



QUEENS PUBLIC LIBRARY



Our Power, Our Planet

QPL celebrates Earth Month



Our Power, Our Planet

This April, join QPL as we observe Earth Month. From clean energy advocacy and pollution reduction to community-led conservation, the focus is clear: real change starts with people, communities, and everyday action.

Explore QPL's Earth Month offerings, including special programs, curated book lists, crafts, and events all month long. Learn more at queenslib.org/EarthMonth2026 or scan the QR code.

All programs will be held in-person unless otherwise noted.



FOR CHILDREN (Ages 0-5)

TOY SWAP STORYTIME & MUSIC

QPL and ShareParty—a nonprofit initiative promoting sustainable play—are teaming up for a joyful morning of toy swapping, live music, and storytelling. Bring a gently used toy, game, or book your child has outgrown and swap it for something new. This is a one-for-one exchange for children, ages 2 to 8. Items must be in good condition (no missing or broken parts). Stuffed animals and dolls will not be accepted. Limit 3 items per participant. All items will be inspected at the door. Participants are responsible for items that are turned away.

Monday, April 6, 11am
Ridgewood
20-12 Madison Street

Saturday, April 11, 2pm
Forest Hills
108-19 71 Avenue

Saturday, April 18, 10:15am
Hunters Point
47-40 Center Boulevard, Long Island City

Saturday, April 25, 10:30am
Glen Oaks
256-04 Union Turnpike

Thursday, April 30, 3pm
Rosedale
144-20 243 Street

LITTLE SPROUTS: EARTH MONTH ART & STORYTIME

In this hands-on early literacy program, children will listen to *Harlem Grown: How One Big Idea Transformed a Neighborhood* by Tony Hillery. Inspired by the story, participants will create their own artwork using garden-themed collage materials, recycled paper, glue, and tempera sticks. Through making and material exploration, children will reflect on community gardens in NYC and green spaces in their own neighborhoods. Each child will also take home a mini-planter and seed to grow their own little sprout.

Thursday, April 9, 2pm
Flushing
41-17 Main Street

Wednesday, April 22, 10:30am
Broadway
40-20 Broadway

Thursday, April 23, 12pm
Corona
38-23 104 Street

Thursday, April 23, 4pm
Lefferts
103-34 Lefferts Boulevard

Wednesday, April 29, 11am
Laurelton
134-26 225 Street

EARTH DAY: SCIENCE BABY PLAYSHOP

Explore the wonder of science through story, repetition and play. Early learners will explore big STEM concepts by breaking them down into small ideas and words. This program promotes family-centered learning for parents and caregivers. This program is funded by New York State Senator Joseph P. Addabbo, Jr.

Wednesdays, April 22, 29, 3:30pm
North Forest Park
98-27 Metropolitan Avenue, Forest Hills

EARTH MONTH: QPL PLAYDATE - GROWING READERS

Enjoy a fun-filled morning featuring a “Magical Garden Experience” from Urban Stages, hands-on activities, face painting with Party Colors, giveaways, and more. This program is supported in part by City’s First Readers - an Initiative of the New York City Council.

Schedule of events
 10:30am: Storytime
 11am: Playdate
 12pm: Magical Garden Experience
 by Urban Stages

Friday, April 24, 11am
Glendale
 78-60 73 Place

FOR CHILDREN (Ages 6-11)

**EARTH MONTH:
 UPCYCLING WORKSHOP**

Kids, ages 7-12, are invited to a creative upcycling workshop that turns scraps into something special. Using reclaimed fabrics and colorful embellishments, participants will design their own custom patch and learn basic hand-sewing skills to attach it to a tote bag. This hands-on class encourages creativity, sustainability, and confidence, showing young designers how small choices can help the planet while making something uniquely their own to express their style.

Friday, April 3, 3:30pm
South Hollis
 204-01 Hollis Avenue

Wednesday, April 22, 4pm
Ridgewood
 20-12 Madison Street

**NEW YORK RESTORATION
 PROJECT TREE
 GIVEAWAY**

NYRP's tree giveaway program is an annual spring event series where NYRP partners with community-based organizations across NYC to distribute free trees to residents.

Join here: bit.ly/4uMMVwO

Saturday, April 4, 9am
Hunters Point
 47-40 Center Boulevard, Long Island City

TABLETOP GREENHOUSES

Learn how greenhouses are built and why they are important for year-round food and plant production. Design and build your own functional tabletop greenhouse, add a plant inside, then take it home to watch it grow.

