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## Make your portion of the world a little better

Marisa Petrich/Northwest Guardian

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It can be easy to take the environment for granted, but every April people take the time to give a little something back. Joint Base Lewis-McChord is no exception, and this year the entire community will be working together. JBLM Public Works and Family, and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation directorates are teaming up to present this year's Earth Day events, scheduled for Monday through Thursday. This is only the second year Lewis, McChord and FMWR will be teaming up to make Earth Week happen.

"Earth Week's a great time for us to provide an opportunity for people to get out in their community," JBLM sustainability outreach coordinator Miriam Villacian said.

This year's activities will give people opportunities to learn about sustainability and actually get out and improve the environment.

Exhibits and activities sponsored by Thurston County Conservation District, the Hands On Children's Museum, JBLM Commutes and others will be at the McChord Commissary and Lewis Main Exchange at different points during the week.

For those wanting to get their hands dirty there's still plenty going on. Volunteers will be helping plant fruit trees and working in JBLM's community garden Tuesday, and others will spend Wednesday cleaning up Solo Point near DuPont.

Volunteers will receive giveaways and free T-shirts, but the rewards run deeper.

"We have such a beautiful area in the Northwest, especially our waterfronts," McChord Field Community Center community activity specialist Colin Brooks said.

Events like this allow servicemembers and their families to get out and see the area while helping make it a little better.

### Earth Day events calendar

- Mon., April 18, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.: Exhibits and activities in front of the McChord Commissary.
- Tue., April 19: Tree planting and community garden work day. Call 966-1734 ASAP for details.
- Wed., April 20, 2 p.m.: Solo Point clean up. Call 982-0718 by Monday to volunteer.
- Thu., April 21, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.: Exhibits and activities in front of the Exchange at Lewis Main.

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