



The Sustainability team of ALANYC is thrilled and proud to share our newsletter with you - SustainALANYC. Our commitment to sustainability has never been stronger. Through our newsletter we will provide information on how each of us individually and as organizations are responsible for economic, social and environmental change and what we can do to make a difference. With each newsletter, we will provide you with information from our team members as well as featured sustainability experts.



### Earth Day

On April 22nd, we celebrate Earth Day! It is an annual event, which began in 1970 and aims to demonstrate people's support for environmental protection. In 1990, Earth Day went global and today more than 1 billion people from 193 countries participate in events coordinated globally by EARTHDAY.ORG. Today's movement is mobilized with the help of social media uniting people across the globe in numbers never before seen.

This Earth Day consider becoming a member. Donations will fund advocacy on actions such as climate change and ending plastic pollution. You can join groups such as The Great Global Cleanup and the Climate Literacy Campaign. Join millions of citizens around the globe in a concerted effort to save our planet.

[Read More](#)



### As Spring Approaches Let's Discuss Composting

*By: Rose Hirsch*

Composting is the natural process of recycling organic matter, such as leaves and food scraps, into a valuable fertilizer that can enrich soil and plants.

[Read More](#)

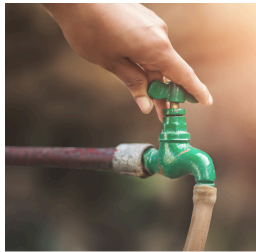


## Recycling and Sustainable Ideas for Your office

- Provide recycling bins in each of your offices. If your building does not offer recycling, get a few tenants together and brainstorm ideas for starting a recycling program.
- Find out if your building provides composting services and purchase a composting bin. Read more about composting in this edition of our e-newsletter.
- Purchase biodegradable utensils, plates and cups. If you're in a small office, think about switching to reusable utensils, plates and cups where possible.
- Ask your vendors not to provide plastic plates or utensils and ask them not to wrap food in plastic.
- Reduce paper; stop printing emails, avoid paper subscriptions, use double-sided printing.

Tips for a sustainable garden:

- Set a timer and rain delay option to water your lawn/plants.
- Plant succulents and/or plants native to your region.
- Eliminate chemicals.
- Don't till instead use wood by-products such as sawdust and bark mulch, rotted manure, grass or wheat straw and compost.

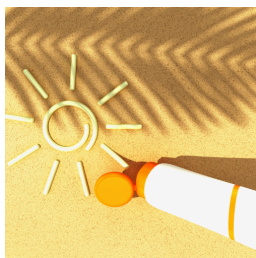


## Water Conservation

*By: Elba Cortes*

We tend to take water for granted, most of us are guilty of this. We assume that it will be readily available. But did you know that drought affects more than 2.3 billion people in the world. It is estimated that by the year 2050 – an estimated half the world's population will be living in water compromised areas. The repercussions would be global.

[Read More](#)



## What is Reef-Safe Sunscreen?

*By: Rebecca Owen*

Traditional sunscreen contains two key ingredients, oxybenzone and octinoxate, which are both harmful to the environment. After applying sunscreen, whenever we take a dip in a lake or ocean or take a shower to cool off, these chemicals make their way into our waterways. Studies suggest they are not filtered by water treatment plants and

severely impact the marine ecosystems where they end up.  
The concern is their link to coral reef bleaching.

[Read More](#)

---