Saturday, April 4, 3pm
Jackson Heights
 35-51 81 Street

Friday, April 10, 4pm
Briarwood
 85-12 Main Street

Tuesday, April 14, 4:30pm
East Elmhurst
 95-06 Astoria Boulevard

Thursday, April 16, 4:30pm
South Jamaica
 108-41 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard

**RAINFOREST TERRARIUMS
 WITH QUEENS COUNTY
 FARM**

We'll dive into layers of rainforests and create our very own self-sustaining ecosystem in a jar. Space is limited. This program is funded by New York State Senator Toby Ann Stavisky.

Monday, April 6, 3:30pm
Glen Oaks
 256-04 Union Turnpike

Thursday, April 9, 3:30pm
South Ozone Park
 128-16 Rockaway Boulevard

Tuesday, April 21, 4pm
Queens Village
 94-11 217 Street

**UP, UP AND AWAY!
 DESIGN YOUR OWN
 TREEHOUSE**

Learn about tree houses and design your own tree dwelling structure.

Monday, April 6, 4pm
Long Island City
 37-44 21 Street

Tuesday, April 7, 1pm
Corona
 38-23 104 Street

Monday, April 13, 4pm
Far Rockaway
 1637 Central Avenue

NYC MAMMALS

Hear from Department of Environmental Conservation educators about the mammals that thrive in NYC by exploring real fur and replica skulls. This program



highlights the unique features that help these animals survive in an urban environment.

Tuesday, April 7, 4pm
Long Island City
 37-44 21 Street

Wednesday, April 8, 3pm
Douglaston/Little Neck
 249-01 Northern Boulevard

Wednesday, April 8, 3:30pm
Briarwood
 85-12 Main Street

Friday, April 10, 3pm
Glen Oaks
 256-04 Union Turnpike

Thursday, April 30, 6pm
Woodside
 54-22 Skillman Avenue

SPRING PATTERNS AND PRINTS WITH LEWIS LATIMER HOUSE MUSEUM

Celebrate nature blossoming and Earth Month as we explore printmaking and experiment with



Legos, layers, textures, and patterns to create collages. This program is funded by New York State Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi.

Wednesday, April 8, 3:30pm
North Forest Park
 98-27 Metropolitan Avenue, Forest Hills

INDOOR SPRING: LEARN, GROW AND TAKE HOME PLANTS

As spring arrives and the world turns green again, we will explore how to clone a plant, indoor bulbs and corms, wacky seed heads (microgreens), and spring herbs. Each session will include a takeaway, hands-on activity for participants to continue the fun at home! All children must be accompanied by a caregiver. First-come, first-served - maximum 15 children.

Wednesdays, April 8, 15, 22, 29, 4pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

PLANET VIBES ONLY: DESERT BIOMES WITH IDLEWILD ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Join Idlewild Environmental Center and learn about desert biomes. In this hands-on workshop, children will learn what deserts are, how plants and animals survive in extreme heat and why deserts are such unique ecosystems.

Thursday, April 9, 4pm
St. Albans
 191-05 Linden Boulevard

FANTASTIC FLOWERS WITH QUEENS BOTANICAL GARDEN

We will dissect flowers and learn about the function of each part before creating a floral-inspired suncatcher using our knowledge of flower color, shape and form. You will also get to take home a flower seed planting on your own. Supplies are limited. First-come, first-served. This program is funded by New York State Senator Michael Gianaris.

Friday, April 10, 3pm
Maspeth
 69-70 Grand Avenue

PLANET VIBES ONLY: ANIMAL LIFE CYCLES WITH IDLEWILD ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Join Idlewild Environmental Center and learn about animal life cycles. Discover how animals grow and change over time. In this interactive workshop, kids will learn about animal life cycles, from eggs and babies to fully grown animals, through fun discussions and hands-on activities.

Monday, April 13, 4pm
Poppenhusen
 121-23 14 Avenue, College Point

SUPER ZOOM WITH MS. BUTTERFLY

Join us for an interactive science and art experience where children explore pollinators through magnified observation and hands-on learning. Participants discover the importance of bees and butterflies, gain a new perspective on nature, and create a unique art piece to take home. Space is limited. First-come, first-served.

