

# **News Release – 2 pages**

*From the Knox County Health Department*

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## **Exhibitors, vendors invited to take part in Earth Day Festival**

Local health and environmental advocates are making plans for Knox County's annual Earth Day event. Formerly known as the Earth Day Health Expo, the event is now called the Earth Day Festival. This year's event will be held April 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Kenyon Athletic Center (KAC).

The Earth Day Festival is a unique, family-oriented, education event, centered around the theme of "Healthy People, Healthy World." "Exhibits and activities focus on how people can keep themselves and the world they live in healthy and how these two activities go hand-in-hand," said Heather Doherty of the Brown Family Environmental Center (BFEC) at Kenyon College. The Earth Day Festival is free and open to the public.

Now in its fourth year, the event is organized by BFEC, Knox County Health Department, Knox Community Hospital and the Knox County Park District. The planning committee strives to create a fun and entertaining atmosphere where people can connect with environmental and health-related resources. "Our goal is to encourage healthy decision making and inspire action for a healthy community," said Doherty.

Last year, more than nearly 1,000 people attended the event which included more than 60 booths and demonstrations. The expo is held in conjunction with the Earth Day Challenge Marathon which originates in Gambier and finishes at the KAC's outside track.

The event will once again feature exhibits, demonstrations, health screenings, live music, retail and organization vendors, locally grown food including vendors from the local Farmer's Market, a plant sale, a petting zoo, kid's zone and hands-on activities for people of all ages. Topics will include health and safety, recreational activities, the environment, recycling, composting, green energy, nutrition, local and organic foods, and much more.

Exhibit space is available at no charge to local individuals, groups, organizations and businesses with a message, cause, product or service that addresses the environment or a health-related topic. For more information, contact Heather Doherty at the Brown Family Environmental Center, 427-5052 or [dohertyh@kenyon.edu](mailto:dohertyh@kenyon.edu) .

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