

SANTA BARBARA EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

APRIL 25 - 26, 2026



**ALAMEDA PARK
SANTA BARBARA, CA**

www.sbearthday.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contacts:

Olivia Sorgman

(805) 252-2068

info@sbearthday.org

Kathi King

(805) 730-0202

kking@cecmail.org

Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival Takes Over Alameda Park April 25–26, 2026 for Its 56th Year

A Celebration of Climate Action, Community, and Joy at Alameda Park

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (April 22, 2026) – The 56th Annual Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival, one of the longest-running Earth Day celebrations in the nation and among the largest on the West Coast, returns to Alameda Park on **Saturday, April 25 (11:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.)** and **Sunday, April 26 (11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.)**.

Presented by the **Community Environmental Council (CEC)** and produced by longtime partner **CarpEvents**, this year's festival invites the community to come together under the nationwide theme **"Our Power, Our Planet,"** a call to collective action and environmental stewardship.

Drawing tens of thousands of attendees each year, the free, two-day event transforms Alameda Park into a vibrant hub of sustainability, innovation, and culture – bringing together environmental leaders, businesses, nonprofits, artists, and families for an immersive Earth Day experience.

Festival Highlights

Green Car Show – The Largest on the West Coast

A cornerstone of the festival, the Green Car Show is the longest-running public showcase of clean vehicles in the United States, featuring the latest in electric and hybrid technology. Attendees can

explore cutting-edge innovations, meet owners, and participate in ride-and-drive experiences. Featured test drives include Rivian, Toyota of Santa Barbara, and Hyundai of Oxnard. Festivalgoers can also take a spin with e-Bikery or take advantage of a complimentary bike valet managed by MOVE Santa Barbara County.

Live Music & Entertainment

Enjoy two full days of live music featuring standout local bands including Doublewide Kings, Cornerstone, Spencer the Gardener, False Puppet, The Caverns, and No Simple Highway. The Kids Stage will showcase youth performances from Rock-N-Roll 805 alongside interactive and educational programming for younger audiences.

MAIN STAGE SATURDAY

12:00 - 12:40 Nate Latta

1:00 - 2:00 Uncle

2:20- 3:20 Salty Strings

3:30 - 3:40 World Dance for Humanity

3:40- 4:50 Doublewide Kings

5:10 - 6:15 Spencer the Gardener

6:45- 7:55 No Simple Highway

MAIN STAGE SUNDAY

11:00 - 11:45 Santa Barbara Yoga Collective

12:00 - 12:50 CEC's Environmental Hero Awards honoring Megan Birney Rudert, President & CEO of Unite to Light and Gregg Hart California's 37th Assembly District representative

12:50 - 1:30 Walking in Circles

1:40 - 2:40 Smelly Cat

3:00 - 4:00 Cornerstone

4:20 - 5:20 False Puppet

5:45 - 6:55 Caverns

Public Square

Engage with environmental leaders, nonprofits, public agencies, and elected officials. The Public Square is a hub for civic engagement, where attendees can explore real-world solutions and connect with organizations advancing climate action across the Central Coast.

Visitors are encouraged to stop by the City of Santa Barbara's Sustainability and Resilience booth to learn about local initiatives, and to visit **CEC at Booth #332** to explore ways to get involved in community-powered climate solutions – from clean energy and transportation to local policy advocacy.

Environmental Hero Award Ceremony

On Sunday, CEC, alongside host Tracy Lehr of KEYT, will honor leaders in environmental stewardship, including Megan Birney Rudert of Unite to Light, a clean energy access advocate, and Assemblymember Gregg Hart, recognized for his leadership in climate and coastal protection. The ceremony will conclude with a call to action highlighting efforts to phase out oil and gas production in Santa Barbara County.

Take Action at the Festival

This year's festival goes beyond inspiration, offering attendees meaningful ways to take action for a climate-safe future.

- **Sign a Postcard at the CEC Booth (#332):** Support a proposed ban on new oil wells in Santa Barbara County. CEC and its partners will deliver messages directly to the Board of Supervisors ahead of their upcoming vote.
- **Add Your Light to a Community Art Installation:** Just across from the CEC booth, contribute to a collaborative display led by coalition partners – a visual representation of community support for a fossil-free future.
- **Join the Main Stage Moment:** Following the Environmental Hero Awards on Sunday, festivalgoers are invited to gather for a brief rallying moment calling for climate action in Santa Barbara County.
- **Bring Your Film Plastic:** Drop off clean, flexible plastics, such as grocery bags and bubble wrap, at the CEC booth.

Eco-Marketplace & Exhibitors

Browse a curated marketplace of eco-friendly products and mission-driven businesses, alongside nonprofits advancing environmental solutions – from plastic reduction to renewable energy.