Monday, April 13, 4pm
Steinway
 21-45 31 Street, Astoria

Wednesday, April 15, 4pm
Fresh Meadows
 193-20 Horace Harding Expressway

Thursday, April 16, 4pm
Long Island City
 37-44 21 Street

Friday, April 17, 4pm
Langston Hughes
 100-01 Northern Boulevard, Corona

Saturday, April 18, 3pm
Glen Oaks
 256-04 Union Turnpike

Monday, April 20, 4pm
Howard Beach
 92-06 156 Avenue

Thursday, April 23, 3:30pm
Arverne
 312 Beach 54 Street

Friday, April 24, 3:30pm
Auburndale
 25-55 Francis Lewis Boulevard, Flushing

Monday, April 27, 3:30pm
Far Rockaway
 1637 Central Avenue

Tuesday, April 28, 4pm
Woodhaven
 85-41 Forest Parkway

HERB GARDEN MINI GREENHOUSES WITH QUEENS COUNTY FARM

Celebrate Earth Month with Queens County Farm Museum! Join us in creating a mini greenhouse that grows basil, cilantro, dill, and fennel. Space is limited. first-come, first-served. This program is funded by New York State Senator John Liu.

Tuesday, April 14, 3:30pm
Mitchell-Linden
 31-32 Union Street, Flushing

BIRD WATCHING 101

Explore your neighborhood or connect deeper with nature by learning the fundamentals of bird watching with educators from the

Department of Environmental Conservation. Participants will master how to use binoculars and understand bird field markings for easy identification.

Tuesday, April 14, 3:30pm
Sunnyside
 43-06 Greenpoint Avenue,
 Long Island City

Thursday, April 23, 6pm
Woodside
 54-22 Skillman Avenue

SATURDAY SCIENCE LAB - EARTH DAY

Participants will explore recycling, conservation, and Earth's natural resources through hands-on activities and discussions. This program inspires environmental responsibility and shows kids how small actions can make a big difference.

Saturday, April 18, 11am
Central Library
 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica

PLANET VIBES ONLY: ECO-FRIENDLY "ENVELOPE-ED" IN ART

This interactive session invites children to craft custom books using nothing but salvaged envelopes and collage remnants. It's more than a craft - it's a lesson in sustainable resourcefulness.

Wednesday, April 22, 3:30pm
Woodside
 54-22 Skillman Avenue

FOR TEENS (Ages 13-18)

INNOVATION STATIONS: EARTH MONTH: ECOPRINT & NATURAL DYE LAB

Participants experiment with plant-based dyes and eco-printing techniques using leaves, flowers, and natural pigments. Teens will learn how synthetic dyes pollute water systems and then explore safer, sustainable alternatives while creating one-of-a-kind textile designs to take home.

Friday, April 3, 3pm
Woodside
 54-22 Skillman Avenue

Monday, April 13, 20, 4pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Friday, April 17, 3:30pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

INNOVATION STATIONS: EARTH MONTH: SPECTACULAR SCIENCE - FARMSTEAD ON ROBLOX

Farmstead is a unique multiplayer farming experience. Start with a bare plot of land that you can develop into a fully operational farm with your friends. Farm a variety of crops, animals, and unique items. Decorate your farm with structures, decorations, gardens, and more.

Monday, April 6, 3:30pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Monday, April 6, 3:30pm
Ozone Park
 92-24 Rockaway Boulevard

Tuesday, April 7, 3:30pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28, 3:30pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

Monday, April 13, 3:30pm
Ozone Park
 92-24 Rockaway Boulevard

Friday, April 17, 3:30pm
Corona
 38-23 104 Street

Monday, April 27, 3:30pm
Woodhaven
 85-41 Forest Parkway



Thursday, April 30, 3:30pm
Woodhaven
 85-41 Forest Parkway

**INNOVATION STATIONS:
 EARTH MONTH:
 SPECTACULAR SCIENCE -
 SUSTAINABILITY IN
 MINECRAFT**

Players learn resource management and environmental awareness through popular Minecraft game modes. In Skyblock, players start with limited resources and strategically expand their world. One Block challenges them to survive in a minimalist environment, emphasizing resourcefulness and conservation.

Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 21, 3:30pm
Ridgewood
 20-12 Madison Street

Wednesday, April 8, 2pm
Queensbridge
 10-43 41 Avenue, Long Island City

Wednesdays, April 15, 22, 3:30pm
Woodhaven
 85-41 Forest Parkway

Wednesday, April 15, 3:30pm
Corona
 38-23 104 Street

**INNOVATION STATIONS:
 EARTH MONTH: CORAL
 COLLAPSE**

Participants learn how overfishing and ocean warming disrupt coral

reef ecosystems. Teens create textured coral forms using wire and yarn, visually representing the contrast between vibrant, healthy reefs and bleached, dying coral structures.

Wednesday, April 8, 3:30pm
Ridgewood
 20-12 Madison Street

Wednesday, April 15, 3pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Thursday, April 16, 4pm
East Flushing
 196-36 Northern Boulevard

**INNOVATION STATIONS:
 EARTH MONTH: GHOST
 NETS**

Teens will create sculptures inspired by “ghost nets,” abandoned fishing gear that continues to trap marine life. Through hands-on building, participants explore how industrial fishing harms ocean ecosystems and visualize the impact of pollution through fiber-based sculpture.

