

Famous First Facts About the Environment

A

ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—ANIMAL RIGHTS

1001. Evidence of bullfighting as a sport dates from 2000 B.C. in Crete. A wall painting excavated at Knossos shows male and female acrobats confronting a bull. Bullfighting was introduced to Spain in the 11th century by the Moors, and later spread to other Spanish-speaking countries. Bullfighting, which generally leads to the death of a bull, has been strongly criticized by animal rights activists.

1002. Recorded evidence of the use of animals in research dates from the 3rd century B.C. The Greek physician and anatomist Erasistratus of Alexandria in Egypt (fl. c. 250 B.C.) used animals in his studies of circulation and nerves.

1003. Published presentation of the philosophy that humans should not be cruel to animals because animals can feel pain was presented by English philosopher Jeremy Bentham in 1780. Bentham wrote about his philosophy in *Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation*.

1004. Use of the phrase “The question is not, Can they reason?, not, Can they talk?, but, Can they suffer?” was by English philosopher Jeremy Bentham in 1780. It was in his book *Introduction to the Principles of Morals and Legislation*. The phrase sums up the philosophy that we should be kind to animals because they can feel pain.

1005. Animal protection legislation was passed by the British Parliament in 1822. The push for the measure grew out of city-dwellers’ gradual recognition that animals share many traits with humans, such as the ability to feel pain and the capacity for love, loyalty, and grief.

1006. Animal welfare organization started on a national level was the Society for the Protection of Animals, founded in England in 1824. The Society for the Protection of Animals was a response in part to Parliament’s passage of animal protection legislation two years before. Similar private societies were established in the United States later in the 19th century. Though the movement spread more slowly in Europe, private animal protection organizations had appeared in several European countries by 1900.

1007. Society for animal welfare in the U.S. was the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, established in 1866. Its founder was Henry Bergh of New York City, a pioneer in humane treatment of animals. The society was chartered in New York State in April 1866.

1008. Antivivisection legislation was introduced in the British House of Lords on May 4, 1875. Vivisection is the practice of cutting open living, and often unanesthetized, animals. Parliament in 1876 approved a measure regulating painful animal experiments.

1009. National act regulating painful experimentation on animals was approved in Britain in 1876. The Cruelty to Animals Act allowed painful experiments only if they furthered physiological knowledge and prohibited the use of animals for the practice of surgical skills.

1010. National animal rights organization in the United States was the American Anti-Vivisection Society, organized on February 23, 1883, at Philadelphia, PA. According to its charter, the goal of the Society was to restrict “the practice of vivisection within proper limits” and “the prevention of the injudicious and needless infliction of suffering upon animals under the pretense of medical and scientific research.” The founder of the society was Caroline Earle White and its first president was Thomas George Morton. The first annual meeting was held on January 30, 1884, in Philadelphia.

1011—1024 FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—ANIMAL RIGHTS—continued**

1011. Fur farm was established on Prince Edward Island in Canada in 1887. Fur farmers used controlled breeding to achieve characteristics of size, color, and texture. Fur farms have since become a controversial issue. Animal rights advocates strongly oppose raising animals in captivity simply for their fur.

1012. Use of the term *animal rights* came in a work by India-born British naturalist and classical scholar Henry Salt in 1892. His *Animals' Rights Considered in Relation to Social Progress* argued the notion that animals should live free of human interference and humans should not use animals for their own purposes: for eating, for clothing (as in fur coats), or for scientific experimentation.

1013. Law in the United States to make shipment of wild animals a federal offense if the animals were taken in violation of state laws was the Lacey Game and Wild Birds Preservation and Disposition Act, approved by Congress in 1900.

1014. Mass-membership animal rights organization in the United States was the Humane Society of the United States, established in 1954. The society, with 3.5 million members, preserves wildlife and wilderness and intervenes on behalf of endangered species; it has campaigned for protection of whales, dolphins, elephants, bears, and wolves, and to curtail use of animals in medical research.

1015. Bill to require humane slaughter of animals in the United States was introduced by Rep. Martha Griffiths (D, MI) in 1956. Although that original bill was not passed, Congress in 1958 enacted the Humane Slaughter Law for animals in slaughterhouses and trapped animals on federal land.

1016. Broad-based animal welfare organization to oppose the slaughter of fur seals was the Humane Society of the United States, established in 1960. Other groups such as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and the Fund for Animals soon joined the campaign against seal killings.

1017. Federal law in the United States closely regulating the use of animals in medical and commercial research was the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966. A grassroots lobby campaign led by Christine Stevens, founder of the Animal Welfare Institute, was credited with leading Congress to approve the measure.

