

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CHRONOLOGY

A Timeline of Key Milestones and Legislation

Year	Milestone / Event	Global Significance
1892	Sierra Club Founded	Establishment of one of the first large-scale environmental preservation organizations.
1949	A Sand County Almanac	Aldo Leopold introduces the "Land Ethic," shifting focus to ecological conservation.
1962	Silent Spring Published	Rachel Carson documents the effects of pesticides, launching the modern environmental movement.
1970	First Earth Day / EPA	Massive public mobilization leading to the creation of the US Environmental Protection Agency.
1987	Montreal Protocol	International treaty designed to protect the ozone layer by phasing out CFCs.
1997	Kyoto Protocol	First global commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions among industrialized nations.

Year	Milestone / Event	Global Significance
2015	Paris Agreement	Legally binding international treaty on climate change to limit global warming to below 2C.
2021	COP26 Summit	Global focus shifts toward methane reduction and halting deforestation by 2030.