



## Community Development Agency

Agricultural Commission  
Building  
Code and Cannabis Compliance

Environmental Health  
Planning  
Public Works

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### NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Memo

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**MEETING DATE:** April 14, 2026  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Trisha Tillotson, Director, Community Development Agency  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution supporting and proclaiming April 22, 2026 as Earth Day in Nevada County

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Accept the Resolution.

**FUNDING:** None

**BACKGROUND:** Earth Day is an annual event held on April 22 to demonstrate support for protecting our environment. The concept was launched by Senator Gaylord Nelson, a junior senator from Wisconsin, in response to the emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution. In partnership with a young activist, Denis Hayes, the Senator initiated the idea for teach-ins on college campuses with the goal of inspiring Americans to get involved.

The first official Earth Day event was held on April 22, 1970, and it inspired nearly 20 million Americans to take to the streets and unite against the impacts of numerous years of industrial development such as oil spills, loss of wilderness, wildlife extinction, and air pollution from factories and power plants.

Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, gaining support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, urban dwellers and farmers, business and labor leaders; all with the shared vision of basic protections for our planet to leave a healthier world for future generations.

Earth Day participation has expanded to over 1 billion people globally and now includes participation from nearly 200 countries. To this day, Earth Day encourages environmental activism and stewardship and reminds people to find ways to protect the environment; including ways to manage the impact on the community where they live such as planting trees, removing litter, conserving water and energy, supporting sustainable agriculture, and improved stewardship of our local food sources.

Earth Day is also an opportunity to learn from and build community with indigenous communities who have stewarded the land for generations and have great wisdom on preserving biodiversity.

For several communities, Earth Day extends into Earth Week to allow for a full week of events focused on protecting the local environment and increasing stewardship.

In the spirit of Earth Week, Nevada City hosts its annual Earth Fest Street Fair with Nevada County serving as an annual sponsor and participant in the event. The 5th Annual Earth Fest is scheduled for April 19, 2026, from 11am-3:30pm and will highlight booths from various Nevada County departments while also focusing on sustainability issues important for our rural community through selling organic

food from local farmers, promoting recycling through a fun-spirited fashion show, showcasing local eco-vendors, kid's activities, musical performances and much more.

In support of our Climate Resilience Objective, we are declaring April 22, 2026 as Earth Day in Nevada County to inspire our community to come together and elevate projects which "Safeguard Nevada County's economic durability, environmental integrity, and public health and safety by preparing for, adapting to, and mitigating changing climate conditions in a way that reflects our rural quality of life".

**Item Initiated by:** Mandy Stewart, Senior Management Analyst

**Approved by:** Trisha Tillotson, Director, Community Development Agency