1018. Law in the United States to require laboratories to furnish adequate food and shelter for test animals was enacted in 1966. The Animal Welfare Act of that year did not, however, limit the types of experiments that could be done on lab animals.

1019. Activist to popularize the term *speciesism* was the author Peter Singer in his book *Animal Liberation*, published in 1975. The term describes an attitude that places human interests above those of all other species. Opposition to speciesism is a foundation of the modern animal rights movement.

1020. Legislation in the United States making animal fighting a federal offense was the Animal Welfare Act Amendments, enacted in 1976. The Humane Society of the United States lobbied hard for the measure.

1021. Underground animal rights organization to operate in the United States was the Animal Liberation Front, an offshoot of an English group, established in 1979. Activists broke into government and university laboratories, medical research facilities, slaughterhouses, hatcheries, and furriers and claimed responsibility for setting fires, destroying equipment, and stealing research materials.

1022. Boycott of a major U.S. automaker in protest of the use of animals in crash tests began on October 1, 1991, against some General Motors dealerships. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), the radical animal rights group, launched the "Heartbreak of America" boycott against General Motors dealerships in 20 states.

1023. State in the United States to call for a moratorium on planned breeding of dogs and cats was Washington in February 1994. The one-year moratorium came in response to a Humane Society of the United States campaign to reduce the population of unwanted pets.

ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—ANTI-ENVIRONMENTALISM

1024. Publication that outlined the goals of the "wise-use" movement was *The Wise Use Agenda: The Citizen's Policy Guide to Environmental Resource Issues: A Task Force Report*, by Ron Arnold, leader of the "wise-use" movement, and Alan M. Gottlieb. It appeared in 1989, advocating what the authors called "a middle way between extreme environmentalism and extreme industrialism." The "wise-use" movement was a coalition of anti-environmentalist interests that had its beginnings at the Multiple-Use Strategy Conference in Reno, NV, in August 1988.

FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT 1025—1037

1025. Organized resistance to environmental regulations was signaled by publication of the essay "An Anti-Environmental Manifesto," by Llewellyn H. Rockwell, a conservative critic and propagandist who took a critical look at the environmental movement. His essay was published in a special quarterly report of conservative journalist Patrick J. Buchanan's newsletter, *Patrick J. Buchanan . . . From the Right*, in 1990.

ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS— CONSERVATIONISM

1026. Conservationist of note in the United States was the Scottish-born naturalist John Muir. Born in 1838, he arrived in the United States at age 11. He spent many years traveling around the United States and Canada as a forester and botanist before settling in California, where he campaigned for the establishment of national forests and parks, including Yosemite National Park, formed in 1890 by an act of Congress. He was also the founder of the Sierra Club. California's Muir Woods National Monument and Alaska's Muir Glacier were named after him.

1027. Wildlife conservation group in the U.S. was the New York Association for the Protection of Game formed in 1844.

1028. Society emphasizing conservation in the United States was the American Forestry Association. It was established in 1875 to help protect forests and to promote the planting of new trees.

1029. Private and nonprofit land conservation organization in the United States was the Appalachian Mountain Club, established in 1876. The Appalachian Mountain Club, organized to promote the conservation of the Appalachian Mountains, is still in existence today.

1030. Boone and Crockett Club meeting occurred in January 1888 in New York City. Theodore Roosevelt and *Field and Stream* editor George Bird Grinnell founded the sportsmen's conservation group. The group, now located in Alexandria, VA, lobbies for conservation laws and wildlife refuges.

1031. Irrigation advocacy group in the United States was the National Irrigation Association, begun in a hotel room in Wichita, KS, on June 2, 1889. George Hebard Maxwell formed the association to educate the nation about using irrigation to reclaim western lands. The group's efforts helped pass two major acts, the Carey Irrigation Act in 1894 and the Newlands Reclamation Act in 1902.

1032. National Conservation Commission in the United States was formed in 1908. President Theodore Roosevelt appointed 50 members from government, industry, and science to the new commission, which was charged with working with the states to inventory U.S. natural resources.

1033. Governors' conference on U.S. conservation issues convened in Washington, DC, on May 13, 1908. President Theodore Roosevelt called the Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources to discuss land and forest management, irrigation, livestock grazing on public lands, and other issues.