Highlights include Channel Islands Restoration and complimentary water stations provided by Matilija Pure Water Systems. This year, Jonny Pops will offer samples of their organic popsicles.

Homegrown Roots Zone

Celebrate the Central Coast's food system with local farmers, food producers, and artisans promoting regenerative agriculture and sustainable food practices.

Plant-Forward Food Court & Beer Garden

Enjoy a variety of climate-friendly cuisine, with vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free options from local favorites including Elubia's Kitchen, Santa Barbara Hives, Wandering Eats, and East Eatery. Relax under shaded seating by Flying Shade in the beer garden featuring beverages from Firestone 805, JuneShine, and Brander Vineyard. Enjoy your libation with the r.cup system thanks to the City of Santa Barbara Sustainability Department and anonymous donors.

FOOD LINE UP

Santa Barbara Hives (pizza + ice cream)

Elubia's Kitchen (Latin American cuisine)

Oono Sushi Burrito - (vegan sushi)

MOMO SOULS (Himalayan cuisine)

The Tamale Fiesta (tamales)

East Eatery (boba tea + waffles)

Wandering Eats (salads + wraps)

House of Bao (steamed + bao buns)

Hi-Fi Pizza Pi (pizza)

A'SMORE (plant based pastries)

Kona Ice (Snowcones)

Kids Corner & Family Programming

The Kids Corner, presented by Learningden and supported by the Santa Barbara Dads Group, offers arts and crafts, storytelling, music, face painting, and interactive eco-activities designed for all ages. Don't miss the youth stage with kids performers by Roll-N-Rock 805.

A Legacy Rooted in Environmental Action

Santa Barbara is widely recognized as the birthplace of the modern environmental movement following the 1969 oil spill, which helped inspire the first Earth Day in 1970.

For more than five decades, CEC has carried that legacy forward, advancing clean energy, building sustainable food systems, and driving climate solutions across the Central Coast.

Today, the Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival continues that tradition by bringing the community together to celebrate progress, connect with solutions, and take collective action toward a more sustainable future.

Sponsors & Community Partners

The Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival is made possible thanks to the support of its many partners, including Marborg Industries, Rivian, Firestone 805, JuneShine, Brander Vineyard, Flying Shade, Bye Bye Mattress, Central Coast Clean Cities Coalition, Central Coast Community Energy, Channel Islands Restoration, City of Santa Barbara Sustainability & Resilience Dept., Cox Communications, e-Bikery, Hyundai of Oxnard, Toyota of Santa Barbara, E-Rentals & Tents Inc., Islay Events, Jonny Pops, Learningden Preschool, Matilija Pure Water Systems, Verdek, Montecito Bank & Trust, the Santa Barbara Foundation, the Santa Barbara Independent, Skyhook Solar, Target, TV Santa Barbara, Voice Magazine, and Yerba Madre.

About Santa Barbara Earth Day

Widely acknowledged as the birthplace of Earth Day, Santa Barbara's involvement began with the devastating 1969 oil spill off its coast. This led a local group of concerned citizens to begin discussing a different way of looking at environmental systems. During that time, Senator Gaylord Nelson visited Santa Barbara to view the oil spill damage. When he returned to Washington, D.C., he introduced a bill designating April 22 as a national day to celebrate the Earth.

Over the next few years, the environmental movement was born across the country – including the Community Environmental Council (CEC). CEC incorporated in the spring of 1970 and hosted its first Earth Day celebration as a one-block teach-in between along Anapamu Street. Across the country, 20 million people participated in similar events.

Today, the festival continues to bring diverse voices together, reminding us that everyday is Earth Day and that collective action is key to protecting our planet.

About the Community Environmental Council (CEC)

CEC advances rapid, equitable solutions to the climate crisis, including transitioning to 100% clean energy and transportation, promoting climate-smart agriculture and regenerative food systems, reducing waste and single-use plastics, and strengthening community resilience. CEC also leads innovative programs such as the Climate Stewards certification, which equips Central Coast residents to take meaningful local climate action, and operates the Environmental Hub in downtown Santa Barbara as a center for public engagement and collaboration.

Recognized as a 2020 California Nonprofit of the Year and a City of Santa Barbara Climate Hero, CEC is led by CEO Sigrid Wright, named 2022 Congressional Woman of the Year. Learn more about CEC's impacts at **[CECSB.org/impact](https://www.cecsb.org/impact)**.

About CarpEvents

With over 30 years of experience, CarpEvents produces events nationwide and throughout Santa Barbara County. Founder Mike Lazaro, Carpinterian of the Year, and his team specialize in large-scale festivals, fundraisers, and community events, including Summer Solstice and the Avocado Festival.

More information, including schedules and participation opportunities, is available at www.SBEarthDay.org
