

Earth Science Week (ESW) 2004 Activities by State

Alabama

- The Geological Survey of Alabama observed ESW by assisting Alabama schools in holding Earth science festivals and other related activities during October. The survey donated educational materials, provided advice and information, lent educational kits, and provided staff members to lead demonstrations and activities.

Alaska

- The USGS field office in Anchorage distributed ESW kits.
- The governor of Alaska proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Arizona

- The Petrified Forest National Park held several events to celebrate Earth Science Week. These events included Ranger Programs such as hikes and laboratory tours, a scavenger hunt, displays and exhibits.

Arkansas

- The Arkansas Center for Earthquake Education and Technology Transfer (ACEETT) at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock hosted displays at the Donaghey Student Center and at the Little Rock Public Library.

California

- The USGS Pasadena office celebrated Earth Science Week with an educational, fun-filled day at the Discovery Center in Santa Ana. The USGS Outreach office worked with Caltech and the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) to offer a variety of earthquake education exhibits, displays, games, and information.
- The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History held its second Earth Science Fair. Approximately 350 adults and children came out to explore the events. The University of California at Santa Barbara's Geology Department and event sponsor VENECO brought hands-on activities for children. The Santa Barbara Gem and Mineral Society brought minerals, and a local elementary school displayed its curriculum.

Colorado

- The USGS Rocky Mountain Mapping Center invited the public to visit and learn about the breadth and benefits of the natural science information that is available to the public, teachers, and students. There were hands-on displays and Earth science materials available at the visitor's center.
- The USGS and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) professionals held a "GIS in the Rockies" conference.
- The USGS participated in a free Geoscience Resource Open House for teachers at the Society for Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) Annual Meeting. Participants

received a selection of free geoscience resource and teaching materials from a variety of organizations and societies.

- The USGS, EPA Region 8, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Colorado Division of Water Resources, and the Big Thompson Watershed Forum presented a full day of talks, posters, and hands-on water quality monitoring experiences for teachers in the Big Thompson Watershed.

Connecticut

- A college student in Middletown, Connecticut, entered the nationwide Earth Science Week Photography Contest.

Delaware

- The Delaware Geological Survey participated in ESW by bringing Earth science information to schoolchildren through outreach talks and demonstrations in the classrooms. The survey also gave talks to local civic groups and held tours of the Survey Building.
- The governor of Delaware proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Florida

- Florida International University's Earth Sciences Department ran an online contest for high school students in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. Questions were posted on the FIU Web site for students to answer.
- At the Gunter Building on the campus of Florida State University, the Florida Geological Survey hosted an open house featuring activities and tours to educate the public on how Earth sciences affect their daily lives.
- The governor of Florida proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Georgia

- The Environmental Education Site in Georgia advertised the Earth Science Week and the National Contests.

Hawaii

- Haleakala National Park held daily naturalist talks that focused on the geology of Haleakala.

Idaho

- There was a special Saturday program at Craters of the Moon in honor of ESW. The program consisted of a series of hikes to visit and discuss a broad spectrum of geologic features found in the park.

Illinois

- The governor of Illinois proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Indiana

- Indiana State University's Earth Science Club held a sale of fossils, geodes, and minerals during the week. The club also provided Earth science materials to the ISU community and kicked off "Movie Night" during ESW.

Iowa

- The Basic Materials Corporation held an open house at the Raymond Quarry to celebrate ESW. Activities included rock art, find-a-fossil, find-a-mineral, and quarry and geology tours.
- The Herbert Hoover National Historic Site gave demonstrations of an Enviroscape model, ground water model, and stream table to schools in the West Branch area.

Kansas

- Fifth and sixth-grade students from Sts. Peter and Paul School went on a field trip to Tuttle Creek Dam to see a fault and to learn more about the Humboldt Fault and the Midcontinent Ridge that passes through Kansas. They also saw fossils and visited the state climatologist to learn about the weather in Kansas.

Kentucky

- The Kentucky Science Teacher's Association advertised Earth Science Week to its members.

Louisiana

- The Lafayette Geological Society provided local fourth through eighth-grade teachers with ESW kits, Central Texas Rock kits, and a classroom set of newspapers and activities during Earth Science Week.
- The governor of Louisiana proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Maine

- Acadia National Park held several geologic programs during ESW including maintaining a geology resource kit available for local teachers as well as a small library of printed materials for local educators. The park also promoted its teacher's guide, which contains an entire chapter on the geology of Mount Desert Island.

Maryland

- The Maryland Science Center invited visiting scientists to bring displays, do demonstrations, and provide materials in the new TerraLink part of the museum during ESW. Scientists from the USGS, NOAA, IRIS, and AGI participated.
- The governor of Louisiana proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Massachusetts

- The Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site held special events in honor of Earth Science Week.

Michigan

- The Michigan Mineralogical Society hosted the 60th Diamond Jubilee Annual Gem, Mineral, and Jewelry Show to start ESW. This is one of the longest-running shows of its type in the United States.
- The governor of Michigan proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Minnesota

- The USGS held a GIS/LIS conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Mississippi

- The State Geologist and State Science Supervisor received updates on Earth Science Week.

