



EARTH DAY & ARBOR DAY QUIZ



- 1. When was the first Earth Day?**
 - a) 1999
 - b) 2003
 - c) 1970
 - d) 1982

- 2. Arbor Day (USA) is observed on the last Friday of which month?**
 - a) January
 - b) February
 - c) March
 - d) April

- 3. What American river caught fire in 1969, prompting multiple pollution control measures?**
 - a) The Fox River
 - b) The Cuyahoga River
 - c) The Colorado River
 - d) The Scioto River

- 4. It was estimated that more than a million trees were planted in observance of the first American Arbor Day.**
 - a) True
 - b) False

- 5. What book helped launch the modern environmental movement, and led to the widespread ban of DDT?**
 - a) Silent Spring
 - b) The End of Nature
 - c) Earth in the Balance
 - d) The Lorax

- 6. When was the first America Arbor Day observed?**
 - a) 1867
 - b) 1872
 - c) 1883
 - d) 1975

- 7. What United States federal program was introduced in 1980 to clean up abandoned toxic and hazardous waste sites?**
 - a) Environmental Finance Program
 - b) Surface Transportation Environment and Planning Cooperative Research Program (STEP)
 - c) Superfund Program
 - d) Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation (EHP)

- 8. The first U.S. state to recognize Arbor Day was _____?**
- a) California
 - b) Kansas
 - c) New Hampshire
 - d) Nebraska
- 9. Which of the following helped reduce air pollution?**
- a) Using LED lights
 - b) Using water-based products
 - c) Using cruise control
 - d) All of the above
- 10. Which of the following legislative actions occurred directly following the first Earth Day?**
- a) The Creation of the EPA
 - b) The Clean Air Act Extension
 - c) The Clean Water Act
 - d) All of the above
- 11. How long has Mesa been a Tree City USA?**
- a) One year
 - b) Five years
 - c) Twelve years
 - d) Twenty-five years
- 12. In 1996, the U.S. EPA issued regulations requiring that home buyers and renters be informed of the presence of lead in what common household material?**
- a) Drywall
 - b) Paint
 - c) Corian
 - d) Asbestos
- 13. The Stockholm Convention of 2001 aimed to reduce what chemical substances that are known to bio-accumulate and pose a risk to human health?**
- a) Mercury compounds
 - b) Nuclear byproducts
 - c) Persistent organic pollutants (POPs)
 - d) Carbon dioxide derivatives
- 14. What children's book was first published in 1971 and is known as a fable about industrialized society and the danger it poses to nature?**
- a) The Lorax
 - b) Silent Spring
 - c) Berenstain Bears
 - d) Touch the Earth

----SEE ANSWERS ON NEXT PAGE... NO PEEKING UNTIL YOU ARE DONE!

ANSWERS TO EARTH DAY & ARBOR DAY QUIZ

1. (c) This year marks the 52nd year. Earth Day was first observed on **April 22, 1970**, when an estimated 20 million people nationwide attended the inaugural event. Senator Gaylord Nelson promoted Earth Day, calling upon students to fight for environmental causes and oppose environmental degradation with the same energy that they displayed in opposing the Vietnam War.
2. (d) **April**. That makes it this Friday, April 29.
3. (b) The 1969 **Cuyahoga River** fire helped spur an avalanche of water pollution control activities resulting in the Clean Water Act, Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and the creation of the federal EPA and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA). As a result, large point sources of pollution on the Cuyahoga have received significant attention from the OEPA in recent decades.
4. (a) **True**. The 1st official Arbor Day was created by J. Sterling Morton and celebrated in Nebraska in 1872 and **an estimated 1 million trees were planted**. This year marks the 150th anniversary! His simple idea of setting aside a special day for tree planting is now more important than ever. In the years following that first Arbor Day, Morton's idea spread beyond Nebraska and today all 50 states celebrate Arbor Day.
5. (a) The New Yorker started serializing **Silent Spring** in June 1962, and it was published in book form later that year. When the book was published, author Rachel Carson was already a well-known writer on natural history. The book was widely read (especially after its selection by the Book-of-the-Month Club and the New York Times best-seller list) and inspired widespread public concerns with pesticides and pollution of the environment. The book facilitated the ban of the pesticide DDT in 1972 in the U.S.
6. (b) **1872** The 1st official Arbor Day was created by J. Sterling Morton and celebrated in Nebraska.
7. (c) **Superfund** created the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and it provides broad federal authority to clean up releases or threatened releases of hazardous substances that may endanger public health or the environment. The law authorized the EPA to identify parties responsible for contamination of sites and compel the parties to clean up the sites.
8. (d) **Nebraska**. J. Sterling Morton, a newspaper editor and politician created the first Arbor Day because the pioneers of the time needed trees as windbreaks, to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade.
9. (d) **All**. By reducing energy consumption, choosing sustainable products, and eliminating your exposure to chemicals, we can reduce pollution levels. If less gasoline, natural gas and electricity (power plants burn fossil fuels to generate electricity) are used, not only do your bills decrease but less pollutants are emitted. Water-based products have less volatile organic compounds that pollute the air.
10. (d) **All**. Just 8 months after the first Earth Day, the Environmental Protection Agency began dealing with all of the country's eco-initiatives, from banning DDT and setting emission standards to regulating the application of lead-based paint and preventing water pollution.
11. (c) **12 years**. Mesa first became a Tree City USA in 2010 to honor its commitment to community forestry. This designation is from the National Arbor Day Foundation. Becoming a Tree City USA provides a community with a greater ability to improve community urban forests, encourages tree care and planting programs, enhances livable communities, and of course, benefits the environment.
12. (b) On March 6, 1996, EPA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued the **lead-based paint** disclosure rule which ensures that families receive information to protect themselves from lead-based paint hazards.
13. (c) Following a 1995 call for global action to be taken on **POPs**, defined as "chemical substances that persist in the environment, bio-accumulate through the food web, and pose a risk of causing adverse effects to human health and the environment." The Stockholm Convention resulted in a ban of the 12 'dirty dozen' harmful POPs by 128 signatory countries. Another 16 additional chemicals were added to the treaty in 2017.
14. (a) **The Lorax**. Written by Dr. Seuss and published in 1971, The Lorax is a small orange creature who speaks for the trees against the greedy Once-ler. The book has become a popular metaphor for those concerned about the human impact on the environment.