1034. Tri-national conference on conservation in North America was the North American Conservation Conference, convened on February 18, 1909. An outgrowth of President Theodore Roosevelt's U.S. governors' conference of 1908, the North American Conservation Conference included representatives of Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

1035. Conservation group to focus on the eastern United States in addition to western states was the National Parks Association (NPA), founded by Stephen T. Mather and Robert Sterling Yard in May 1919. The first meeting was held at the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC. The NPA promoted parks to tourists and lobbied for more parks to be established. Since the 1970s it has been called the National Parks Conservation Association.

1036. Noted "back to the land" conservationist in the United States was Scott Nearing, whose life and works helped inspire the modern environmental movement. Nearing and his wife Helen bought a run-down farm in Vermont in 1932 and set out "to live sanely and simply in a troubled world." Several books, including *Living the Good Life* (1954), recount their experiences and offer a radical critique of the wastefulness of modern consumer society.

1037. International organization of significance dedicated to protecting and conserving global resources was established at Fontainebleau, France, in 1948. Governmental agencies and private groups of 33 countries were represented initially in the World Conservation Union. By the mid-1990s, the union claimed about 800 members from more than 100 countries.

1038—1050 FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT

**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—
CONSERVATIONISM—continued**

1038. Private environmental organization of significance in the United States to purchase and preserve substantial natural habitats was the Nature Conservancy, established in 1951. Now the fourth largest environmental organization in the United States, with 600,000 members, the Conservancy owns 1,000 nature preserves totaling 5 million acres.

1039. Woman to head a major U.S. conservation organization and receive a salary was Kathryn Fuller, who became the president and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in 1989. In 1997 she launched the WWF's Living Planet Campaign.

**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—
ECOFEMINISM**

1040. Ecological protests by women occurred in the 18th century when Amrita Devi, her daughters, and more than 350 Indian women gave their lives to protect a forest in the district of Rajasthan, India. They were members of the Bishbios sect and believed trees to be sacred.

1041. Nonviolent protest of significance by the modern Chipko movement in India occurred on April 4, 1973, when women of Gopeshwar in Uttar Pradesh confronted loggers. The women, who were educated by Mira Behn and Sarala Behn, put the principles of nonviolence to work by hugging trees to stop the loggers from cutting them down. They eventually saved more than 4,633 square miles of forest in India.

1042. Use of the term *ecofeminism* occurred in 1974. French novelist, essayist, and journalist Françoise d'Eaubonne coined the term to show the relationship between ecology and feminist theory; both embraced the notion of the interconnectedness of all things. She used the term in her 1974 book *Le féminisme où la mort (Feminism or Death)*.

1043. Environmental group in Kenya to tie deforestation to poverty was the Green Belt Movement, founded by Wangari Maathai in 1977. The group taught Kenyan women agricultural survival tips such as intercropping and agroforestry and planted several hundred trees in Kenya.

1044. WorldWIDE Network Inc. meeting was held in Washington, DC, in 1981. WorldWIDE Network Inc. is an international environmental forum started by Joan Martin-Brown. It provides a forum for women to share information and identifies women to speak to government bodies about local environmental issues.

1045. Environmental activist to become a member of a women's hall of fame was Mary Sinclair, inducted into the Michigan Woman's Hall of Fame in the fall of 1990. Mary Sinclair led the battle against Dow Chemical and Consumer Power in Midland, MI, in the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. As a result of her activism the proposed nuclear power plant in Midland is now a natural-gas power plant. Women's halls of fame honor women of outstanding achievement in all fields of study.

1046. Women's international conference on the environment was held in Miami in 1991. Joan Martin-Brown and the Women's Environment and Development Organization cosponsored this conference where conferees shared information on environmental progress in their countries.

**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—
ENVIRONMENTALISM**

1047. Environmental movement of significance in the United States dates from about 1836 in New England, the locus of literary and philosophical transcendentalism. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, and other transcendentalists expressed reverence for the natural world and believed that human beings and nature shared a divine spirit. Most of the first meetings in transcendentalism took place in Concord, MA.

1048. Research showing that human activity could cause irretrievable damage to the earth was contained in George Perkins Marsh's *Man and Nature*. Written while Marsh was in Italy, it was published in the United States in 1864. He discussed how deforestation, loss of wetlands, species extinction, and changes in weather patterns are related to human activity.

1049. Use of the term *ecology* was attributed to the German naturalist Ernst Haeckel. A supporter of Charles Darwin and his evolutionary theory, Haeckel in 1869 coined the term to describe "the body of knowledge concerning the economy of nature." He was also the first to draw a "family tree" illustrating the relationships between various animal groups.

