









April 2025

Inside this issue
Earth Day every day
Greener spring cleaning
April quick reads and more!

4811 Whipple Avenue NW Suite 101 • Canton, OH 44718

#### Happening in April...

**April Fools' Day, Apr. 1.** Play a joke on a friend—and be a good sport when someone does the same to you.

**National Volunteer Week. April 20-26.** Let a cause near and dear to your heart inspire you to take action. Go to AllForGood.org to find a service project in your area and get involved this week.

**Income Tax Day, April 15.** Not exactly a holiday, but one day you shouldn't forget.

**Earth Day, April 22.** Since 1970, people around the world have focused on issues that affect our planet. The theme of this year's campaign is "Our Power, Our Planet." Visit EarthDay.org to find out how you can be an environmental steward.

**Jazz Appreciation Month.** An annual public spotlight on jazz, Jazz Appreciation Month (or JAM) is devoting to drawing public attention to the glories of jazz as both a historical and a living treasure, encouraging musicians, concert halls, schools, colleges, museums, libraries, and public broadcasters to offer special programs on jazz.

#### What Will the Neighbors Think?

Litter on the grounds, boxes and storage items displayed on balconies, old newspapers and untidy mats on doorsteps make a poor impression and negatively impact the overall appearance of our community, your home. We are committed to providing a well-maintained place for you to live, and we have employed a top-rate maintenance staff to help us achieve this goal. Our team works to provide general upkeep and perform repairs around the property, however, we need your help with a few small details. Please throw litter into the trash receptacles provided, never empty automobile ashtrays in the parking lot and take pride in the appearance of your own apartment by keeping your entryway and patio or balcony neat. We know the effort you make will be a blessing to you and your neighbors.

#### Life Hacks

**Stuck on an annoying call?** Put your phone on airplane mode. This will give the other person "call failed" instead of "call ended."

**Purchase something with a warranty?** Set a reminder in your phone for two weeks before it's set to expire. That way you can make sure it's still working properly.

**Social Tip:** Want to pay for someone's meal? Always wait to say so until after they order. This takes the pressure off and lets them order exactly what they wanted.

**DIY car air freshener:** Soak a cotton ball in vanilla essence and attach it to your car's AC vents. The same technique works well with other fragrances, and will keep your car smelling fresh for months.

**Want to stop your brown sugar from clumping?** Add a slice of bread to the sealed container before closing it. This will absorb any moisture, leaving it soft and pliable.

**Kitchen safety tip.** If an oven mitt gets wet, it's no longer an oven mitt. Water transfers heat much faster than dry materials, so the heat will hit your hand almost instantly.

#### YOUR COMMUNITY STAFF

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**Perry Hills Colony** 

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#### **OFFICE HOURS**

#### **Monday thru Friday**

8:00 am-4:30 pm

Saturday

Closed

Sunday

Closed

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hether you take shorter showers, reduce food waste or make eco-minded choices at the grocery store, adopting one simple habit can make a difference in protecting Earth's natural resources. These simple, renewable lifestyle changes may even affect your personal mindset.

Turn Off the Tap. The average faucet releases about three gallons of water a minute, so shut it off while you brush your teeth or shave.

Use a Water-Filter Pitcher. Bottled water isn't necessarily cleaner or better for you than tap water. Get a Brita waterfilter pitcher (\$23, amazon.com) or a faucet mount water filter. Take advantage of what you already pay for and save the environmental cost of transporting bottled water to the grocer's shelf.

Curtail Junk Mail. The Direct Marketing Association's website, DMAchoice.org, spells out how to remove yourself from lists. If everyone in the US reduced the junk mail they receive every week, 100 million trees would be spared each year.

#### Give Your Car—and Driving Habits—a Tune-Up.

Speeding, fast accelerations, and hard braking waste gas. Maintaining your car saves it. Tune up your car according to your owner's-manual schedule (usually every 30,000 miles) and raise your car's fuel efficiency anywhere from 4 to 40 percent.

Reuse Everything. Change your mind-set and think twice before throwing anything out. Resealable plastic bags that held carrots today can hold crayons tomorrow. Coffee-cup cardboard sleeves from this morning's brew can be tucked into a purse or pocket to be used again for tomorrow's cup o' Joe.

Choose the Right Appliance for the Job. Electric kettles use less energy than stovetop ones. A toaster oven uses up to half the energy of a conventional electric oven. An electric slow cooker makes soups and stews using less wattage than a stove. It truly pays to pick the right appliance.

#### Recycling 101

Fact: Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours. So, yes, it pays off. Here's how to do it right wherever you live.

- Don't recycle wet cardboard. It can clog sorting machines. Throw it away to prevent it from contaminating the rest of the load.
- Don't recycle bottle tops; they're not made from the same plastic as recyclable bottles. But if you forget, don't sweat it. They'll be sorted down the line. (The energy saved by recycling one plast bottle can power a computer for 25 minutes.)

