

April 28, 2020

Greetings Memory Café Friends,

We miss you! With Gov. Evers' Safer At Home order in effect until May 26th, we have cancelled our May Memory Cafés. Your health and well being are very important to us. Even though we miss your smiles, voices, and laughter, we want you to stay home and stay safe. We look forward to a time when we can all be together again at our Cafés. Until then, we will continue to reach out to you via emails and letters.

As you may know, April 22nd was Earth Day and we thought this would be a good time to share some fun earth and environmental resources with you.

First, some interesting facts about Earth Day:

- It was created by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson.
- The first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970.
- 20 million people participated in the first Earth Day.
- The first Earth Day was so successful that the Environmental Protection Agency was created later that year.
- In 1990 Earth Day became a global event.
- It is known internationally as "International Mother Earth Day".

More information about the history of Earth Day can be found on the History Channel's webpage here: <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/earth-day>. We highly recommend scrolling all the way to "Our Changing Views of Earth from Space". If you click on the image of Earth you can scroll through a series of fascinating photos taken by astronauts and satellites including pictures of a volcano eruption, a super typhoon, 9/11 and even the recent wildfires in Australia.

We know we have a lot of gardeners that attend our Memory Cafés. Have you ever considered fertilizing your garden with your own compost? [Good Housekeeping](#) has a great guide for starting your own compost at home. You can access it by clicking on the magazine title.

[Polar Extremes](#) is a new 2 hour NOVA special that "takes us on an epic adventure through time at the polar extremes of our planet". Paleontologist Kirk Johnson "uncovers the bizarre history of the poles, from miles-high ice sheets to warm polar forests teeming with life." You can watch the entire documentary by clicking on the title.

Finally, we can all work on improving our efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle. Below are links to your local county recycling websites filled with a lot of practical information. If your local recycling information is not included, let us know and we will get that information to you.

[Jefferson County](#)
[Racine County](#)
[Washington County](#)
[Waukesha County](#)

We hope you enjoy these Earth Day resources. After looking at some of them, think about the following questions:

What steps have I already taken to reduce, reuse and recycle?
Have you ever participated in an Earth Day project? If so, which one(s)?
What do you think about composting? Is it something you would like to try?
If you were a paleontologist (a scientist who studies the history of life on Earth through the fossils) is there a specific region in the world you would like to examine? The arctic poles? The desert? Greece? Asia?

We want to make sure you are aware of some great online resources from the Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute specific to COVID-19. Click [here](#) for information on hot-lines, podcasts and websites for persons with dementia and their care-givers during this pandemic.

From your Library Memory Project friends from surrounding public libraries.

Stay healthy and we hope to see you soon!