1050. Expression of the concept that the earth is a living organism came in 1892 in *The Land Problem* by ethnologist Otis T. Mason, an early environmentalist. Ecologist James Lovelock later used the name of the Greek earth goddess Gaia to symbolize complex and changing biological behavior on the planet.

FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT 1051—1064

- 1051. National environmental organization in the United States** was the Sierra Club, a product of the conservation movement, founded in 1892. The naturalist and conservationist John Muir and his allies established the organization in response to logger, miner, and rancher efforts to shrink the boundaries of the newly created Yosemite National Park. With more than 650,000 members, the Sierra Club is today probably the most powerful environmental group in the world.
- 1052. Use of the term *oekology* (ecology) in the United States** occurred during a speech given by Ellen Swallow on December 1, 1892, at Boston's Vendome Hotel. She said "Oekology is the worthiest of all the applied sciences which teaches the principles on which to found healthy and happy homes."
- 1053. Introduction of the discipline of animal ecology** came in 1927, when British zoologist Charles S. Elton published *Animal Ecology*. Elton was a key figure in the founding of the Nature Conservancy in England in 1948.
- 1054. "Land Ethic" concept** was introduced by U.S. naturalist Aldo Leopold in 1933. His plea to care for land and its biological complex, instead of considering it a commodity, was first stated in a *Journal of Forestry* article. He later expanded and clarified his ideas in his book *A Sand County Almanac* (1949). The core of the "Land Ethic" concept argues that "a thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise."
- 1055. National organization dedicated specifically to preserving wilderness (as opposed to wildlife) in the United States** was the Wilderness Society. It grew out of a discussion between founder Robert Marshall and others at an American Forestry Conference in Knoxville, TN, on October 19, 1934. The society organized its first conference in January 1935.
- 1056. Use of the term *ecosystem*** was in 1935. The English plant ecologist Arthur G. Tansley coined the term to define a community of plants, animals, and bacteria and its interrelated physical and chemical environment.
- 1057. Sierra Club chapter formed outside of California** was started by Polly and John Dyer in Washington State during the 1950s. Polly Dyer later became the first Sierra Club national board member who was not from California.
- 1058. Exploits of "The Fox," the anonymous Chicago-area environmentalist**, were in the mid-1960s. The Fox jammed chimney-plugged effluent pipes, and hung signs such as one that read: "We're involved—in killing Lake Michigan. U.S. Steel." His main targets were large industries with poor environmental records. The Fox was ultimately identified as James Phillips, a middle-school science teacher from Aurora, IL, after his death on October 3, 2001.
- 1059. World Charter for Nature** was adopted by the United Nations in 1982. The charter proclaimed that "nature shall be respected and its essential processes not impaired."
- 1060. International conference to discuss global environmental issues** was the Biosphere Conference in Paris in 1968. However, the UN-sponsored conference made no recommendations and took no other action.
- 1061. Assembly of significance of environmental lawyers, law school faculty and environmental leaders in the United States** occurred in 1969 at Airlee House in Virginia. The gathering, sponsored by the Conservation Foundation, discussed the emerging field of environmental law.
- 1062. Comprehensive national policies for protecting the environment in the United States** were introduced in 1969 with the National Environmental Policy Act. The act created a Council on Environmental Quality and required federal agencies to take environmental consequences into account in their plans and activities. The council's influence was sharply restricted during the Reagan administration in the 1980s.
- 1063. Environmental organization to pursue direct action as a primary strategy** was Greenpeace, founded in Vancouver, British Columbia, in November 1969. Greenpeace operations have included plugging industrial effluent pipes, interfering with commercial whale fisheries, and sailing into nuclear test zones to protest scheduled test explosions. Greenpeace had offices in around 30 countries and a world membership of 4 million in the late 1990s.
- 1064. Requirement for an environmental impact statement for development projects in the United States** was introduced in 1969. In most cases, the requirement applies to individual projects such as housing developments and shopping centers.

1065—1076 FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—ENVIRONMENTALISM—continued**

1065. Environmental movement of significance in the Soviet Union arose in the late 1960s in opposition to development and industrialization that threatened South Siberia's natural treasure, Lake Baikal. Such organizations as the Limnological Institute in Irkutsk and such prominent authors as Valentin Rasputin were at the forefront of the campaign to protect the lake. Their efforts influenced the Soviet Council of Ministers to pass a resolution in January 1969 mandating strict pollution controls on new industry constructed in the Baikal watershed and directing various national and regional Soviet authorities to make recommendations for the basin's sustainable use.

1066. Appearance of the environmental movement known as bioregionalism was in California in the 1970s. The movement, which spread through the United States in the 1980s, regarded the earth as life territory defined by topography and biota rather than by human beings and their governmental apparatus.

