Earth Month

This document is provided to help in your preparation for Earth Month. Whether you celebrate on April 22nd (Earth Day) or all month long, these resources are available to you to help you plan your events. After reviewing this toolkit, if you plan to host any Earth Month events, please let us know by filling out this form.

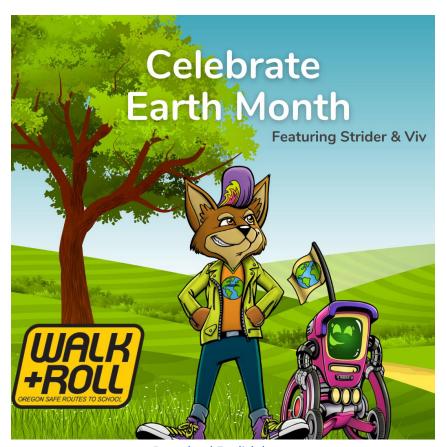
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Social Media Templates

These social media graphics and copy templates can be used to help promote your Earth Month programming. Images and text copy are provided in English and Spanish. However, newer social media posts, stories, and banners for Earth Month can be viewed and downloaded from this <u>link</u>.

To Share March 27th-March 31st



Download English here.

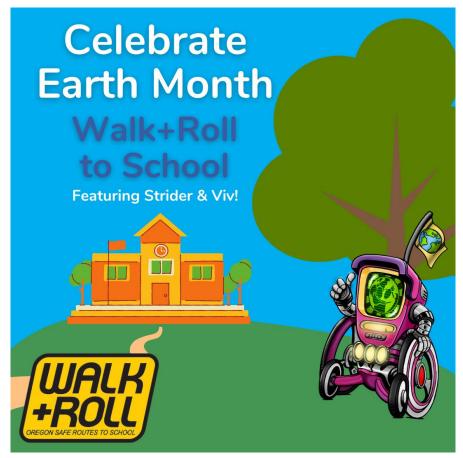
Text - English: Earth Month is just around the corner! Earth Day is April 22nd, but we can celebrate the Earth all month long by walking and rolling to school. Join us as we take steps to make our community and Earth healthier for all by walking and rolling to school!



Download Spanish here.

Text - Spanish: Mes de la Tierra ¡Ya viene! El 22 de abril es el Día de la Tierra, vamos a caminar y rodar a la escuela todo el mes para celebrar la tierra. Ayuda a que la comunidad y el planeta sean saludables. ¡Camina y rueda a la escuela con nosotros!

To Share April 3rd-April 7th



Download English here.

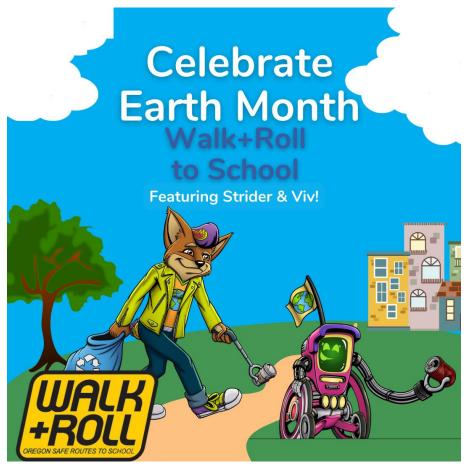
Text - English: Earth Month has started. Do you and your family have plans to walk or roll to school this month? Walking and rolling to school improves our mental and physical health, while helping reduce carbon emissions. Join (school or community name) as we walk and roll to school for the Earth.



Download Spanish here.

Text - Spanish: El mes de la tierra ¡Ya esta! ¿Usted y su familia tienen planes de caminar o rodar a la escuela este mes? Caminando y rodando a la escuela beneficia nuestra salud mental y física, al mismo tiempo que ayuda a reducir las emisiones de carbono. Apoya la tierra, únete [el nombre de la escuela o la comunidad] caminando y rodando a la escuela.

To Share April 10th-April 14th



Download English here.

