



Dear Earth: You're one of a kind and have so much beauty to offer.
Thanks for being such a swell home.

Especially on Earth Day, we marvel at all the little pieces of nature and
how they fit so purposefully together.



Wood turtle, a threatened species in New Jersey

In modern times it's harder to keep those 'pieces' connected. Development and roads fragment habitats into smaller chunks and make it harder for wildlife populations to thrive. Three years ago New Jersey Fish and Wildlife launched the CHANJ project to help make NJ's landscape

friendlier to wildlife movement. We've accomplished a lot since then by forming interagency partnerships, identifying problem spots on roadways and guiding land preservation strategies to keep or restore habitat linkages across the state.

Be part of the CHANJ! A great way to help is by creating some habitat. Many townships have free tree giveaways this time of year, so check to see if yours is one of them. Look for plant nurseries in your area who sell *native* shrubs and wildflowers, which are most beneficial to pollinators, birds and other animals (and are usually easy to care for). We just learned that [No Mow May](#) is a thing...or better yet, let some lawn grow up for good. You may be surprised how many flower seeds have been laying in wait beneath your mower blades.

And remember to try out our interactive [CHANJ Mapping](#) to see where you fit into New Jersey's connectivity puzzle, and find [guidance](#) on how you can support wildlife habitat connectivity in your backyard, in your town, or beyond. [Chapter 4](#) (page 9) has more resources for making a wilder yard for pollinators, birds and other fellow Earthlings.

Happy Earth Day!



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Questions? [Contact Us](#)