1067. Cabinet-level regulatory environmental agency in the United States came into being in December 1970. The Nixon administration created the Environmental Protection Agency to consolidate federal regulatory functions in a single bureau. William D. Ruckelshaus was the agency's first administrator.

1068. Organizational expression of the bioregional movement was Planet Drum, established in San Francisco, CA, in the 1970s. It produced a biannual publication, *Raise the Stakes*, and introduced the "Green City Program" to promote bioregionalism in cities.

1069. Earth Day to be celebrated nationwide in the United States was held on April 22, 1970. Twenty million Americans, including students at some 2,000 colleges and 10,000 high schools, participated in marches, educational programs, and rallies intended to increase public awareness of the world's environmental problems. In subsequent years some groups and officials have celebrated Earth Day on April 22, while others have chosen the Vernal Equinox to mark the occasion. An earlier Earth Day celebration had been organized on March 21, 1970, in San Francisco, CA.

1070. Global environmental conference to spur activism was the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm, Sweden, in 1972. Its most important result was the revolutionary precedent it set for international cooperation in addressing environmental degradation. All nations, the confer-

ence concluded, have a shared responsibility for the quality of the environment, particularly the oceans and the atmosphere. The immediate result was the formation of the United Nations Environment Programme, which gave rise to a growing group of national environmental agencies and private groups dedicated to the salvation of the environment through public awareness and protective legislation.

1071. Successful conservation organization to use paying volunteers to sponsor and assist scientists on research trips throughout the world was Earthwatch, established in Watertown, MA, in 1972. By the mid-1990s, Earthwatch had 70,000 members and more than 150 research projects underway.

1072. United Nations organization to establish its headquarters in an underdeveloped country was the United Nations Environment Programme, launched in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1972. UNEP's mission was to encourage conservation policies in member nations and to monitor environmental issues worldwide.

1073. Use of the phrase "think globally, act locally" dates to 1972, when ecologist René Dubos coined it at the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, Sweden. Dubos meant to convey the idea that environmental consciousness begins at home.

1074. EPA Journal a publication of the Environmental Protection Agency, was issued in January 1975 by Joan Martin-Brown, the EPA director of public affairs. Published between 1975 and 1995, the *EPA Journal* was used by government leaders and activists alike.

1075. Environmental organization to substantially practice "ecotage" was Earth First!, a controversial radical group founded in Missoula, MT, in 1979. Earth First! founders took inspiration from naturalist/author Edward Abbey's novel *The Monkey Wrench Gang* (1975), in which the main characters plotted "monkey wrenching" in environmental causes and fantasized about blowing up the Glen Canyon Dam. Ecotage tactics include putting sand in bulldozer fuel tanks, spiking trees, and sabotaging drilling equipment. Earth First! has been heavily involved in challenging logging operations in the U.S. Pacific Northwest.

1076. Patron saint of ecology was Francis of Assisi, proclaimed by Pope John Paul II in 1979. The pope urged the faithful to practice the Italian saint's respect for all creation.

FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT 1077—1090

1077. Use of the acronym SLAPP dates from the mid-1980s. SLAPP is the tactic employed by polluters and developers who file suit in U.S. courts against their environmentalist opponents. It stands for "Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation."

1078. Group of Ten meeting took place in a Washington, DC, restaurant on January 21, 1981. Leaders of the nine (the tenth executive joined later) largest national environmental organizations hosted potential contributors who wanted to donate money to their cause and to discuss common goals for political action. Deliberately held the day after Ronald Reagan was inaugurated, the Group of Ten ushered in the modern era of environmentalism. The organization disbanded at the end of the 1980s but the name Group of Ten continued to be used as a symbol of mainstream environmentalism.

1079. National protest of significance sponsored by Earth First! was on March 21, 1981, at the Glen Canyon Dam on the Colorado River along the Utah-Arizona border. Earth First!, which considered itself a radical environmental organization, was founded in April 1980 and operated under the slogan "No Compromise in the Defense of Mother Earth."

1080. Substantial cuts in the budget of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency were made in 1981 and 1982, the first two years of the Reagan administration. The agency, established in 1970, lost 29 percent of its budget and a quarter of its staff during those two years.

1081. Joint document from major U.S. environmental groups to spell out a national environmental policy was "An Agenda for the Future," published in 1984. The Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, and other major national organizations collaborated to produce the document.

