



Have you ever wanted to run a sustainability campaign or competition and theme it around an international day of note such as World Environment Day but never known what was on and when? The GreenSkyThinking sustainability diary can help you.

FEBRUARY 2010

Date	Event	More information
2 February	World Wetlands Day	<p>Healthy Wetlands, Healthy People</p> <p>What is World Wetlands Day? The 2nd of February each year is World Wetlands Day. It marks the date of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands on 2 February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea. WWD was celebrated for the first time in 1997 and made an encouraging beginning.</p> <p>Each year, government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and groups of citizens at all levels of the community have taken advantage of the opportunity to undertake actions aimed at raising public awareness of wetland values and benefits in general and the Ramsar Convention in particular.</p> <p>From 1997 onwards, the Convention's Web site has posted reports from more than 90 countries of WWD activities of all sizes and shapes, from lectures and seminars, nature walks, children's art contests, sampan races, and community clean-up days, to radio and television interviews and letters to newspapers, to the launch of new wetland policies, new Ramsar sites, and new programs at the national level.</p> <p>The theme for 2010 is Caring for wetlands – an answer to climate change (source: RAMSAR)</p> <p>Find out more www.ramsar.org/cda/ramsar/display/main/main.jsp?zn=ramsar&cp=1-63-78^24106_4000_0</p>

MARCH 2010

Date	Event	More information
20 March	Earth Day	<p>Celebrate our home Earth Day was first celebrated on the March equinox, 21 Mar 1970 in San Francisco. This date is now the less celebrated event in the environmental calendar, with World Earth Day on 22 April being the more internationally recognised day.</p> <p>"EARTH DAY uses one of humanity's great discoveries, the discovery of anniversaries by which, throughout time, human beings have kept their sorrows and their joys, their victories, their revelations and their obligations alive, for re-celebration and re-dedication another year, another decade, another century, another eon. EARTH DAY reminds the people of the world of the need for continuing care, which is vital to Earth's safety. (source: earthsite)</p> <p>Find out more www.earthsite.org</p>
22 March	World Day for Water	<p>Can't survive without it The theme for 2010 is Communicating water quality challenges and opportunities. The United Nations General Assembly designated 22 March of each year as the World Day for Water.</p> <p>World Water Day is pivotal to focusing attention on the need, among others, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • address the problems relating to drinking water supply; • increase public awareness on the importance of conservation, preservation, and protection of water resources and drinking water supply; and • increase governments, international agencies, non-governmental organisations, and private sector participation and cooperation in the organisation of WWD celebrations. <p>(source: World Water Day)</p> <p>Find out more www.worldwaterday.org</p>
27 March	Earth Hour	<p>Don't get left in the dark. Earth hour for 2010 is on Saturday March 27 at 8.30pm.</p>

		<p>Earth Hour is symbolic event where people around the world are encouraged to turn off their lights for one hour to show support for action on climate change. Millions of people around the globe turning off our lights together demonstrates that individual efforts, when taken together, add up make a big difference and can be as easy as a flick of a switch.</p> <p>Earth Hour is a WWF event and it began in Sydney, Australia in 2007. It was such a huge success that in 2008, WWF decided to make Earth Hour a global event and its been growing ever since.</p> <p>(source: earthhour.org)</p> <p>Find out more www.earthhour.org</p>
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APRIL 2010

Date	Event	More information
7 April	World Health Day	<p>2010 – urbanization and health World Health Day 2010 will focus on urbanization and health. With the campaign "1000 cities - 1000 lives", events will be organized worldwide calling on cities to open up streets for health activities.</p> <p>Each year on April 7th, the world celebrates World Health Day. On this day around the globe, thousands of events mark the importance of health for productive and happy lives. <i>(source: World Health Organization)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.un.org/Depts/dhl/health and www.who.int/world-health-day/en/</p>
22 April	World Earth Day	<p>We've only one planet, be gentle with it The more widely recognised earth day also originates from the USA in 1970. This year is the 40th anniversary of Earth Day</p> <p>Earth Day is now widely celebrated around the world, as a collective expression of public will to create a sustainable society. Linking citizen activists, Earth Day educates and mobilizes people worldwide for environmental protection. It inspires action on personal, community, national, and international levels.</p> <p>Earth Day events and programs rekindle public commitment and involve participation from across social sectors. Countries, citizen groups, local governments, businesses, neighbourhoods, schools, universities, and faith-based groups participate. Individual and collective choices are catalyzed that reflect environmental values and broaden public support for more sweeping changes.</p> <p>Earth Day has become an annual event in many communities around the world. It is a great opportunity to bring people together for the common good. Often it launches projects that bring ongoing benefits to the community, and it helps expand and strengthen networks of community groups. Many people who have organized Earth Day events also find that their investment of time and resources yields important benefits to their organization's efforts and goals. <i>(source: Earthday)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.earthday.net</p>