Missouri

- The Missouri Department of Natural Resources, Geological Survey and Resource Assessment Division (GSRAD) provided fact sheets, maps, trading cards, and a wide variety of publications on Earth science topics to the public to encourage participation in ESW.
- The governor of Missouri proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Montana

- Graduate students in Montana entered the nationwide Earth Science Week Photography Contest.

Nebraska

- The Nebraska Earth System Education Network publicized Earth Science Week.

Nevada

- The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology led a day-long public field trip. The 100-mile round trip stopped at several sites northwest of Reno near Frenchman Lake. Participants looked at evidence of a violent volcanic past in this area and discussed hazards today and how Earth scientists assess and monitor them to prevent loss of life and property.
- The governor of Nevada proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

New Hampshire

- The New Hampshire Geological Society advertised Earth Science Week on its Web site.

New Jersey

- The New Jersey Geological Society advertised ESW on its website.

New Mexico

- A graduate student in Albuquerque entered the national Earth Science Week Photography Contest.
- The governor of New Mexico proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

New York

- The Hamburg Natural History Society and the Buffalo Association of Professional Geologists hosted the seventh annual celebration of “Western New York Earth Science Day.” This free event was open to the public and included drilling and rock-coring demonstrations, Boy Scout and Girl Scout activities, scavenger hunts, games, crafts, and raffles.
- The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory of Columbia University hosted a day-long open house. Thousands of people came to see exhibits and demonstrations on topics including plate tectonics, oceanography, and geology.
- The Museum of the Earth at the Paleontological Research Institution held an Earth Science Week Celebration with hands-on fossil activities and lectures on mass extinctions.

North Carolina

- The University of North Carolina at Wilmington, Department of Earth Sciences held several events in honor of ESW. The department’s offerings included a photo contest for faculty, staff, and students; a Geography and Geology Club T-shirt contest, special lectures, food, and drink.
- The governor of North Carolina proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

North Dakota

- The North Dakota Geological Society publicized ESW on its Web site and during its October meeting.
- The governor of North Dakota proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Ohio

- The University of Dayton Earth Science Club held many events to celebrate Earth Science Week. These included holding an ESW raffle, an Energy Contest Cookout and Blackout for the houses on campus, inviting lecturers during the week, traveling to see the IMAX movie *Forces of Nature*, and hosting a Career Fair.

- The Statehouse Education and Visitors Center of Ohio hosted a “Fossil Sighting Tour” at the Ohio Statehouse for ESW. Visitors were invited to join a free tour to see the fossils in the stone walls and columns of the Statehouse.
- The Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Metro Parks held an event at the Firestone Metro Park at the Tuscarawas Meadows Area. Participants learned about different soil types around Ohio. Naturalists, park rangers, and scientists from the state took part in this event.
- The Cleveland Museum of Natural History held an Earth Science Day at the museum during ESW.
- The governor of Ohio proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Oklahoma

- The governor of Oklahoma proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Oregon

- Crater Lake National Park and John Day Fossil Beds National Monument displayed ESW materials.

Pennsylvania

- The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources provided “Pennsylvania Rock Hound Kits” to schools and students across the commonwealth for a nominal fee.
- The governor of Pennsylvania proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Rhode Island

- The State Geologist and the State Science Supervisor of Rhode Island received ESW updates and kits.

South Carolina

- The governor of South Carolina proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

South Dakota

- The USGS EROS Data Center in Sioux Falls participated in Earth Science Week in many ways. The center displayed ESW posters that were seen during the tours given to hundreds of people during the week. PowerPoint presentations on earthquakes, tornadoes, wildfires, floods, and hurricanes were given to local seventh-grade students. The Kirby Science Center held a display throughout ESW with examples of satellite data used to monitor natural hazards such as wildfires, floods, and tornadoes. ESW kits were distributed to teachers after the IMAX film *Forces of Nature*.
- The governor of South Dakota proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Tennessee

- The University of Tennessee Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences hosted its fifth annual Earth Science Fair.
- The governor of Tennessee proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Texas

- The Houston Geological Society held a Family Earth Science Festival at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. The festival included an energy passport contest, hands-on demonstrations, special presentations, Scout activities, and programs.
- The Houston Geological Society held an Art and Essay Contest for local fourth and eighth-graders. The winners received awards at the Family Earth Science Festival.
- The Houston Geological Society held two field trips. Participants either visited the Blue Lagoon rock quarry to view the Cataholla formation or attended the Landmark visualization pod to learn about three-dimensional seismic data.
- The Metropolitan Association for Teachers of Science (MATS) had its fall conference during ESW. Earth Science Week kits were distributed during one of the talks.
- The University of Texas at El Paso Department of Geological Sciences held an open house to celebrate ESW. The department was open to the public for presentations, hands-on activities, and a barbeque.
- Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument offered tours that covered Earth science and geology.
- Guadalupe Mountains National Park put up a temporary display featuring areas of geologic interest within the park and surrounding area in celebration of ESW.