1082. Radical "deep ecology" platform was developed in 1984 and published the following year. Norwegian philosopher Arne Naess and Bill Devall, an American sociologist, laid out a set of eight principles underpinning the need to protect the nonhuman world from human beings. Naess called the compromises of mainstream environmentalists "shallow ecology."

1083. Handbook on ecological sabotage was published in 1985. Dave Foreman's *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching*, established guidelines for sabotage in defense of the environment. Foreman, a cofounder of Earth First!, gave detailed instructions for destroying or disabling things that damage the wilderness.

1084. Radical environmental activist arrested and convicted for "monkeywrenching" in the United States was Howie Wolke, an Earth First! cofounder, in 1985. A fellow cofounder, Dave Foreman, the author of *Ecodefense: A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching* (i.e., environmental sabotage), was later arrested on federal conspiracy charges. Though Foreman pleaded guilty, he refused to disavow monkeywrenching as a tactic.

1085. Student Environmental Action Coalition in the United States was organized at the University of North Carolina in 1988. Within four years, the coalition claimed 33,000 members at 1,500 college campuses and 750 high schools throughout the United States.

1086. Joint United Nations–World Council of Churches "Environmental Sabbath" was declared for June 18, 1989. The council's convention, meeting in San Antonio, TX, in June 1989 urged clergy of all denominations to preach on the integrity of all creation that day.

1087. Introduction of the concept of "ecothology" came in a message from Pope John Paul II on December 5, 1989. In his message for the World Day of Peace, the pope told Christians it was their moral duty to protect the environment. The papal message had a major impact on Roman Catholic teaching on ecology.

1088. Mobilization and training of youth to participate in nonviolent environmental protest was organized by Judi Bari. The Redwood Summer of 1990 was modeled on the Mississippi civil rights campaign of 1964. More than 3,000 people came to Northern California to chain themselves to logging equipment and hug trees to protect the Headwater Forest from logging.

1089. Earth Day to be celebrated around the world took place on April 22, 1990, the 20th anniversary of the first environmental awareness Earth Day in the United States. In Kenya, celebrants planted 1.5 million trees; activists in Munich, Germany, released 10,000 balloons carrying environmental messages.

1090. Environmental coalition of small island nations was the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), organized in November 1990. AOSIS has a membership of 43 small island nations, coastal nations, and observers from all regions of the world. It was organized by developing countries concerned about climate change and the impact it might have on low-lying maritime areas. It operates mainly as a lobby and consultant within the United Nations system.

1091—1103 FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—ENVIRONMENTALISM—*continued***

1091. Widely acknowledged environmentalist to be chosen as a major-party U.S. vice presidential candidate was Tennessee senator Albert Gore. Democratic presidential candidate Bill Clinton tapped Gore as his running mate on July 9, 1992. Both were elected in November.

1092. Guidelines issued in the United States by the Federal Trade Commission for environmental marketing claims were adopted on July 28, 1992. The guidelines gave examples of legitimate “earth friendly” environmental product claims as well as ones that could be false or misleading.

1093. Scholarly article to identify a legal trend curbing the powers of environmental groups and private citizens to sue polluters in U.S. courts appeared in *The Environmental Law Forum* in 1999. In the article, two Georgetown University scholars traced the gradual weakening of citizen powers to a 1983 law review article by Antonin Scalia, who won appointment to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986.

ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—GRASSROOTS

1094. Mass death of “tree huggers” occurred during the 17th century in the district of Rajasthan in India. Amrita Devi, her daughters, and more than 350 Indian women died to protect the trees in that district. Amrita is the inspiration for the modern Chipko Movement in India.

1095. Land purchased for what would become Everglades National Park in Florida was bought by the Florida Federation of Women’s Clubs in 1927. Twenty years later the Everglades National Park became a reality.

1096. Citizen lawsuit provisions allowing people to file legal actions in U.S. courts to protect the environment were contained in the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and other environmental legislation of the 1970s. Citizens could seek injunctions to stop pollution as well as penalties against polluters to be paid into the U.S. Treasury.

1097. Valhalla Wilderness Society meeting was in 1975. Colleen McCrory founded the group to publicize the value of the Valhalla Range in British Columbia, Canada, and to lobby for its preservation. In 1983, the British Columbian government created the Valhalla Provincial Park.

1098. Trees planted by the Green Belt Movement were planted in Nyeri, Kenya, on World Environment Day in June, 1977. A few women gathered in Wangari Maatahi’s backyard and planted seven trees. These trees were the first of over 17 million trees the group has planted worldwide as of 1995.

