

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

Environmental Accomplishments 1970-2010

American History & Culture	US/World Environmental History	Year	CT Accomplishments
	<p>First Earth Day. More than 20 million people participate.</p> <p>President Nixon forms the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).</p> <p>Clean Air Act passed, regulating air emissions.</p>	1970	
			<p>DEP Established</p>
		1971	<p>Air Quality Monitoring Begins</p> <p>New Fish Hatchery Constructed</p>
	<p>Clean Water Act is passed, placing pollution limits on water discharges and sewage.</p> <p>EPA bans DDT.</p>	1972	<p>Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act Enacted</p> <p>Regulation of Open Burning Starts</p>
	<p>Endangered Species Act passed to protect wildlife.</p> <p>EPA starts lead gas phaseout.</p>	1973	<p>Connecticut's Water Quality Standards (WQS) Revised</p> <p>Regulation of Sulfur and Fuels Begins</p>
<p>The Equal Rights Amendment approved by Congress.</p>			
	<p>The Safe Drinking Water Act regulates pollutants to ensure that people drink safe water.</p>	1974	
<p>Secretariat wins the Triple Crown.</p> <p>Richard Nixon resigns; Gerald Ford becomes president.</p>			
	<p>Congress passes legislation that sets standards for automobile tail-pipe emissions. Automakers begin adding catalytic converters to cars.</p>	1975	<p>CT Pesticide Control Act Enacted</p> <p>Wild Turkeys Reintroduced to Connecticut</p>
	<p>The Toxic Substances Control Act empowers the EPA to track industrial chemicals used in the United States, as well as to ban those that pose a threat.</p> <p>Resource Conservation and Recovery Act passed to control handling and disposal of</p>	1976	<p>First Trout Management Area Established</p>

Bicentennial of the United States is celebrated.	hazardous waste.		
The movie Star Wars hits theaters. Jimmy Carter becomes president.	Clean Air Act Amendments passed. Clean Water Act passed.	1977	
Sony introduces the Walkman, a portable audio cassette player. "Blizzard of 1978" batters the Northeast. Snowfall ranges from 2-4 ft.	EPA bans PCB manufacture. U.S. sues for Love Canal cleanup	1978	Connecticut Bottle Bill Adopted
An accident occurs at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Middletown, Pennsylvania.	Congress creates the Superfund, setting aside large amounts of money to clean up hazardous waste sites.	1979	
"Miracle on Ice" as US ice hockey team beats Soviet Union at the Winter Olympics. Mt. St. Helens volcano, in Washington State, erupts.		1980	CT Coastal Management Act Approved
Inauguration of Ronald Reagan as the 40th president of the United States. First space shuttle launched.		1981	
The word "Internet" used for the first time. Michael Jackson releases "Thriller".		1982	State Starts Efforts to Assist Private Well Owners
Compact discs begin to replace vinyl records.		1983	Hazardous Waste Regulations Adopted
Apple introduces the Mac.	A team of British scientists reports that there is a hole in the ozone layer over the Antarctic.	1984	Action Taken to Protect Marine Fisheries Regulation of Underground Storage Tanks Begins

Space shuttle Challenger explodes after takeoff.

New York Mets top Red Sox in World Series.

1986

[Connecticut's Clean Water Fund Created](#)

[Public Boat Launches Modernized](#)

United States is one of 24 nations to sign the Montreal Protocol, an agreement to phase out production of chlorofluorocarbons(CFCs) that destroy the ozone layer.

1987

The New York Giants beat the Broncos in Super Bowl.

EPA sets standards for underground storage tanks.

Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act Amendments of 1988 passed.

1988

[State Parks 75th Anniversary Leads to 100th Park Acquisition](#)

EPA and DOT respond to Exxon Valdez oil spill.

EPA publishes first Toxic Release Inventory.

1989

[Protections Added for Endangered Species](#)

George H.W. Bush becomes president.

The Simpsons show debuts on Fox.

Fall of the Berlin Wall.

Earth Day 20th Anniversary is celebrated on April 22. One hundred million people around the globe participate.

Pollution Prevention Act passed.

