

Army Kids Are "Tree"mendous!

Johnny Appleseed

Johnny Appleseed was a real-life American who became part of folklore because he traveled the country planting trees. His real name was John Chapman, and he lived from 1774 to 1845. This pioneer was born in Leominster, Massachusetts, and traveled west in the 1800s. As he moved westward he planted seeds collected from apple cider presses in Pennsylvania. He spent his life planting and tending apple seedlings on hundreds of square miles in what are now the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois.

J. Sterling Morton and Arbor Day

In the 1800s, American pioneers moved west to settle the plains, but they found few trees to use as lumber for houses, to burn for fuel, or to provide shade from the sun or shelter from the wind. In January 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed that citizens of the new state of Nebraska set aside April 10 as a day to plant trees. Morton had long been a supporter of planting trees, having planted many during his early days as a pioneer. Arbor Day is now observed on the last Friday of April.

Senator Gaylord Nelson and Earth Day

Earth Day is an international event focused on the environment. Earth Day was first celebrated on April 22, 1970, and rallied more than 20 million Americans to become involved in environmental teachings. U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson helped organize the first Earth Day to make people aware of environmental issues. Earth Day is the annual call for public attention toward environmental issues. It is also a great opportunity for communities to unite in promoting environmental stewardship.

The History of Conservation