



www.cep.unt.edu/earthday/earthl.gif

Conservation history & environmental activism occurred in 4 distinct phases.

- 1. Pragmatic resource conservation.**
- 2. Moral & aesthetic nature preservation.**
- 3. A growing concern about health & ecological damage caused by pollution.**
- 4. Global environmental citizenship.**

Date	Important Event / Person
1962	Rachel Carson's Silent Spring - Environmentalism
1964	Wilderness Act.
1969	Santa Barbara oil spill.
1970	NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act) Requires EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) for all major federal actions.
April 22nd	1st Earth Day –20 million people attend.
	President Nixon creates EPA (Environmental Protection Agency.)
	Nixon signs the Clean Air Act.
1972	Clean Water Act.
1973	ESA (Endangered Species Act)
1978	Love Canal Disaster – environmental justice.
1989	Exxon Valdez oil spill – Prince William Sound.
1992	Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro Brazil
1997	Kyoto Protocol adopted by U.S. & 121 other nations but is never ratified by Congress.



www.htw-dresden.de/.../Mauritius_92/maur15.jpg

British plant physiologist, Stephen Hales suggested that conserving green plants preserved rainfall. In 1764 on the Island of Mauritius, he ordered that $\frac{1}{4}$ of the island be preserved in forests, particularly on steep mountain slopes & along waterways. This still represents a successful example of balancing nature & human needs.



[www.theodoreroosevelt.org/
life/conservation.htm](http://www.theodoreroosevelt.org/life/conservation.htm)



www.etsu.edu/.../Ch20GiffordPinchot.jpg

In 1905 Theodore Roosevelt & his chief conservation advisor, Gifford Pinchot established the framework of our nations forest, park, & wildlife refuge systems, passed game protection laws & tried to stop some of the most flagrant abuses of the public domain.

Pinchot, a forester, put resource management on an honest, rational & scientific basis for the 1st time in our history.

Utilitarian conservation

The forests should be saved “not because they are beautiful or because they shelter wild creatures of the wilderness, but only to provide homes & jobs for people” Resources should be used “for the greatest good, for the greatest number for the longest time.”



John Muir with Theodore Roosevelt on Glacier Point in Yosemite

Muir believed in **Biocentric preservation** – nature deserves to exist for its own sake. Why ought man to value himself as more than an infinitely small unit of the one great unit of creation?

Sierra Club's first president

Inspired public support for establishment of Yosemite National Park in 1890 and expansion of the park in 1905.

Due to his influence & hard work, the **National Park Service was established in 1916.**

http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://www.americaslibrary.gov/assets/jb/recon/jb_recon_muir_1_m.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.americaslibrary.gov/cgi-bin/page.cgi/jb/recon/muir_1&h=200&w=200&sz=40&tbnid=Olh6oe4BlpwJ:&tbnh=99&tbnw=99&start=5&prev=/images%3Fq%3DJohn%2BMuir%26h1%3Den%26lr%3D%26ie%3DUTF-8%26sa%3DG



In 1892 Muir wrote “Let us do something to make the mountains glad”. He accomplished this by founding the Sierra Club. Throughout his life he was concerned with the protection of nature both for the spiritual advancement of humans and “for nature itself”. “When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything in the universe”.



[www.nwhp.org/.../
carson/images/carson.jpg](http://www.nwhp.org/.../carson/images/carson.jpg)

In 1962 Rachel Carson's pioneering and meticulously researched exposé, *Silent Spring*, identified the devastating and irrevocable hazards of DDT, one of the most powerful pesticides the world had known.

This disclosure helped set the stage for the environmental movement of the late 20th century. The book's publication caused a firestorm of controversy. The movement she began is called **environmentalism** because its concerns include both environmental resources & pollution.

Santa Barbara's 1969 Oil Spill

<http://www.silcom.com/~sbwcn/spill.shtml>

On the afternoon of January 29, 1969, an environmental nightmare began in Santa Barbara, California.



Aftermath

In the spring following the oil spill, Earth Day was born nationwide. Many consider the publicity surrounding the oil spill a major impetus to the environmental movement.

Fred L. Hartley, president of Union Oil Co.:

"I don't like to call it a disaster," because there has been no loss of human life.

"I am amazed at the publicity for the loss of a few birds."

Santa Barbara NewsPress Editor Thomas Storke:

"Never in my long lifetime have I ever seen such an aroused populace at the grassroots level. This oil pollution has done something I have never seen before in Santa Barbara – it has united citizens of all political persuasions in a truly nonpartisan cause."





www.earthteam.net/images/David_Brower.gif

David Brower successfully fought to keep dams out of the Grand Canyon.

He introduced many techniques of modern environmentalism including litigation, intervention in regulatory hearings, book & calendar publishing, & using mass media for publicity campaigns.



"Conservation is a pipe-dream as long as *Homo sapiens* is cast in the role of conqueror, and his land in the role of slave and servant. Conservation becomes possible when man assumes the role of citizen in a community of which soils and waters, plants and animals are fellow members, each dependent on the others, and each entitled to his place in the sun".

-Aldo Leopold

He is best known for the *Sand County Almanac*, a collection of essays about the land and man's relationship to it.



HENRY DAVID THOREAU
(1817-1862)

"I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to confront only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived."

Wrote "Walden" about his experiences living in the woods. "

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/ihas/poet/thoreau.html>

[environmental history interactive](#)

There is no away.



Reduce, reuse,
recycle.

WE SHOULD
LEAVE THE
EARTH AS GOOD
AS WE FOUND IT;
IF NOT BETTER

WE CANNOT
HAVE A TRULY
HEALTHY
ECONOMY IN A
SICK
ENVIRONMENT.

USE RENEWABLE
RESOURCES NO
FASTER THAN
THEY'RE
REPLENISHED BY
NATURAL PROCESSES.

EVERYONE IS
DOWNWIND OR
DOWNSTREAM
FROM
EVERYBODY.

THINK
GLOBALLY, ACT
LOCALLY

THERE IS NO WASTE IN FUNCTIONING BIOLOGICAL
COMMUNITIES.

EVERYTHING WE HAVE COMES FROM THE SUN & THE
EARTH: THE EARTH CAN GET ALONG WITHOUT US, BUT WE
CAN'T GET ALONG WITHOUT THE EARTH.