

For immediate release: Earth Day Sacramento 2020

Local climate activists announce plans for the week of Earth Day, in accordance with social distancing requirements:

Activists of all ages in the Sacramento region have organized street art, a fundraiser, and live online events for the dates of April 22-24. The City of Sacramento is aiding with virtual programming. Money from the fundraiser will benefit the Services Not Sweeps Coalition.

Please see below for logistics and contact information, followed by quotes from leaders of the different climate justice groups involved in these efforts.

Earth Day — the biggest day of the year for climate and environmental justice demonstrations — is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Unfortunately, just as the spread of coronavirus has disrupted work, school and social gatherings, the pandemic has forced the cancellation of mass gatherings for Earth Day in Sacramento and [across the nation](#).

Locally, the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) has canceled Sacramento Earth Day, the organization's annual celebration in Southside Park normally slated for the Sunday closest to Earth Day. The festival started in 2006 and typically raises 15 percent of the group's annual budget. The Sacramento chapters of March for Science and Fridays for Future will not hold their planned climate strike. Earth Day events by ECOS and March for Science draw thousands of participants on average.

As a movement based on science, we take recommendations from public health professionals seriously. Evidence shows that [social distancing works](#) to slow the spread of coronavirus. We are proud of our quick adaptation to current circumstances, and pleased to offer impactful programming for such a historic day.

Organization contacts (alphabetical order by org):

- **350 Sacramento**: Laurie Litman, 916-284-1627, llitman@pacbell.net; Kate Wilkins, 916-833-0918, kate.wilkins@350sacramento.org
- **Democratic Socialists of America, Sacramento**: Gina Patterson, 916-621-8412, pnw916@gmail.com, Logan Dreher, 240-678-8129; logan.s.dreher@gmail.com
- **Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS)**: Alexandra Reagan, Director of Operations, 916-765-4977, office@ecosacramento.net
- **Fridays for Future Sacramento**: [Supriya Patel](#), Lead Youth Organizer, 916-291-3848, fridaysforfuturesac@gmail.com
- **March for Science**: Wes Samms, Lead Organizer / CEO 214-773-8848, info@marchforsciencesacramento.com
- **Sacramento Climate Coalition**: Chris Brown, 916-384-7476, info@sacclimate.org
- **Sierra Club Motherlode Chapter** (includes Sacramento Group): Dyane Osorio, dyane.osorio@sierraclub.org; Marko Pavlovic, vatropav@protonmail.com; sacramentosierraclub@gmail.com
- **Solar Rights Alliance - Sacramento**: Lee Miller, 916.896.5688, Zakboy714@gmail.com

- **Sunrise Movement Sacramento:** Moiz Mir, moizmir123@gmail.com; Logan Dreher, 240-678-8129; logan.s.dreher@gmail.com

Earth Week event details and additional contacts:

Wednesday, April 22 (Earth Day): Climate Chalk-out

- Members of the Sacramento chapters of youth-led organizations Sunrise Movement and Fridays for Future are leading a “chalk-out” at, where participants will decorate sidewalks with chalk art to raise awareness around the climate crisis.
- Sacramento chalk art locations include but are not limited to: The California Capitol Building, Sacramento City Hall, Downtown Commons, K and 20th Street
 - Times: Sunrise, noon, and evening (6:30 AM, 12:00 PM, and 5:30 PM respectively)
- Folsom locations: Raley's (East Natomas), Target, Palladio/Whole Foods, Costco, Safeway (Prairie City Rd), Sam's Club, and City Hall.
 - Time: All chalking to start at 6:30 a.m.
- Other locations: Chalk art is slated to appear in Sacramento, Folsom, Rocklin, and potentially other Sacramento suburbs.
 - Time: All locations will chalk at 6:30 a.m. Some may chalk at additional times.
- People interested in chalking may sign up at: tinyurl.com/ChalkOut2020
- Contact: Hannah Karsting, 916-220-6031, hannahlk49@gmail.com; Caroline Cochrane, 916-342-8129, ccochrane2003@gmail.com; Mikayla Taylor, (916) 599-5839, mkotaylor@gmail.com

