



# newsletter

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## 2012 Alta Earth Day – Friday, April 13

The Alta Environmental Center ([www.alta.com](http://www.alta.com)) is collaborating with the Town of Alta ([www.townofalta.com](http://www.townofalta.com)), Alta Community Enrichment ([www.altaarts.org](http://www.altaarts.org)), Cottonwood Canyons Foundation ([www.cottonwoodcanyons.org](http://www.cottonwoodcanyons.org)) and Friends of Alta ([www.friendsofalta.org](http://www.friendsofalta.org)) to host their 2nd annual community **Alta Earth Day** on **Friday, April 13, 2012**. We hope to encourage environmental stewardship, responsible recreation and awareness of the relationship between changing environment and the future of the ski industry in Little Cottonwood Canyon and beyond. The event will feature a combination of:

- Local Green/Sustainability Vendors
- Arts & Crafts for Adults and Kids
- Naturalist Snowshoe and Ski Tours
- Ski Gear Recycle Drop-Off
- Evening Earth Day Festivities –Movies and a raffle at Our Lady of the Snows.

We would like to invite you to participate in our activities not only to celebrate Earth Day, but Alta as well. Events begin as early as 9 am and end with an evening of films and a raffle at Our Lady of the Snows at 7:30 pm. For more information on the day's events visit: [www.alta.com/pages/altaearthday.php](http://www.alta.com/pages/altaearthday.php)



**Poster Designed By: Colleen Shea**  
Thank you Colleen for another beautifully done job!

## Top 5 Ways to be Green in Alta – by Elise Lammers



**If you use energy efficient light bulbs and you recycle but still want to do more to help the environment, here are 5 easy things you can do.**

### 1. Use Less Water

While water covers 70% of the earth's surface, most of it is salt water. Fresh water sources are limited. One-third of the world's population still lacks access to clean water. What you can do:

- Set your hot water heater to 120 degrees and wrap it in an insulating blanket.
- No one wants to do it, but low-flow showerheads can reduce water use up to 4 gallons per minute.
- Low-flow toilets can cut up to 45 gallons of water use per day and don't cost much more than a standard toilet.

### 2. Conserve Energy

Both [Rocky Mountain Power](#) and [Questar](#) offer easy energy rebate programs. Mail in receipts for your energy efficient purchases and they send you a check!

- Plug everything into power strips and turn them off at night (they run around \$7-8). Even if your appliances are turned off, they can still pull 15-30 watts of electricity (audio receivers and mini-systems are the worst). But if remembering to turn them off is too much of a pain, a Smart Strip (\$40) detects whether your appliances are in use and will turn itself off and on accordingly.

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## Top 5 Ways to be Green in Alta - continued

### 3. Choose Your Foods Wisely

It's hard to commit to purchasing all locally and organically grown foods, but when making your grocery store purchases consider which foods have the biggest impact on the environment. If you're deciding between apples and bananas, for instance, think about carbon footprint. Provo (or even California) is much closer than southeast Asia.

- Are you remembering your reusable shopping bags? After unloading your groceries, try leaving them by the door so you'll be remember to take them on your next trip.

### 4. Don't Blast the Heat

Believe it or not, the slowest way to heat up a car is by starting your car, turning the heater to the hottest setting and blasting the fan. The quickest way is to turn the temperature control to cold, but leave the fan off until the engine is warm. Much like keeping the oven door closed, this traps heat in the cooling system and engine compartment, allowing the engine to heat more quickly. In winter, you should only need to run your engine for 30 seconds to warm it up.

### 5. Pump Your Tires and Don't Idle

- Keeping your tires properly inflated can improve your gas mileage by more than 3%.

Don't idle your car for more than 10 seconds. For every two minutes a car idles, it uses the same amount of fuel it takes to go one mile.

**Help do your part for your pocket book, air, water, land and Earth Day!**



## March – April Sustainability Events

Here are some fun, educational sustainability events for adults and the family. To view all events available [visit our website](#).

- **Sat & Sun, March: Tour with a Ranger.** FREE. [Cottonwood Canyons Foundation](#). Alta Ski Area - Bottom of Cecret Lift. 1:30-2:30 pm
- **Fri, Mar 16: Volunteer Work in the Eco-Garden.** FREE. [Tree Utah](#). Permaculture Garden, Day Riverside Library, SLC. 11 am – 1 pm.
- **Sat, Mar 24: Snowshoe Tour.** \$5 for non-members. [Swaner EcoCenter](#). 1258 Center Drive, Park City. 10 am – 11:30 am
- **Sat, Mar 24: Spring Wing Fling.** [Tracy Aviary](#). Come celebrate the arrival of spring! 589 East 1300 South, SLC. 10 am – 2 pm
- **Mar 26-31: Ogden Nature Center 2012 Birdhouse Contest.** [Ogden Nature Center](#). FREE. Ogden Nature Center, 966 W. 12th Street, Ogden, UT 84404 801-621-7595
- **Thu, Mar 29: Utah Environmental Educator Recharge.** \$10 [USEE](#) members; \$15 non-members. The Chase Mill at Tracy Aviary, 539 East 1300 South, SLC. 12:00 – 4:00 pm. Register by March 23
- **Fri, Apr 6: Alta Gala.** [ACE](#), [FOA](#) & [Alta Historical Society](#). \$115 (\$125 after Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup>). La Caille Restaurant, Cottonwood Heights. For more info visit: <https://sites.google.com/a/altaarts.org/altagala/>. 6:30 – 11 pm.
- **Fri, Apr 13: Alta Earth Day.** FREE. [www.alta.com/pages/altaearthday.php](http://www.alta.com/pages/altaearthday.php). Kids Crafts, Recycle Ski-Gear Drop Off, Naturalist Snowshoe & Ski Tours, Eco-Vendors, Evening Films and Raffle Event. 9 am – 8:30 pm
- **Sat, Apr 14: Permaculture Basics.** Tree Utah. To register visit: <http://wasatchgardens.org/workshops>. 2 - 5 pm.
- **Sat, Apr 14: PLT & SKE-COLOGY.** [USEE](#). Explore the terrain and wildlife of Alta while on skis! Geared for K-12<sup>th</sup> Educators. \$47 includes materials & all-area lift pass. Alta Ski Area. 8:45 am – 3:00 pm



***Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!"***

***—Robin Williams***