1099. Love Canal Homeowners Association meeting was organized by Lois Gibbs in the spring of 1978. Love Canal was a section of Niagara Falls, NY, that was once a chemical disposal site. Between 1942 and 1953, Hooker Chemicals and Plastics dumped tons of toxic wastes in poorly sealed metal drums into a nearby empty canal. The canal was eventually filled in and sold by the company to the city of Niagara Falls. Housing and an elementary school were later built on the site. When a high number of birth defects, miscarriages, cancers, and other illnesses began to plague the area in the late 1970s, it was determined that toxins were seeping from the buried drums and making their way to the surface. The Love Canal Homeowners Association was organized in response to the growing concern over the toxins. In late 1978, Love Canal inhabitants had to move from their homes due to industrial pollutants. President Jimmy Carter declared Love Canal a federal disaster area in 1978.

1100. Widespread use of the acronym NIMBY occurred in the United States in the 1980s. NIMBY stands for “not in my backyard,” and it became a standard response to proposals for environmentally unsound or otherwise unwanted development, from nuclear waste disposal sites to low-income public housing.

1101. National Toxics Campaign in the United States was launched in Boston, MA, by the Sierra Club in 1984. The campaign coordinated grassroots movements pressing for cleanups of military waste sites.

1102. National organization formed to assist U.S. local, regional, and state grassroots environmental groups with their projects was the Environmental Support Center, established in Washington, DC, in 1990. The center helped local groups find free legal advice, get technical aid, and raise funds.

1103. Person in England to chain herself to a bulldozer to protest a highway was Emma Must, in June 1993. Later this tactic became a hallmark of the British Anti-Roadway Movement. Emma Must founded the Twyford Down Alert! in 1993 to protest the building of a major road through Twyford Down.

FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT 1104—1118

ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—GREEN POLITICS

1104. State governor in the United States to implement a doctrine of conservation in balance with economic concerns was Oregon's Thomas McCall, who served from 1967 to 1975. Under the leadership of McCall, a Republican, Oregon introduced statewide land use planning, coastal management, and strict industrial pollution standards.

1105. Local environmental political parties were established in Sweden and Switzerland in 1971. These were the precursors of large and sometimes influential national parties in New Zealand, Germany, Great Britain, the Netherlands, and elsewhere. The first regional environmental political party emerged in the Australian state of Tasmania in 1972.

1106. Use of the term *green* in the context of environmental activism was recorded in 1971 with the founding of the radical environmental group Greenpeace. *Green* is now widely used to denote movements and political parties that campaign on environmental issues. Greenpeace got its start in the early 1970s with widely publicized direct action against nuclear weapons testing.

1107. National environmental political party is commonly regarded as the New Zealand Values party, established in 1972. The first national environmental party in Great Britain emerged in 1973; French and Belgian green parties were founded later in the 1970s.

1108. Political party to take an environmental issue to the polls was the United Tasmanian Group, which entered the Australian state elections in April 1972. The group mobilized to oppose a hydroelectric project that would flood Lake Pedder.

1109. National political party in Europe committed primarily to environmental and ecological issues was founded in Britain in February 1973. Known first simply as "People" and later as the Ecology Party, it became the Green Party in 1985. The party's electoral success has been modest, though it has influenced Britain's major political alignments on some environmental issues.

1110. Ecological candidate elected to a national parliament took office in Switzerland in 1979. Perhaps the best-known European environmental political party, Germany's Greens, emerged on a local and regional level in West Germany in 1977 but did not send their first representatives to the national legislature until 1983. The Swiss and German parties today gather between 5 and 10 percent of the national vote.

1111. Politician from a Green party to be elected to a national parliament was Daniel Brelaz in Switzerland in 1979. Two years later, four Greens were elected to the Belgian parliament.

1112. Parliament to have a substantial Green bloc represented was the West German parliament in 1982. Twenty-seven members of Germany's Green Party were elected. Petra Kelly was chosen as one of the German Greens' speakers.

1113. Establishment of what would become the U.S. Greens was in Minneapolis, MN, in 1984. The organization, modeled on the German Green Party, grew to 200 local chapters in all 50 states and changed its name to the U.S. Greens.

1114. Person to be elected the head of a government after serving as a minister of the environment was Gro Harlem Brundtland, elected prime minister of Norway in 1986. As prime minister, Brundtland became a world ecological leader who advocated a new emphasis on prevention instead of cleanup.

1115. State in which the U.S. Green political party gained ballot status was Alaska, in 1990. California followed in 1992.

1116. Woman to head the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was Carol Browner, who was appointed in 1993. Browner believed that "economic progress and environmental protection can and must go hand in hand."

