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Information, products, activities to highlight Village's first Earth Fest

More than 20 vendors promoting their sustainable products and services, and a host of kid friendly, eco-related activities will anchor the Village's first Earth Fest on Sat., April 24, at the Public Works Center, 201 South Blvd. Earth Fest is a celebration of the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

The event, scheduled for 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., is intended to spread awareness about environmental issues, support environmental initiatives and highlight Oak Park's dedication to sustainability.

“Our goal is that Earth Fest builds momentum for the local environmental movement,” said K.C. Poulos, Oak Park's Sustainability Manager and one of the organizers for the fest. “We'd also like to encourage everyone to ride their bikes to the event as a way to continue the Earth Day ethic of reducing environmental impacts.”

The festival is just one of several events organizers hope to create throughout the Village in honor of Earth Day. In addition to the activities at the Public Works Center, local businesses have been urged to host their own Earth Day sales, activities and events.

For example, local restaurants may be offering a sustainable/local menu on this day, and retail stores may be discounting recycled and green-related wares. A complete list of participating business will be available closer to the event day. Free tickets for prize drawings will be given out at Public Works as well as at participating businesses.

And after a day full of activities, the Avenue Ale House, 825 S. Oak Park Ave., will host *Raise a Glass for Mother Earth* – an end-the-day celebration with music, appetizers and locally-brewed beer options that begins at 6 p.m. Those with tickets can bring them to the Ale House and enter them to win prizes. The drawing will be held at 7 p.m.

For more information on Earth Fest, call 708.358.5778 or e-mail village@oak-park.us.

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