Text - English: Earth Month is underway. Did you know that walking and rolling to school is not only good for your physical and mental health, but helps keep the Earth healthy by reducing carbon released into the air? We can all do our part to protect the Earth by making changes in how we get around.



Download Spanish here.

Text - Spanish: El mes de la tierra ¡Ya esta! ¿Sabías que caminar y rodar a la escuela es bueno para tu salud física y mental? También mantiene la Tierra saludable al reducir las emisiones de carbono en el aire. Todos podemos ayudar a proteger la tierra haciendo cambios en la forma en que viajamos. Hashtags: #walkandroll #earthmonth #saferoutestoschool #oregonsaferoutes #oregonearthmonth

To Share April 17th-April 21st



Download English here.

Text - English: Earth Day is this week! Check out these tips to reduce your carbon footprint and celebrate the Earth:

- Plant a tree or a seed of your favorite local plant.
- Bring reusable bags to the grocery store, or use your favorite reusable water bottle.
- Talk to your family about using LED light bulbs to save energy many utility companies and
 @Energy Trust of Oregon provide discounts on them to help you save money, too!
- Walk and roll to school when you can! Skipping a trip in the car keeps carbon out of our air



Download Spanish here.

Text - Spanish: ¡El Día de la Tierra es esta semana! Consulta estos consejos para reducir tu huella de carbono y celebrar la tierra:

- Planta un árbol o una semilla de tu planta nativa favorita.
- Cuando vayas a la tienda lleva una bolsa reciclada. Utilice una botella de agua reutilizable.
- Hable con tu familia sobre el uso de focos LED para ahorrar energía. ¡Hay compañías de utilidades y @Energy Trust of Oregon que ofrecen descuentos en estos focos para ahorrar dinero!

To Share April 24th-April 28th



Download English here.

Text - English: What a wonderful Earth Month we have had! Did you and your family walk or roll to school this month? If so, you don't have to stop here! You can continue walking and rolling during the Walk+Roll May Challenge, and all throughout the year.



Download Spanish here.

Text - Spanish: ¡Que bueno este Mes de la Tierra! ¿Caminaste o rodaste a la escuela este mes? Si es así, no te detengas. Puedes continuar caminando y rodando en mayo para el reto de Walk+Roll. ¡Puedes caminar y rodar todo el año!

Earth Month Activity and Prize Ideas

We are trying something new this month! In the spirit of Earth Month, we will not provide any material incentives (stickers, shoelaces, comic books, etc) out of an effort to reduce waste. Instead we will be offering ways to incentivize participation with fewer material items through activities that promote both walking and rolling to school as well as environmental action:

Activities:

- Photo campaign: At school drop off, have dry erase boards that say "I biked to school today because _____", "I walked to school today because _____", "Something I love about the earth is _____" and have the adult staffing the table take photos of children holding the sign they created. Photos could be in a virtual gallery, physical gallery in the school, or someplace else.
 - O This campaign can be inclusive of students who arrive at school by bus or car as well. To have a third sign option ("Something I love about the earth is_____") means that students who may have come in a bus or car will be drawn to the table to still participate in the activity in a different way and maybe learn about SRTS in the process.
- Organize a bike train or walking school bus: Help students walk and roll to school by organizing meet-up locations for students and families to walk and roll together. If you pick a location with parking, you can also encourage families to park and walk/ride to be inclusive of families who live farther away. Also, remind students and families to bring their Safe Routes to School sticker book, if they still have it from the October International Walk+Roll to School Day, so they can add a leaf or flower they find on their walk or roll to the page that says "I participated in Earth Month."
- Walking field trip around the school campus: On the walking field trip encorage students to pick up litter off the playground and/or clean leaves from the bike lane or bike racks. Explain how these helpful earth-friendly acts can be done all year long and benefit people and the planet. These acts of service can also be awarded with one of the prizes described below.
- Collaborative mural: This can be done with natural materials (like pine cones or leaves) or standard classroom art materials. As students arrive at school, invite them to add to the mural. If they biked or walked, have them add a few words about why they did.
- **Bean jar**: As students arrive each day they add a bean to a jar depending on how they got to school that day (biked, walked, carpooled, drove, took bus). Ask a local business for a prize for the school with the most beans in the biking and walking jars.
- Planting in the school garden: Students that walked or biked will be directed to the school garden where they will get to help with a special quick garden project before the school day (like planting one seed, or watering one plant).

