



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION HIGHLIGHTS SCIENCE, PROMOTES SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS

Argonne celebrates Earth Day annually in April with activities to promote sustainable actions and highlight the lab's research in energy and the environment.

Earth Day 2017 transformed the cafeteria into an interactive learning space, bringing information and resources to employees and visitors during their lunch.

Participants toured booths and interactive displays set up by Argonne community partners, "green" programs, clubs, and services available to the Laboratory community. More than a dozen Argonne partners participated.

Prominently featured in the event were 11 of Argonne's programmatic researchers covering a wide variety of topics ranging from superconductivity and nuclear materials to climate disruption, battery science and vehicle technology.

A variety of activities included information on telecommuting, plant giveaways, and a demonstration of the BlueJeans teleconferencing system. Internal Argonne organizations also promoted on-site resources that support sustainability. More than 200 people participated in the energy, water, and waste trivia wheel.

Employees also showcased their low- and zero-emissions vehicles at the Green Vehicle display in the cafeteria parking lot. The connection between sustainability and health was also highlighted by Argonne's Exercise Club and Incentivized Wellness Program.



Earth Day participants learn about Argonne's latest invention, the Oleo Sponge during a demonstration by Anil Mane (ES). The Oleo Sponge easily absorbs oil from water, but is also reusable and can pull dispersed oil from the entire water column, not just the surface.

Some of the major display booths included:

All-In Photo Booth: At this photo booth, employees could take a photo and provide a quotation describing their commitment to sustainability. More than 55 people participated. Since Earth Day, their photos have been regularly featured in Argonne Today, the lab's employee news blog, in an ongoing campaign that encourages individuals to share their sustainable actions and tips with colleagues. The series received more than 2,650 page views over 4 months.





Left to Right: Michael Papka (LCF), Jeff Binder (EGS), Paul Kearns (OTD), Joanna Livengood (DOE), John Quintana (MSS), Mike Dunn (MSS), George Srajer (PSC), and Catherine Hurley (PMO).

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE EMAIL**

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Electric Vehicle Charging Program:

Through a collaboration with the Energy Systems Division and Sustainability Program, this Argonne program provides employees access to charge their electric vehicles at work. Argonne staff demonstrated how to reserve a charging station using the online reservation system and highlighted the ongoing research work.

Battery Research: Argonne researchers presented a poster on battery science, demonstrating their support of electric vehicle technologies and illustrating the cutting-edge battery research at Argonne. As part of this work, Argonne is developing battery technologies that can increase the range, reliability, and safety of electric vehicles while also reducing their cost.

Poster Display on Car Idle

Reduction: Complementing the green commuting theme, this booth displayed Argonne research on the need to reduce vehicle idling. Supported by Argonne’s state-of-the-art testing and simulation capabilities, this research shows that each year vehicles consume more than 6 billion gallons of diesel fuel and gasoline combined by idling.

Raffle Prizes: Attendees who visited five different research and development displays to learn more about Argonne’s cutting-edge research were rewarded with a “gold star” and were entered into a raffle for prizes. The grand prizewinner received a rain barrel; an additional 100 winners received a refillable Argonne water bottle.