1117. Green politician to join a national government as a minister was Pekka Haavisto in Finland in March 1995. Haavisto won appointment as minister for the environment and planning.

1118. U.S. Green Party presidential campaign was launched in 1995. Candidate Ralph Nader's name appeared on the ballot in 22 states and he polled about 1 percent of the vote in the 1996 election.

1119—1136 FAMOUS FIRST FACTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT**ACTIVIST MOVEMENTS—GREEN POLITICS—continued**

1119. National Green party to become part of a governing coalition in Europe was Germany's Greens, in December 1998. The Greens were the junior partner in Social Democrat Gerhard Schroeder's government.

AGRICULTURE AND HORTICULTURE

1120. Domestication of the grain barley occurred in Persia circa 7000 B.C.

1121. Domestication of the root vegetable potato occurred in South America circa 2500 B.C.

1122. Introduction of drought-resistant rice occurred in China and Southeast Asia circa A.D. 1000. The strain of rice was known as Champa, after the region (now Vietnam) where it first appeared.

1123. Appearance in Europe of American corn and potatoes occurred in the 16th century. Europeans fed corn to livestock but ate most varieties of potatoes themselves. Compared to traditional crops, potatoes provided a dramatically higher yield for the labor involved, and a higher standard of nutrition in many areas.

1124. Introduction of tobacco plants into Europe occurred beginning in 1559, when Spanish sailors brought seeds home to Spain from Santo Domingo in the Caribbean. Tobacco plants reached Italy in 1561.

1125. Commercial cultivation of tobacco began in the Jamestown Colony in present-day Virginia, in 1612. It proved highly profitable and a substantial export trade had developed with England by 1620.

1126. Agricultural experimental farm in an American colony was established on a 10-acre plot set aside by Savannah, GA, in 1735. A botanist was appointed "to collect the seeds of drugs and dying-stuffs in other countries in the same climate, in order to cultivate such of them as shall be found to thrive well in Georgia."

1127. Synthetic fertilizer was a superphosphate of lime made from charred bone (the waste products of sugar refineries), to which were added sulfate of ammonia and Peruvian guano, developed by James Jay Mapes, who experimented with fertilizers in 1847 on his 20-acre farm in Newark, NJ. He applied for a patent in 1849, which was granted on November 22, 1859.

1128. Widespread use of South American guano in European agriculture occurred after 1850. Use of this natural fertilizer, used for centuries in South America, led to a significant increase in agricultural productivity in Europe.

1129. Head of the Department of Agriculture to be a member of the President's Cabinet was Norman Jay Colman in 1889. On February 8, 1889, the title Commissioner of Agriculture was changed to Secretary of Agriculture.

1130. Introduction of blended tobacco occurred in the United States during the first decade of the 20th century. Together with the development of popular name brands such as Camel (1913), milder blended tobaccos touched off a great expansion of cigarette smoking.

1131. Model conservationist farm in the United States was Malabar Farm started by Louis Bromfield in 1938 outside Mansfield, OH. Bromfield documented his experiments at Malabar Farm in four books, *Pleasant Valley* (1945), *Malabar Farm* (1948), *Out of the Earth* (1950), and *From My Experience* (1955). He was awarded the Audubon Medal in 1952 for his research at Malabar Farm, which included soil saving techniques, conservation, and cheaper farming techniques.

1132. High-yield crops were developed beginning in September 1944 when U.S. plant pathologist Norman Borlaug took up his duties with a team of agricultural researchers in Mexico City, Mexico. Borlaug's high-yield wheat and corn strains made him the father of the Green Revolution. By 1953, as a result of his work, Mexico had doubled its output of wheat.

1133. Variety of high-yield rice was introduced in 1964. Building on plant pathologist Norman Borlaug's work on wheat in Mexico in the 1940s, scientists at the International Rice Research Institute at Los Banos in the Philippines bred a "miracle rice" from Indonesian and Taiwanese strains. The new crops proved susceptible, however, to diseases and pests.

1134. Proposal for a national network of living historical farms in the United States was advanced in 1965. Agricultural economist Marion Clawson's idea caught on, and within a decade the living farm network was attracting 600,000 visitors a year.

1135. National memorial dedicated to farmers was the National Farmers Memorial in the Agricultural Hall of Fame in Bonner Springs, KS. It was built by the National Ideals Foundation in 1986.

1136. Farmland of significance in New York State to be permanently protected was the David and Margaret Rockefeller farm in the Hudson Valley. The 2,000 acres were set aside for preservation on June 23, 1992.