Prizes:

- Assist with morning announcements (or other big helpful task): Students who walk or bike to school can enter a raffle as they arrive at school, and be randomly selected to help deliver the morning announcements.
- Hand out extra incentives you may have from previous walk+roll events: Extra incentives can
 be distributed at an Earth Month walk + roll to school day event. They can also be awarded to
 students who complete one of the activities, like picking up litter off of the playground during a
 walking field trip.
- **Seeds:** Ask for seed packet donations from a local nursery, and pass out seed packets to students who were able to walk or roll to school that day. Repeat this a few days throughout the month to give students multiple opportunities to plant seeds.
- Hand stamp: Create a stamp for students with messages like "I biked to school today!" or "I walked to school today", or an Earth symbol. Unlike a sticker, stamps have less of an environmental impact and can be reused for years to come. Similar to the seeds, try this activity out a few days throughout the month.
- Thank you cards: Anyone can participate in this activity, whether they biked or walked to school or not. Students can write out appreciation notes saying things like "thank you for biking today, it's good for the earth!" and they can be taped on people's bikes or passed out to walkers the following day.
- Raffle off a gift card to a local bike shop: Every day students walk or bike to school, enter them into a raffle, and at the end of the week select a student (or multiple students) to receive gift cards to a local bike shop. The more they walk and bike the more entries they have because each day enters them in the raffle another time. Drawing randomly makes it less of a competition between students, because everyone who walks or bikes has a chance of winning.

If you plan on implementing any of these activity and prize ideas in your community, let us know by filling out this form.

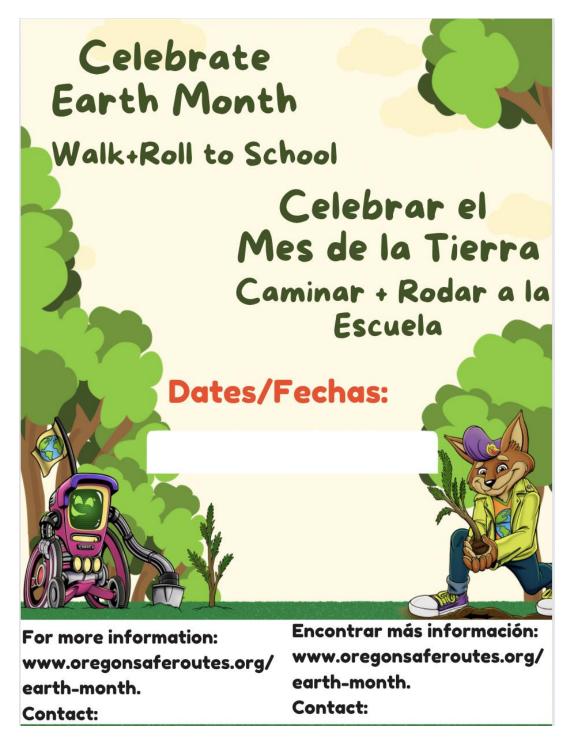
Graphics

Below are graphics created by the ODOT SRTS team and are available for your use in promoting Earth Month. Strider & Viv are the ODOT SRTS mascots, teaching students safe walking and rolling habits through their fun and interactive comic book series.

Strider & Viv:

Strider & Viv Earth Month Pose
Strider Picking Up Litter
Strider Planting a Sapling
Viv Earth Day Face
Viv Picking Up Litter
Viv Planting a Sapling

Flyer



Download here.