



April 22, 2022 marks the 20th anniversary of Earth Day in Canada! More than six million Canadians join a billion people in more than 170 countries every year in staging Earth Day events and projects to address local environmental issues. Nearly every school child in Canada takes part in an Earth Day activity.

First launched as an environmental awareness event in the United States in 1970, Earth Day (April 22) is celebrated worldwide as the birth of the environmental movement.

Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers are committed to sustainable growing practices. As a sector we have invested in ways to increase the amount of food we can grow for Ontario families while also looking to ensure our practices keep environmental stewardship at the forefront.

A key strategy in combatting climate change worldwide is to find ways to reduce carbon footprint. Plants grown in a greenhouse (like all other plants) consume carbon dioxide as part of the photosynthetic process. Greenhouse farms are also an incredibly

efficient use of land. Across Ontario, the 3500 acres of greenhouse farmland would take nearly 25 times that amount of land in open fields to grow the same amount of vegetables!

Greenhouses are also extremely efficient at utilizing water. This includes nutrient water that is recirculated throughout the greenhouse, recycled, treated and reused. This aids in temperature regulation as well as minimizes the amount of purified water that exits the greenhouse.

There are also other natural processes that are part of greenhouse farming. Bumblebees are used to pollinate produce, which is a standard practice in the greenhouse sector. These hard-working bumblebees help improve the quality and quantity of the produce grown.

Our farmers and marketers are continuously improving their operations by increasing energy efficiency and environmental sustainability practices. We understand that being good stewards of the land is part of growing good food sustainably for all.



THE ADVENTURES OF *Lady Bug*

PRESENTED BY LADY BUG  
-FOR-

# EARTH DAY

NATURE HIKE PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

Moss	Flowers	Body of Water
Big Animal	Feather	Butterfly
Small Animal	Wild Fruit	Spiderweb
Sand	Sunrise or Sunset	Boulder
Footprints	Insect	Interesting Cloud
Robin	Great View	Leaves

#EarthDay #GreenhouseGoodness

Hikes are one of the most popular Earth-friendly activities for Environment Day. To encourage your group to go outside, get exercise, and explore nature, give your students or staff a photo scavenger hunt to complete. We created a template above with prompts you can use.

We're going to offer 5 participants the chance to receive passes to Point Pelee National Park. Upload photos of your find and add the hashtag #EarthDay #GreenhouseGoodness for a chance to win!

## Earth Day Community Tree Planting

**Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>,  
10am to 2pm**

Essex Region Conservation Authority is inviting everyone to join us to help plant more than 2,000 native trees in the City of Windsor. Trees are generously donated by Enwin Utilities. There are three planting shifts to choose from including 10am to 11am, 11:30am to 12:30pm and 1pm to 2pm. You will have the opportunity to plant three to five trees per individual at this year's celebration. This event will take place rain or shine, unless severe weather occurs. Safety precautions such as masking are encouraged.

Check out their Earth Day 2022 blog: <https://bit.ly/3ujfuEB> for more fun ways to celebrate!