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## **Earth Day and Beyond..**

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> the environment takes center stage as Southwest Florida joins communities around the world to celebrate Earth Day. Founded in 1970, to call attention to deteriorating lands and unhealthy waters, the first Earth Day ignited a united call for action that spanned political and demographic boundaries. In prompt response, the United States established the Environmental Protection Agency and passed the first environmental laws including the National Environmental Education Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, and the Clean Air Act. The establishment of the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act followed. Today, **[Earth Day](#)** is widely recognized as the largest secular observance in the world, marked by more than a billion people every year as a day of action.

Growing Climate Solutions aims to make Earth Day consciousness part of a day-to-day, climate-friendly lifestyle through our programming and communications. The spring lineup includes Dr. Toms' Y&How talk about staying safe during high heat days on April 6<sup>th</sup>, and the final SWFL Climate Compass speaker, Ford Motor Company's Cynthia Williams on April 13<sup>th</sup>. On Saturday, April 23, there are Earth Day events at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida and in Cambier Park in Downtown Naples organized by the Collier Waterkeepers. We will continue our climate learning and activities with a Y&HOW Workshop on composting on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and a tree-planting event in mid-May in collaboration with Robbie's Trees. Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities. And there is more.... **[Read more \(2.0 minute read\)](#)**

**Register Now!**



**2022 SWFL  
Climate Compass  
Series**

***Last Speaker of  
the Season!  
April 13th  
4:00 pm***

**Ford Motor  
Company's  
Leading the  
Electrification  
Revolution**



***Global Director of  
Sustainability,  
Homologation and  
Compliance at Ford  
Motor Company***

## Living Greener

### Does Climate Change Stress You Out?



*By Bridget Washburn*

The benefits of engaging in climate-friendly activities may extend beyond supporting a healthier environment, according to an emerging sector of mental health

professionals known as “climate psychiatrists”. The field of climate psychiatry is new. But as media coverage of climate change and related natural disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, wildfire and flooding increase, and more people are directly impacted by these events, there is heightened public awareness and anxiety about the planet’s unstable conditions...

[Read More](#) (3 min read)

### The Relationship Between Climate and Justice

By Deneine Powell,  
Director of ecoAmerica's Path to Positive

We are watching the impacts of climate change unfold outside of our very windows. It is undeniable that the climate crisis is a threat to everyone's physical and mental health, air, water, food, and shelter. Yet, some socially and economically disadvantaged groups face the most significant risks because of where they live, their health, income, language barriers, and limited access to resources.

In the U.S., these more vulnerable communities and people consist primarily of:

[Read More](#) (1.5 minutes)

**The Coastal and Heartland  
National Estuary Partnership  
2022 Southwest Florida Climate Summit**



Join our Partner, CHNEP, for a public event to share knowledge, showcase climate action, engage leadership across sectors, and mobilize collaboration throughout Central & Southwest Florida. The event will be held in person and virtually.

[Learn more and register for this event.](#)

**April 7th & 8th**

**Partner Spotlight**

**Naples Compost: Turning Trash into Treasure**



Offering both commercial composting services as well as backyard compost consultations, [Naples Compost](#), a new Growing Climate Solutions Leadership Partner, provides simple solutions that can help prevent an estimated [20 percent compostable household waste](#) from winding up in landfills.

Composting “recycles” food and yard waste by supporting the biological decomposition of organic materials under aerobic conditions, essentially converting common food scraps, yard waste, paper coffee filters, and [some other surprising items](#) into nutrient-rich soil. Naples Compost facilitates this process by collecting approximately 22,150 pounds of waste every month from residential and commercial homes and businesses, weddings, and events and processing these materials at their industrial Naples-based compost facility.

As a commercial compost facility, Naples Compost uses chippers, grinders, and mixers to ensure that all items reach ideal composting conditions. Commercial facilities monitor and control moisture, airflow, and heat, raising compost temperatures to eliminate dangerous bacteria. Under these conditions, microbes function at optimum levels, allowing commercial operations to accept items like oil, meat, dairy, and some bioplastics that should not be composted at home. [Read More](#) (2 min.)

**Test Your Climate IQ!**

Breeze through this quick quiz - The most effective ways to reduce our carbon footprint will likely surprise you.

**TAKE THE CLIMATE QUIZ**

**CLIMATE NEWS...HEADLINES WORTH READING**

For the latest in climate news, stay informed with the stories below, from climate-related weather to policy, we have you covered.

[The Complex Formulas of Responsible Investing](#)

*Forbes*

[10 Steps You Can Take to Lower Your Carbon Footprint](#)

*Washington Post*

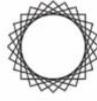
[Best Sustainable Shoes 2022](#)

*Rolling Stone*

[These Climate Scientists are Fed Up and ready to go on Strike](#)

*New York Times*

**COLLIER  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION™**



**Collaboratory™**



*Growing Climate Solutions*  
**Path to Positive™**  
Southwest Florida