1990

[Nonpoint Source Management Program Developed](#)

[Toxics in Packaging Banned](#)

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) signed into law.

Hubble Telescope placed into orbit.

The World Wide Web makes its debut.

1991

[Pollution Prevention Efforts Established](#)

EPA commits to reducing environmental risks to minorities.

1992

Bill Clinton becomes the 42nd president of the United States.

1993

[Environmental Justice Program Created](#)

New standards require chemical plants to reduce toxic air pollution by more than half a million tons each year.

<p>EPA presents first Energy Star computer awards.</p>	<p>1994</p>	
<p>On Earth Day, a student-led campaign delivers the Environmental Bill of Rights to Congress.</p>	<p>1995</p>	<p><u>100th Anniversary of Connecticut Environmental Conservation Police Celebrated</u></p>
<p>It becomes mandatory that public suppliers of drinking water provide customers information about the chemicals and microbes in their water.</p> <p>Dolly, the first sheep cloned from adult cells, is born.</p>	<p>1996</p>	<p><u>Remediation Standard Regulations Adopted</u></p>
<p>Thirty-eight industrialized nations sign the Kyoto Protocol, agreeing to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by about 5% over 15 years.</p> <p>U.S. and Canada move to eliminate toxics in Great Lakes.</p> <p>Princess Diana killed in car crash.</p>	<p>1997</p>	<p><u>State Sets Open Space Goal</u></p>
<p>Baseball legend Cal Ripken, Jr. ends his record consecutive games streak at 2,632.</p> <p>Dale Earnhardt wins the Daytona 500.</p> <p>Seinfeld finale episode after nine seasons on NBC.</p>	<p>1998</p>	
<p>New emissions standards are set for automobiles, requiring them to become 77% to 95% cleaner.</p>	<p>1999</p>	<p><u>DEP Office of Enforcement Policy and Coordination Formed</u></p>
<p>The Senate overwhelmingly approves a \$7.8 billion aid plan to restore the Everglades in Florida.</p> <p>EPA endorses cleaner diesel fuels plan.</p>	<p>2000</p>	
<p>The head of Forest Service halts harvesting of old-growth timber on public lands.</p> <p>U.S. decides not to sign the Kyoto Protocol.</p> <p>George W. Bush becomes president.</p> <p>September 11th terrorist attack.</p>	<p>2001</p>	<p><u>Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program Created and Nitrogen General Permit Issued</u></p>

Wikipedia, a web-based, collaborative encyclopedia, is created.

Patriots win first of three Super Bowls.

American Idol airs for the first time.

2002

[Mercury Reduction and Education Act Passed](#)
[Stronger Limits Set on Idling of Motor Vehicles](#)

EPA proposes the first-ever mercury emissions regulations on power plants.

EPA's Clean School Bus USA initiative which is designed to limit children's exposure to the harmful effects of diesel exhaust from school buses.

2003

[100th Anniversary of State Forests Celebrated](#)

Boston Red Sox win the World Series for the first time since 1918, finally vanquishing the so-called "Curse of the Bambino".

EPA informs the governors of 31 states that the air pollution in their states does not meet Clean Air Act requirements.

2004

[Adoption of the Aquifer Protection Land Use Regulations](#)

EPA issues the Clean Air Interstate Rule and the Clean Air Mercury Rule.

2005

[No Child Left Inside Initiative Kick Off](#)
[Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan Released](#)

Lance Armstrong wins a record 7th Tour de France.

"Hurricane Katrina" devastates New Orleans and the Gulf coast.

Population of the United States reaches three hundred million.

2006

[Updated Solid Waste Plan Focuses on Recycling](#)

Arctic sea ice hits at an all-time low.

Through the Energy Star program, EPA prevents greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 27 million vehicles.

2007

[Connecticut Passes Electronics Recycling Law](#)

EPA determines that greenhouse gases threaten public health and the environment.

2008

[DEP Launches LEAN Program](#)

Barack Obama becomes the first African American president and the country's 44th president.

2009

[Revisions to Stream Flow Regulations Proposed](#)
[Improvements made to Brownfields Program](#)

New York Yankees win 27th World Series.

EPA proposes tightening smog standard to improve air quality and protect public health.

2010