Friday, April 10, 3pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Saturday, April 11, 3pm
Bayside
 214-20 Northern Boulevard

Monday, April 27, 3:30pm
Ozone Park
 191-05 Linden Boulevard

Tuesday, April 28, 3:30pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

Wednesday, April 29, 3:30pm
Hunters Point
 47-40 Center Boulevard,
 Long Island City

**SPIRAL HERBAL GARDEN
 WITH MAZORCA
 COLECTIVA**

Join QPL and Mazorca Collectiva to learn how to design a unique, fun, and interactive garden. Young garden enthusiasts, ages 12 and up, will learn the fundamentals of planting with an emphasis on the caring of herbs and their benefits to human health.

Monday, April 13, 4pm
Queens Village
 94-11 217 Street

Tuesday, April 14, 4pm
Flushing
 41-17 Main Street

Wednesday, April 15, 4pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

Thursday, April 16, 4pm
Rosedale
 144-20 243 Street

Monday, April 20, 4pm
South Jamaica
 108-41 Guy R. Brewer Boulevard

Tuesday, April 21, 4pm
East Flushing
 196-36 Northern Boulevard

Friday, April 24, 3pm
North Hills
 57-04 Marathon Parkway,
 Little Neck

Wednesday, April 29, 3:30pm
South Hollis
 204-01 Hollis Avenue

**INNOVATION STATIONS:
 EARTH MONTH:
 UPCYCLED TOTE LAB**

Participants will transform old t-shirts into reusable tote bags using simple cutting, tying, and decorating techniques. Teens learn how fast fashion contributes to environmental harm—especially through polyester-based clothing that sheds microplastics into the ocean—and how upcycling can extend the life of garments. Each participant will leave with a functional, eco-friendly tote that reflects their personal style and supports sustainable choices.



Saturday, April 18, 2:30pm
Queensbridge
 10-43 41 Avenue, Long Island City

Thursdays, April 23, 30, 4pm
Central Library
 89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica

Friday, April 24, 3pm
Woodside
 54-22 Skillman Avenue

Thursday, April 30, 3:30pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

FOR ADULTS

**CITIZEN PREPAREDNESS
 CORPS: EMERGENCY
 PREPAREDNESS**

This program covers a broad range of emergency preparedness topics, like developing a family emergency plan, what to do in the case of an active shooter situation, stocking up on emergency supplies, and



registering for NY-Alert (the free statewide emergency alert system).

Monday, April 13, 2pm
Bay Terrace
 18-36 Bell Boulevard, Bayside

Tuesday, April 21, 4pm
Long Island City
 37-44 21 Street

Thursday, April 23, 5pm
Lefferts
 103-34 Lefferts Boulevard,
 Richmond Hill

**EARTH MONTH: CLIMATE
 READY**

This series will explore climate change and weather-related occurrences, and how they impact Queens communities. Learn about the health implications of climate change, how to prepare for environmental emergencies, and how laws and legislation are addressing climate change, and what you can do now to create a more climate-resilient Queens.

Wednesdays, April 15, 22, 29, 1pm
Long Island City
 37-44 21 Street

Thursdays, April 16, 23, 30, 6pm
Langston Hughes
 100-01 Northern Boulevard,
 Corona

Friday, April 17, 3pm
Poppenhusen
 121-23 14 Avenue, College Point

WALL ART WITH MOSS

Urban farmer and environmental educator Gil Lopez will show how to make a moss slurry, what sort of surfaces it can be applied to and how to care for moss on walls both in- and outdoors. This program is made possible by Queens Public Library Foundation, The Pickman Foundation, and our individual donors.

Thursday, April 16, 6pm
Peninsula
 92-25 Rockaway Beach Boulevard

**SPRING HERBS WITH
 SUSAN SPODEK**

In conjunction with Earth Day, we will learn how to upcycle used food containers as planters. Each attendee will receive an herb plant and a fresh cutting to grow at home. Space is limited to 20 participants.

Saturday, April 18, 2pm
Richmond Hill
 118-14 Hillside Avenue
 Register by phone: (718) 849-7150
 or in-person.

Wednesday, April 29, 12:30pm
Douglaston/Little Neck
 249-01 Northern Boulevard
 Register by phone: (718) 225-8414
 or in-person.

**INTRO TO GREEN ROOFS
 AND LIVING WALLS**

Urban gardener and environmental educator Gil Lopez will discuss

engineered systems and the materials required for a proper green roof as well as less intensive ways to create a rooftop or terrace container garden. This program is funded by New York City Council Member Shekar Krishnan.