Rinse cans, but

- crushing isn't necessary. The aluminum can is the most recycled item in the United States, as well as the most valuable. It can be recycled again and again, and so efficiently that a can is regenerated and back on the shelf in as little as 60 days.
- Don't fret if you can't get the lime out of the beer bottle or the last of the peanut butter from the jar. The recycler's machinery will zap all contaminants. But do empty and rinse glass jars and containers.

#### Want to Green Up Your Spring Cleaning?

f you really want to green up your cleanser collection, it's a pretty easy thing to do. You just need five ingredients, all of which are affordable and readily available. With this stash you can clean anything in your home: distilled vinegar and antiseptic essential oil, liquid soap and detergent, washing soda and baking soda.

Vinegar and essential oils. These ingredients are neutralizers of stains and odors, they also dissolve scale and help remove the dirt trapped in wood. Make sure you use white distilled vinegar because apple cider vinegar can stain some upholsteries. If you need to kill bacteria and mold then antiseptic essential oils will be a big help. You can choose from the following list: birch, lavender, cinnamon, eucalyptus, clove, rose, lemongrass, sweet orange or tea tree.

**Liquid soap or detergent.** Soap is better for you and the environment. However, if you use soap to wash your clothes it can leave a graying film on them. When selecting a detergent, go for the most biodegradable one available.

**Baking soda and washing soda.** These are mineral neutralizers. They can cut grease and dissolve wax. Baking soda is also mildly abrasive. Washing soda is for heavy duty jobs, but it can be caustic, so make sure you wear gloves.

—adapted from Mother Earth News



April QUICK READS

### SWEATER SMARTS

What's this? As you smooth the sweater down over your middle, you see your shirt showing through a small hole. Upon closer inspection, you find a half-dozen, randomly spaced little holes. The moths have done it again—they've chewed holes in your favorite cashmere sweater.

Here's a tip: Before stowing your sweaters for the season, place them in a Ziplock® storage bag and pop it in the freezer for 24 to 48 hours. The frigid temperature will kill any larvae and eggs that are present. After this, take them

out for thawing and shake out the sweaters to remove any dead eggs.



**3,453** 

#### DOLLARS

The average tax refund so far in 2025.

# WISEST WAYS TO USE THE WINDFALL, WHATEVER THE AMOUNT:

Experts advise putting at least one-third toward paying down debt and one-third into savings. Go ahead—spend the rest!



# calories

is how much per week we tend to eat to overcompensate for exercise.

Which is why, if you're trying to lose weight, you may not be making progress. To lose weight, most people need to burn about 3,000 calories a week through exercise (roughly 40 minutes a day). Apps can help. Find free athome routines on Daily Workouts Fitness Coach or Nike Training club, then log them on ActivityTracker.

#### Eggs, Eggs Everywhere!

Eggs used for dyeing and hunting need to be handled carefully if you want to eat them later. Here are a few simple rules to eat by:

- Only eggs hard-boiled in plain water and then dyed in natural or commercial dye are suitable for eating.
   This is called the "cold"
  - This is called the "colo dyeing method."
- Eggs cooked and dyed at the same time in boiling water ("hot dyeing method") are for decoration only.
- Hard-cooked eggs for an egg hunt must be prepared with care to prevent cracking the shells. If the shells crack, bacteria could contaminate the inside.
  - Make sure your eggs do not stay outside of refrigeration for longer than two hours.
  - Eat hard-cooked eggs (in the shell or peeled) within one week.

Source: Whole Foods Market



## ONLY 39% OF AMERICANS WITH

# CREDIT CARD BALANCES KNOW THEIR INTEREST RATE.

According to *Investopedia.com*, the average annual percentage rate (APR) is 24.20%. Check your statement every month; if your rate is high, call to negotiate. If the company won't lower the rate, ask why, do some research, and call back in a few days. Be sure to mention that you're considering options such as transferring your balance to a lower- interest card.



		tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
sunday	monday	Rent Due	National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day	3 Don't Go to Work Unless it's Fun Day	4 April Flower: Daisy or Sweet Pea April Birthstone: Diamond	Gold Star Spouses Day
Good Deeds Day	<b>7</b> National No Housework Day	8 National Zoo Lovers Day	9 National Unicorn Day	10 National Siblings Day	National Eight Track Tape Day	12 Walk On Your Wild Side Day
International Plant Appreciation Day	14 National Dolphin Day	15 Tax Day Tax Filing Deadline	Wear Your Pajamas to Work Day	<b>17</b> National High Five Day	18 International Jugglers Day	19 Refresh Your Goals Day
Go Fly a Kite Day	21 National Tea Day	22 National Jelly Bean Day	23 Administrative Professionals Day	24 April is National Poetry Month	<b>25</b> World Penguin Day	26 April is Jazz Appreciation Month
27 Morse Code Day	28 Global Pay It Forward Day	19 International Dance Day	30 Mr. Potato Head Day	Αρι	ril 2	025