as bees, butterflies, and so many more – and as their population numbers continue decreasing, it will put additional strain on our food systems. How can you help? Consider mow-free, pollinator-friendly zones in your yard. This could be a **dedicated pollinator garden**, with plants carrying a pollinator friendly (and hopefully native) designation, or it could just be an area you choose to leave wild for at least several months out of the year.

Befriend other people – Celebrating our planet shouldn't have to be a lonely venture! Between concerts, food fairs, special sales events, and public talks, there are plenty of opportunities to attend local **Earth Month** or **Earth Day** events. Everything is better when it's shared, so go out there, and share your love of our earth with a new friend.

Please consider following @ZeroWasteGNV on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to stay informed about all the nifty Earth Month events happening around town.

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