Thursday, April 23: Fundraising for coronavirus aid efforts

- In recognition of the challenges facing the Sacramento community as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, local climate justice organizations will raise money through an online silent auction, virtual ‘tip jars’, and other calls for donations. All proceeds will go to the Services Not Sweeps Coalition, members of which include Loaves and Fishes, Sacramento Food Bank, and the Poor People’s Campaign.
- Contact: Chris Brown, 916-384-7476, info@sacclimate.org

Friday, April 24: Earth Day Live Sacramento

- Environmental orgs, in partnership with a variety of local organizations, businesses, artists, and public figures, will put on a 12-hour-long livestream from 12pm to 12am on April 24th. This event will be centered around the twin crises of climate change and COVID-19. It will provide education, political engagement, entertainment, and community-based responses to the anxiety caused by the coronavirus.
- The livestream will include virtual townhall featuring Q&A sessions with local leaders, including Councilmember-elect Katie Valenzuela, slated for around 4-7pm.
- Details on how to watch the livestream will be released by 4/22. Learn more here: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/earth-day-live-sacramento>
- Contact: Alex DeNuzzo, 916-694-7632, awesomenuzzo@gmail.com

Quotes/additional info from movement leaders (alphabetical order by organization name, starts below):

350 Sacramento

“This is truly a surreal time and we’re all trying to process what it means, for now, for the future, for ourselves and our loved ones, for those most vulnerable. I am all out of words of wisdom. I just know that the climate crisis isn’t stopping for a mere global pandemic, although it’s hard to focus on non-immediate threats right now, and that it’s more important than ever that we work toward our vision of a ‘world with a safe climate, where nature is respected and protected, and our social, political, and economic systems work for all people and the planet.’”

- Laurie Litman, President, 350 Sacramento

Contact name: Kate Wilkins, Board Member

Contact Number: (916) 833-0918

Contact Email: kate.wilkins@350sacramento.org



Democratic Socialists Of America Sacramento

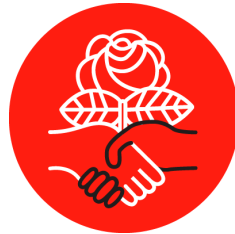
“Sac DSA supports the Earth Day Actions because all people, rich or poor, have the right to live on a healthy planet. We must remind our elected officials that the health of the Earth is tied to the health of people everywhere.”

- Gina Patterson, organizer

Contact Name: Gina Patterson

Contact Number: 916-621-8412

Contact Email: pnw916@gmail.com



ECOS

(with member organizations 350 Sacramento, Sierra Club Sacramento Group)

“We recognize this is a difficult time to begin new initiatives, but with both the pandemic and climate crises, time is not on our side. The pandemic crisis is short-term and immediate, but while the impacts of climate change are gradual, they are more enduring. Therefore, ‘an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.’ We must move forward with climate action and do what is required to avoid a threat whose scope has no historic parallel; to do not as little, but as much as possible.”

- Ralph Propper, ECOS; Laurie Litman, 350 Sacramento; Barbara Leary, Sierra Club Sacramento Group

<https://www.ecosacramento.net/2020/04/initiation-of-sacramento-county-action-plan/>



ECOS
ENVIRONMENTAL
♦ COUNCIL ♦
OF SACRAMENTO

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) has been organizing Sacramento Earth Day since 2006. Beginning in the early 1970s, residents of Sacramento and Davis attended Earth Day events held in Davis, California. Kathy Reis started organizing Earth Day events in Sacramento with volunteers in 1990 and onward. The Sierra Club took over the management of the main Sacramento Earth Day event in 2000. The Environmental Council



**SIERRA
CLUB**

of Sacramento (ECOS) co-hosted Sacramento Earth Day with the Sierra Club until 2006, when the Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) became the official organizer.

