



# MEDIA RELEASE

OFFICE OF COUNTY MAYOR GLENN JACOBS

400 Main Street, Suite 615, Knoxville, TN 37902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 20, 2020

## **Knox County Stormwater Celebrates Earth Day All Week**

*Knoxville, Tennessee*—Knox County Stormwater is celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Earth Day, which occurs on April 22, with a week’s worth of activities to help people get outside exploring nature in their own backyards and connecting with our planet. This week-long celebration focusing on the five senses is virtual and can be found on the Knox County Stormwater Facebook page over the next five days.

“I think it will be nice to focus on getting people into nature during this crazy time,” said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. “These are activities that can be done in your own backyard or a county park without violating physical distancing guidelines.”

The schedule for the week is as follows:

- Monday, April 20: Nature journaling can be a great tool for more closely observing and investigating natural details often taken for granted. Focusing on SIGHT, participants will take a closer look at the things they see every day.
- Tuesday, April 21: Participants will focus on TOUCH by feeling the differences in leaf types and flower petals. Instructions for leaf pressing will also be shared.
- Wednesday, April 22: The official Earth Day is a great time to go outside and listen. Participants will receive instructions for making a sound map to map out what they HEAR.
- Thursday, April 23: Nature offers up a wide variety of scents. By beginning with some simple breathwork exercises, participants will get more in tune with the nature around them and discover by SMELL what surrounds them.
- Friday, April 24: The environment provides many edible plants. To highlight TASTE, participants will learn how to identify and incorporate native weeds—such as wild onion and dandelion greens—to use in their own culinary kitchen adventures. They will also hear tips for container gardening.

The first Earth Day was launched in 1970 to draw attention to the pollution effecting our environment, including smog and sewage-filled waterways and led to the establishment of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Clean Water Act.

For more information on these environmental activities, please contact Natalie Landry at [Natalie.landry@knoxcounty.org](mailto:Natalie.landry@knoxcounty.org).

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