



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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What's growing on
at the Garden!

For Immediate Release

EARTH DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE BOTANICAL GARDEN, SHAW NATURE RESERVE, BUTTERFLY HOUSE AND EARTHWAYS CENTER

(ST. LOUIS): The Missouri Botanical Garden welcomes you to celebrate Earth Day this spring with “green” activities all week long at its family of attractions! Enjoy tours, entertainment and information on how you can positively affect planet Earth through events at the Missouri Botanical Garden in south St. Louis; the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House in Chesterfield; the EarthWays Center in mid-town; and the Shaw Nature Reserve in Gray Summit, Mo.

On Saturday, Apr. 24, the **Missouri Botanical Garden** will open its private greenhouses for public tours at 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. View an expansive range of orchids, a broad collection of aroids from around the world and more. Tours are available on a first-come, first-served basis to a limited number of guests; please meet at the ticket counter.

Stop by the upper level of the Ridgway Visitor Center from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. to visit with exhibitors from Earth Share of Missouri organizations, on hand to share information on keeping the planet healthy. Participants include The Nature Conservancy – Missouri Chapter, Missouri Parks Association, Wild Canid Center, Missouri Mycological Society, Center for Plant Conservation and the EarthWays Center Green Resources Answer Service. The River des Peres Watershed Coalition, in partnership with The Green Center, will demonstrate the use of a rain barrel for water conservation.

Outside on Spoehrer Plaza, enjoy toe-tapping bluegrass tunes performed live by The Barn Burners from 1 to 3 p.m.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis. Earth Day activities are included with general Garden admission of \$8; St. Louis City and County residents enjoy free admission on Saturday until noon and are \$4 thereafter. Garden members and children

(over)

ADD ONE: Earth Day

ages 12 and under are free. For general information, visit www.mobot.org or call the recorded event line at (314) 577-9400 or toll-free 1 (800) 642-8842.

The **Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House** in Chesterfield is “Buggin’ Out for Earth Day” with kid-friendly activities and crafts. Drop in to join the family fun on Saturday, Apr. 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Activities are included with Butterfly House admission of \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages three to 12. Garden members and children two and under are free.

The Butterfly House is located at 15193 Olive Blvd. in Faust Park. For more information, visit www.butterflyhouse.org or call (636) 530-0076.

One week prior on Saturday, Apr.17, visit the **Shaw Nature Reserve** to get in the Earth Day spirit with “Tale Travelers.” Children are encouraged to gather their family, walking shoes, water bottle and backpack for an adventure-filled, outdoor exploration of books and nature. Listen to nature stories, create cool crafts and hike the Reserve between 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event is designed for families with children ages three through 12. Cost is \$5 per person. Walk-ins are welcome, but advance reservations can be made at <http://www.shawnature.org/events/talettravelers.aspx>.

The Shaw Nature Reserve is located on the south side of Interstate 44 at exit #253 in Gray Summit, Mo. For more information, visit www.shawnature.org or call (636) 451-3512

The **EarthWays Center** also honors Earth Day the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, Apr. 17 and 18. Learn more about “Urban Renewal” with a guided tour of a century-old Victorian house, renovated to showcase energy-efficient materials, systems and practices that you can employ at your own residence. Explore the possibilities of recycling buildings and neighborhoods using the history of the EarthWays Center building and the Pulitzer Foundation for the Arts “Urban Alchemy” exhibition as models. Tours begin at 11 a.m., noon, 1 and 2 p.m.

The EarthWays Center is located at 3617 Grandel Square in mid-town St. Louis. Admission is \$3 for adults and free for children ages 12 and under. For more information, visit www.earthwayscenter.org or call (314) 577-0220.

Also this season, the Garden and its EarthWays Center division are again partnering with Emmis Communications for the Second Annual St. Louis Eco Expo, to be held at the Saint Louis Science Center on Saturday and Sunday, Apr. 10 and 11. Learn from local experts at the EarthWays Green Living Workshops—a new feature of Eco Expo—featuring solar and wind power, backyard chickens, home energy audits and much more! For more information on Eco Expo, visit www.slsc.org.

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NOTE: Digital images available by request. Download media materials at www.mobot.org/press.