Contact Name Alexandra Reagan
Contact Number 916-765-4977
Contact Email office@ecosacramento.net

Fridays For Future Sacramento

“My generation has grown up with the threat of an ecological breakdown constantly looming above our heads. We know that as youth, we will live to see the worst effects of the climate crisis. This Earth Day, we’re demanding that our elected officials have the courage to prioritize our lives over fossil fuel money.”

- Supriya Patel, organizer with Fridays For Future Sacramento



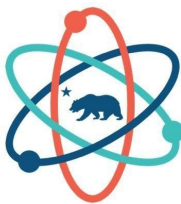
Fridays For Future Sacramento, a local youth-led climate group, was initially planning to hold Sacramento's largest ever climate strike on Earth Day, during which demonstrators would call for systemic action on the climate crisis. However, because health concerns presented by COVID have left organizers unable to physically mobilize, the group now is helping plan a 12-hour livestream that focuses on the intersection between climate and COVID. In addition, they plan to participate in a climate chalk-out that aims to call for climate justice and economic justice amid this global pandemic.

Contact Name: Supriya Patel, Lead Youth Organizer
Contact Number: 916-291-3848
Contact Email: fridaysforfuturesac@gmail.com

March For Science Sacramento

“There has never been a more critical time to be listening to scientists. The federal government was too slow to heed the warnings of epidemiologists, and its failure to act quickly has allowed the virus to sicken and kill exponentially more people. We should apply this lesson to climate change. Believe science and act fast.”

- Wes Samms, Lead Organizer / CEO, March For Science Sacramento



March for Science Sacramento has held major Earth Day rallies in Sacramento each year since 2017. They are the fiscal sponsor for the youth-led project Fridays for Future Sacramento. They are responsible for fundraising and logistical support for Earth Day events.

Contact Name: Wes Samms, Lead Organizer / CEO
Contact Number: 214-773-8848
Contact Email: info@marchforsciencesacramento.com

Sacramento Climate Coalition

“The Sacramento Climate Coalition has participated in Earth Day since our founding. We were looking forward to the three day Climate Strike to raise the Climate Emergency



message, and demand our political leaders take action before this crisis gets worse. The recent shift to digital platforms and social distancing is reducing our carbon emissions around the world. However, the COVID crisis shows that the human costs of waiting to the last minute are enormous and much worse than planning ahead and working proactively to fend off an emergency. We need to learn from these days that we need to care for people in ways that care for our environment at the same time.”

- Chris Brown, Organizer, Sacramento Climate Coalition

Contact Name: Chris Brown, Organizer

Contact Number: 916-384-7476

Contact Email: info@sacclimate.org

Solar Rights Alliance Sacramento

“This Earth Day, our local, state and national leaders should do more to empower our community to harness the awesome power of the sun to fight climate change, reduce pollution and help people cut their energy bills. Rooftop solar and battery storage is the ultimate win-win for the people and the planet. Unfortunately, utilities across California are working to make it harder and more expensive for people to do the right thing by choosing solar energy. With one million solar rooftops across California, it is clear the people are ready to lead. Are our leaders ready to get out front and take it to the next level?”

- Lee Miller, organizer

Contact Name Lee Miller

Contact Number 916-896-5688

Contact Email Zakboy714@gmail.com



Sunrise Movement Sacramento

"Crises that threaten our health, our homes, and our families are only going to get more common as our climate changes. COVID-19 has proven that its possible to disrupt business as usual and change everything about our way of life. With our response to this pandemic, we have an unprecedented opportunity to build a society that takes care of all its people, and puts our future over profit. Now more than ever, we need a Green New Deal."

- Logan Dreher, local coordinator with Sunrise Movement Sacramento

Contact Name: Logan Dreher

Contact Number: 240-678-8129

Contact Email: logan.s.dreher@gmail.com

