



April 18, 2020 – Saturday – **CANCELLED**  
Earth Day Celebration with Park County  
Library

April 24, 2020 – Friday – **CANCELLED** -  
MRHI Alma Mountain Film Festival

Children's activities to do while Staying at  
Home - and to celebrate Earth Day

Photos for 2021 Calendar due - April 30th

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## MRHI Celebrates Earth Day 2020

To learn more about how to take action for Earth Day 2020 go to  
[earthday.org](http://earthday.org)



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### ISOLATION. REFLECTION. ACTION!

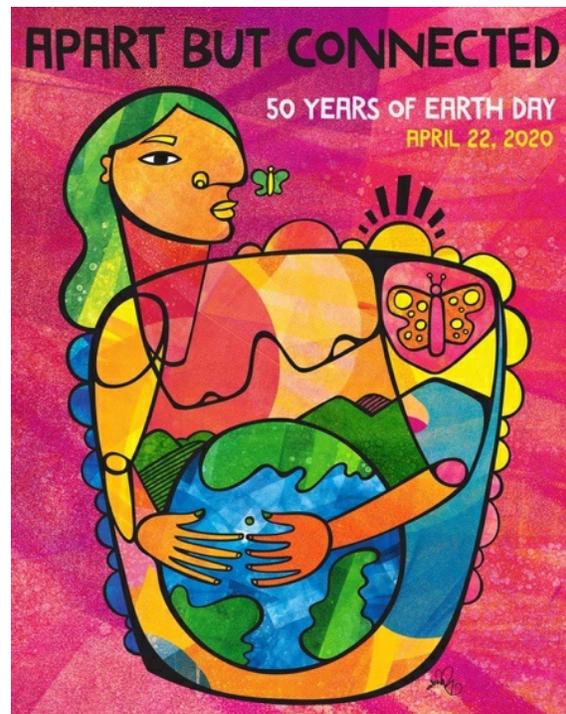
In thinking about the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, how can we possibly focus on a celebration from our place of isolation?

Perhaps it's simply a moment of simple reflection. How very fortunate we are to be living and experiencing the beauty of the Mosquito Range!



As we move forward with so much unknown, DO know our passion and dedication is unshaken. Please consider how we can sustain this landscape's beauty while visitor numbers explode. What choices do we make each day that disturb this landscape? How can we protect these precious natural resources? What actions will you take?  
**WILL YOU JOIN US?**

*"No matter where you are, you can make a difference. And you're not alone, because together, we can save the Earth"*  
**#EarthDay2020**



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### **MRHI Covid Response**

While we do not provide meals, housing, medical care and other immediate crisis needs, we are so grateful to those who do! In the meantime, we still work to do our part. When the isolation orders hit, people sheltered indoors, but also looked to the great outdoors for solace, exercise, beauty and healing. Trailheads are filled and our natural resources continue to be overrun. Parents are turning to backyards and open space to let out pent-up stress, energy and seek new places for powerful education opportunities. Our mission is as important as ever.

In response, we extended our scholarship deadline and immediately set to work creating learning opportunities for families to use at home. We also reached out to the school district to offer help to students, and contacted area partners for ways to share ideas and resources during the quarantine. Watch for new "isolated" educational and action opportunities coming soon for trail clean-ups, outdoor safety, self-guided nature trails, noxious weed pulls, "wild" storytelling, and more.

### **Explore nature's wonders with us—our classroom is spectacular!**

Watch for a new family weekly newsletter launching soon with fabulous home learning activities geared for children (and stressed parent teachers).

**Send your email to [info@mrhi.org](mailto:info@mrhi.org) and we'll add you to the list!**

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## **An Activity to do with Children during this time**

## Backyard Art Bringing the Outdoors In and the Indoors Out!

### Wild Paintbrushes

Anything can be a paintbrush! Let your kids' imaginations run wild.

Sticks, feathers, pine needles, seed heads on grass, and pinecones all make great paintbrushes. If it's too chilly to paint outside, go collect a few items and bring them inside to paint. Use watercolors, tempera paint, or anything you can dip your "paintbrush" in.

### Rubbings

Collect leaves grasses, and any object that is relatively flat. Place it under a piece of paper and rub a crayon longwise over the top. This can even be a cool way to see different textures on rocks or wood.

### Drawing

Take some drawing paper and pencils outside. Encourage your child to find something tiny and then draw a large picture of it. This is a great way to teach your child perspective and to see the details around them. Draw pictures of shadows. Find something with a unique shape and trace it. Look at the mountains and draw their silhouettes. Draw the outline of a leaf or other object, what could you turn it into...a bug, a dog? What other drawings can you create in your yard?

### Outdoor Music

Make a music wall. Bring old kitchen items: pots, pans, wooden spoons, and muffin tins outside. Hang them on a fence, string them in a tree, or simply spread them on the ground. Outside is a great place to bang things together and make beautiful music.



## Leap Year Star Gazing

We finally had a beautiful night for an amazing Leap Year Star Gazing Event! Twenty-five people bundled up for the Feb. 29 event at Alma Town Hall hosted by MRHI thanks to the Colorado Springs Astronomical Society. Presenters, Bill Bookout and Will Keebaugh brought incredible telescopes and offered a post-gazing show and tell space specimens. Thank you Kathy and Dean Butler for hosting the presenters.



## Poker Glide

Our Annual MRHI Poker Glide was a lovely escape! Held just as decisions were being made about starting social isolation, we eliminated our usual great lunch and card stops as an extra precaution. Skiing and

snowshoeing were tons of fun with great weather and fresh snow. Special thanks to Almart (best hand) and Shepherder (last hand) and Alpine Sports for their donations. Also thanks to the volunteers who set up and ran the card draws at the registration table, Dean & Kathy Butler & Jeff & Steph Kuenn.



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## Enter the MRHI Annual Calendar Contest

There is still time to submit your spectacular photo for our next calendar!  
Deadline: April 30<sup>th</sup>. Details previously sent out on constant contact and can be found on our website [www.mrhi.org](http://www.mrhi.org).



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For additional information about these events, email [info@mrhi.org](mailto:info@mrhi.org) or visit our website at [www.mrhi.org](http://www.mrhi.org).