JUNE 2010

Date	Event	More information
30 May – 5 June	Canadian Environment Week	<p>National treasures Protecting Canada's natural environment reaps a world of benefits for Canadians, from strengthening the economy to enhancing health and quality of life.</p> <p>Canadian Environment Week is the perfect time to celebrate our achievements and initiatives in tackling climate change and reducing air pollution (source: Environment Canada)</p> <p>Find out more http://www.ec.gc.ca/sce-cew/default.asp?lang=En&n=69DF79A5-1</p>
30 May – 5 June	Commuter Challenge	<p>Can you car-less? The Commuter Challenge is a nationwide event that promotes friendly competition among organizations and cities to see who can get the highest percentage of employees out of single occupancy vehicles and into healthier and cleaner modes of commuting such as walking, cycling, transit, carpooling, vanpooling and teleworking (source: Environment Canada).</p> <p>Find out more www.commuterchallenge.ca/</p>
2 June	Clean Air Day	<p>Take a deep breath Clean Air Day raises awareness and encourages action on clean air and climate change issues. Canadians can show their commitment by participating in activities that contribute to cleaner air, healthier communities and a better quality of life for all. (source: Environment Canada)</p> <p>Find out more: http://www.ec.gc.ca/cleanair-airpur/Clean_Air_Day-WSB59A4A5F-1_En.htm</p>
5 June	World Environment Day	<p>The BIG event</p> <p>World Environment Day was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1972 to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment.</p> <p>World Environment Day, commemorated each year on 5 June, is one of the principal vehicles through which the United Nations stimulates worldwide awareness of the environment and enhances political attention and action. (source: UNEP)</p>

		Find out more www.unep.org/wed
8 June	World Oceans Day	<p>How you affect the oceans</p> <p>Oceans Day, June 8th, is a time to remember the life-giving role of oceans worldwide. This international celebration, declared a decade ago at the United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, has grown from a ripple into a tidal wave of awareness about ocean health.</p> <p><i>(source: GDRC)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.gdrc.org/oceans/oceans-day.html</p>
6-12 June	Rivers to Oceans Week	<p>In the flow</p> <p>This is an opportunity to work together to create an understanding of Canada's watersheds, our connection to fresh- and salt-water environments and what everyone can do to protect and keep watersheds healthy for people and wildlife (source: Environment Canada).</p> <p>Find out more www.riverstoceansweek.ca/</p>

SEPTEMBER 2010

Date	Event	More information
16 September	International Ozone Day	<p>UV lost without it On 19 December 1994, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date, in 1987, on which the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer was signed. <i>(source: UNEP)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.unep.fr/ozonaction/events/ozoneday</p>
22 September	World Car Free Day	<p>4 wheels good, 2 legs better Every September 22, people from around the world get together in the streets, intersections, and neighbourhood blocks to remind themselves that there are alternatives to a car dominated society.</p> <p>Find out more www.worldcarfree.net</p>

OCTOBER 2010

Date	Event	More information
5 October	World Habitat Day	<p>Living space Every year, since 1985, when the UN General Assembly designated it, World Habitat Day has been celebrated on the first Monday in October. This day has been set aside by the United Nations for the world to reflect on the state of human settlements and the basic right to adequate shelter and to remind the world of its collective responsibility for the future of the human habitat. <i>(source: UN)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.unhabitat.org</p>
18 – 24 October	Waste Reduction Week	<p>Throw away line Since 2001, National Waste Reduction Week in Canada (WRW) has been organized by a coalition of non-government, not-for-profit environment groups, including RCBC, from each of the 13 participating provincial and territorial jurisdictions across Canada. It's a great opportunity to hold events to encourage waste reduction in your organization. <i>(source: Recycling Council of BC)</i></p> <p>Find out more www.wrwcanda.com</p>