



SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL

**Keep Oconee Beautiful Association and Duke Energy volunteers refurbish the World of Energy Butterfly Garden with native and pollinator plants. The project aims to better attract migrating butterflies this summer, while beautifying the education center's outdoor exhibits.**

## Earth Day in May festival planned at World of Energy

THE JOURNAL STAFF

**SENECA** — Partnering with the Keep Oconee Beautiful Association, Duke Energy's World of Energy will host an Earth Day in May festival to highlight its shared responsibility in taking care of the planet.

The festival is planned for 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday. Activity stations will be placed on the World of Energy grounds to teach children and families what small steps they can take to make a positive impact on the environment.

"The World of Energy is about a year older than Earth Day, and we've always had an interest in keeping our corner of the Upstate a haven for plants and animals," World of Energy manager Chris Rimel said. "Not many people know, but the World of Energy had solar panels on our roof in 1969. We use rain barrels to this day."

Festival activity stations will feature World of Energy Butterfly Garden tours. Keep Oconee Beautiful Association volunteers will teach participants about native and pollinator plants and their importance to the local ecosystem.

Students will get their hands dirty cultivating native seed varieties at the seed-planting station, and they'll

learn about the art and science of using worms for composting at the vermiculture station.

Other activities include reduce, reuse and recycle games, watershed demonstrations and using recycled materials for arts and crafts.

"The Keep Oconee Beautiful Association is excited to have the opportunity to partner with Duke World of Energy to present Earth Day in May," KOBA executive director Lisa Nock said.

"We will be bringing our elementary education program outside with fun activities that promote anti-littering and taking care of the Earth. Join us, along with Kobie Bear, to learn how you can show you care about our environment."

Keep Oconee Beautiful Association and Duke Energy volunteers have been participating in a project to refurbish the World of Energy Butterfly Garden with native and pollinator plants prior to the festival.

The project, which will be unveiled at the festival, aims to better attract migrating butterflies this summer while beautifying the education center's outdoor exhibits.

For more information, contact the World of Energy at (864) 873-4600 or visit [duke-energy.com/worldofenergy](http://duke-energy.com/worldofenergy).