Monday, April 20, 3:30pm
Elmhurst
 86-07 Broadway

**NATURE AS MEDICINE:
 STRESS, BURNOUT &
 RESILIENCE FOR
 COMMUNITY WELL-BEING
 (VIRTUAL)**

With presenter Aiyana Smith, LCSW, participants will learn simple nervous system regulation tools: breathing, grounding, and sensory practices, plus “micro-doses of nature” strategies that fit everyday urban life. You will receive a take-home resource sheet and a realistic plan.

Join here: queenslib.org/4r1gGX
 Meeting ID: 814 3959 4619
 Passcode: nature

Monday, April 20, 6pm

**FOOD FOR LIFE: HEALTHY
 BASICS: THE POWER OF
 YOUR PLATE (IN-PERSON
 & VIRTUAL)**

This class will provide health-promoting dietary strategies that are both budget-friendly and accessible. Participants will learn

about the connection between diet and diseases and easy-to-prepare plant-based recipes. A licensed instructor will provide a cooking demonstration of healthy dishes, along with handouts of recipes.

In-person

Tuesday, April 21, 11am

Central Library

89-11 Merrick Boulevard, Jamaica

Virtual

Thursday, April 23, 6pm

Join here: queenslib.org/3Kqx

Meeting ID: 828 4202 8833

Passcode: 148490

Participants should consult with their physicians before undertaking any exercise, nutrition or health-improvement program.

THE JOYS OF INSIDE GARDENING - CELEBRATING EARTH WEEK

Join urban farmer and environmental educator Gil Lopez for an instructive overview of indoor gardening as you learn about different types of plants to grow and how to grow them. This program is funded by New York City Council Member Shekar Krishnan.

Thursday, April 23, 6pm

Jackson Heights

35-51 81 Street

MICROGREENS WITH SUSIE SPODEK

Certified therapeutic horticulture practitioner Susie Spodek will lead this workshop on microgreens: herbs and vegetables harvested at their earliest stage of development - packed with intense flavor and concentrated nutrients. Learn how you can grow indoors even if you have limited space and light. Attendees will receive a biodegradable kit to take home. Space is limited to 20 participants. Spodek develops programs and activities designed to engage people with plants to promote better health and well-being. This program is funded by New York State Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi.

Please call or come into the library to sign up for this class.

Monday, April 27, 2pm

Bay Terrace

18-36 Bell Boulevard, Bayside

Choose Sustainability this Earth Month!

Residential waste makes up 35 percent of the total waste stream in NYC. Take this Earth Month to make greener choices about your waste and energy consumption.

Use this checklist to find some simple ways you can produce less waste, consume less energy and help support sustainability in New York City, starting right here at your library!

- Carry a reusable bag – it’s estimated that we use 4 trillion plastic bags each year. Plastic bags aren’t recyclable and take as long as 1,000 years to break down in a landfill.
- While you’re at it, add utensils and reusable water bottles to your daily routine. Make a plan to reduce reliance on single-use plastics.
- Choose minimally packaged items or buy in bulk.
- Compost your organic waste. Curbside composting is available citywide, including yard waste, greasy paper, and all food scraps. Over one third of NYC refuse sent to landfills by New Yorkers could be diverted through curbside composting.
- Buy clothes second-hand, participate in a local clothing swap, and donate or recycle unwanted textiles. Find a textile recycling site near you using the DSNY website.
- Buy household items like toys and furniture secondhand or find them for free through a local Buy Nothing

group. Join a toy swap this month at a QPL location near you to find a new-to-you toy and save your unwanted items from the landfill.

- Shop local at a Grow NYC greenmarket. Farmers Markets are a great way to reduce carbon emissions through shorter transport distances and minimal packaging.
- Make your next meal plant-based! Join a Food for Life program at QPL to learn how to prepare budget-friendly recipes that are healthy for you and the environment.
- Get prepared for extreme weather. Attend a Citizen Preparedness Corps workshop at QPL this Spring to learn how to pack a go bag, develop a family emergency plan, and check on vulnerable neighbors during storms or excessively hot or cold periods.
- Study up! Join a Climate Ready workshop at QPL to learn how climate change impacts our community and what you can do to create a more climate-resilient Queens.
- Make a plan for reducing summer energy costs. Switch to LED lightbulbs, invest in blackout curtains or tinted window film, and change AC filters regularly.
- Switch off power strips to reduce passive energy drain when appliances or electronics aren’t in use.
- Share your climate knowledge with others!



QUEENS PUBLIC LIBRARY

We speak your language.

OUR POWER, OUR PLANET

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