Utah

- The Utah Geological Survey hosted hands-on activities in Salt Lake City for school groups. Groups panned for “gold,” saw how fossils are excavated, learned about rocks and minerals, and observed stream erosion and deposition.
- The governor of Utah proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Vermont

- The Vermont Geological Society, the Vermont Marble Museum, and OMYA hosted and ESW Poster Contest.
- The Vermont Geological Survey and the Vermont Geological Society hosted a “Geologists-in-the-Parks” event for elementary through high school classes. Students spent time in the field studying Vermont geology with a professional geologist.
- OMYA hosted its fourth annual Quarry Open House during the week.

- The governor of Vermont proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Virginia

- The USGS held an open house during ESW. The general public was invited to experience science first-hand through exhibits, demonstrations, and tours.
- Shenandoah National Park welcomed people to the park to study Earth science. During the week, the park held an elementary geology program and addressed “Exploring Earth Science Curriculum” in conjunction with the USGS and local teachers. This project has created a self-guiding curriculum on the Earth sciences of the park.

Washington

- Mount Rainier National Park celebrated its 104th birthday and encouraged visitors to make a special birthday cake to mark the event.
- The governor of Washington proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Washington, D.C.

- The National Park Service led a guided bike tour of the National Mall. Participants learned about the geology of the Mall and about the building materials used in the national monuments and buildings in the area.
- The National Park service held an annual celebration for Theodore Roosevelt’s birthday on Roosevelt Island during ESW. There were tours of nature trails, and AGI staff distributed Earth Science Week materials to the celebration visitors.

West Virginia

- The 13th Annual Gem, Mineral, and Fossil Show was held. Over 1,000 people attended this event. West Virginia University Engineering students gave demonstrations and distributed mineral kits to children in attendance at the demonstrations.
- The governor of West Virginia proclaimed October 10-16, 2004, to be Earth Science Week.

Wisconsin

- The Geology Museum at the University of Wisconsin-Madison hosted a symposium entitled “Imagining the Past.” The symposium explored artistic representations of prehistoric life. Invited speakers, artists and illustrators, and science historians led the event.

Wyoming

- Geologists and staff of the Wyoming state Geological Survey invited the public to participate in field trips around the Eocene Green River Formation in Southwestern Wyoming. The field trips were led by Wyoming State Geologist Dr. Ron Surdam.

International Events

Argentina

- Several events were held during October to celebrate Earth Science Week in Argentina. These events included a poster display and demonstrations in the entrance hall of the Faculty of Natural Sciences. The Geological Survey, the Hydrographic Service, and the Antarctic Institute gave lectures and presentations to students and faculty. Finally, winners were announced and prizes were given for the contest open to 13-18 year olds.

Australia

- To kick off ESW, school children in Weston participated in a gravity-defying stunt at Geoscience Australia.
- The Canberra Deep Space Communication Complex (CDSCC), which is part of NASA's Deep Space Network, invited visitors to explore the visitors center, which includes a full-scale model of the Mars Exploration Rover, a piece of moon rock, and space suits.
- The Australian National Botanic Gardens in Acton presented "Adaptations of Australian Plants."
- Questacons' Earth Quest – Outer Space to Inner Earth exhibition contained hands-on exhibits about the solar system, atmospheric science, and the Earth's surface and subsurface at the Bathurst City Library. This exhibition was free to the public.
- In Canberra, Questacons' Awesome Earth display was presented at King Edwards Terrace parks.
- The Geological Society of Australia's National Public Lecture Series took place in Canberra, Sydney, Perth, Melbourne, Hobart, Brisbane, and Adelaide.
- The Minerals Council of Australia offered an Interactive Geoscience Education Tour for teachers during ESW.
- A public lecture series was offered by the Australian Museum and the NSW Division of the Geology Society of Australia on topics including salinity in Australia, climate change in the geologic record, geology and construction, and Australian mammal evolution.
- The Minerals and Energy Division PIRSA held a presentation for Anangu Pitjantjatjara communities on modern methods of finding mining mineral deposits.
- The Geological Survey of Western Australia hosted an Earth Science Careers Display at the William Grundt Library in Kalgoorlie.
- The Tasmanian Minerals Council invited the public to visit the Mining and Minerals Education Centre to participate in several activities, including thin section, remote sensing, and diamond drilling.

- The Royal Society of Victoria displayed rare books and fossils including 19th-century monographs from Argentina, Russia, and India. The display could be viewed at Deakin University, Burwood Campus, in Victoria.
- The QLD Mining Council arranged for 10 teachers to visit schools in every state to talk about minerals, mining geoscience, and energy during Earth Science Week.

Canada

- Natural Resources Canada held two main events during ESW. The first, Science Fun Fest, was an open house in Ottawa for families. The second, a series of tours of the Booth Street Complex of Natural Resources Canada, benefited educational groups.

India

- The Science Centre of Pune organized a lecture by Dr. V.V. Peshwa in honor of India Earth Science Week. The lecture dealt with topics such as natural hazards and ways to predict and mitigate natural disasters.

Indonesia

- The AAPG Student Chapters of Indonesia were highly active in ESW, participating in events such as a field trip to a gas plant in South Sulawesi.

Iran

- The Geological Society of Iran publicized Earth Science Week in its newsletters.