

Dear reader,

Welcome to Earth Day 2010 — a day we learn about and celebrate our home, Mother Earth. Forty years ago, Earth Day began to help bring awareness to our endangered environment. Now, more than ever, this day is needed as we face issues that could potentially destroy our home forever.

"Earth Day is so important because people need to realize that everything we depend on comes from the earth and we take it for granted. We need to make sure [Earth] is here for future generations, make sure there is a continuum." UCD senior Xavier Claude said.

Fortunately for Auraria, the Metro Environmental Science Organization tries to do their part. The club's president, Sean Anderson, said, "We try to get together as much as we can to help better this campus. We have a garden on campus that we usually work on, and right now we are raising funds for trail restorations."

The club is responsible for the Recycling Extravaganza that has been held on campus.

"We had people bring in electronics, and we recycled it for free for them," Anderson said.

The organization has done a couple of events with composting and gardening events like "Native Bloom," which promotes the use of native plants and landscaping.

Anderson believes Earth Day is important in today's society because of how wasteful we are, especially in the U.S.

"With so much technology and responsibility I feel that humans, and we as a civilization, have an obligation. We have to learn how to be as responsible with what we have; if we are wasteful in certain ways that we can help, then it's worth fixing."

Organization member Virginia Wheeler said Earth Day is a day to educate people.

"What a good reason to have events and to have people come out and show their support for sustainability," she said. "I love to be out, be involved and be proactive."

The official Earth Day campaign says, "The world is in greater peril than ever. While climate change is the greatest challenge of our time, it also presents the greatest opportunity — an unprecedented opportunity to build a healthy, prosperous, clean energy economy now and for the future."

Take advantage of resources on campus, and use Earth Day to support, celebrate and make a pledge to our Mother Earth to keep her thriving for years to come.

Happy Earth Day!

Dacia Johnson

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Earth Day

April 22

Members of the Auraria community pledge to do their part to help the environment

"Typically people plant trees, but for me I don't think there's anything else I would do. I do things every day, not just [on] Earth day."

- Lyndsay McDonald, Metro Senior

"[I won't] use stupid plastic water bottles and [will] try to recycle more in general. Definitely water bottles are bad."

- Heather McCray, Metro Junior

"I'll try not to use as many bags and [try to] recycle."

- Cinnamon Johnson, UCD Sophomore

"Our lives are so busy that we don't think of things outside our own box so my pledge is to pick up trash that's on the ground."

- Lauren Tevebaugh, campus staff

"If you don't pass it on [to your kids], they will use water like crazy and throw things everywhere. We have to educate them. The number one thing we do is when we wash dishes we turn off the water. Also recycling, turn lights off and put trash where it belongs."

- Yvonne Camargo, Metro Junior

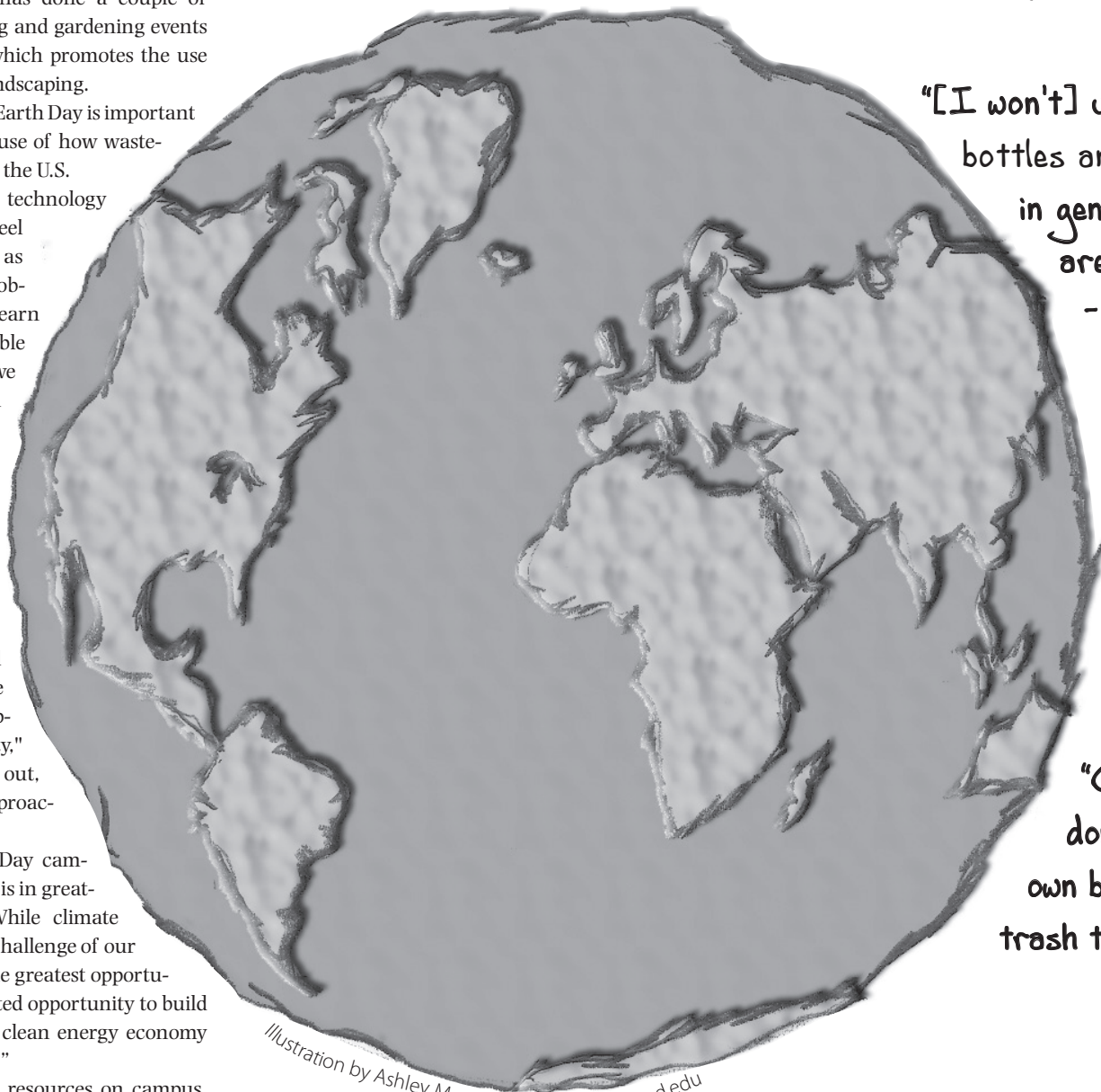


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