

ISU Forests Earth Day 1990 Banquet

On April 22, 1990, citizens from around the world will turn out to celebrate Earth Day and to embark on a new decade of environmentalism. Its precedent, Earth Day 1970, was the largest organized demonstration in human history. This original demonstration sparked some key legislation — the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and helped in the formation of the EPA. Ten thousand schools and two thousand universities participated in the events voicing their concerns for the environment.

Concern for the environment is even stronger today. In anticipation of Earth Day the forestry faculty and students have been planning special events. Months before the official Earth Day, a determined lot of students turned out to plant, thin and watch over some 10,000 Norway spruce, ponderosa pine, Scotch pine, and white pine seedlings. With a little luck, the 10,000 seedlings will be distributed to the citizens of Ames, Colo, Gilbert, Nevada and Boone.

To further commemorate the day, a group of trees will be planted on the main part of the campus. The forestry student organizations will present the small grove on behalf of all the student groups in the College of Agriculture. It is hoped that this celebration will unite the student groups in an effort to promote environmental awareness.

A lot of time and preparation has gone into making a successful Earth Day '90. I believe our efforts will make a difference with respect to the global warming, acid rain, ozone depletion, rain forest destruction, and related problems that currently threaten our planet. Our conifer seedlings and tree planting event will not only symbolize our commitment for a healthier planet, but hopefully become a tradition at Iowa State.

I wish to express a special thanks to the student organizations and faculty members for joining together to make our Earth Day message known.

— Tom Huegerich

