

Supplemental Timeline: United States Presidents and Environmental Events 1957 – 1988

1957-1958: During the [International Geophysical Year](#), scientists around the world cooperated to conduct research on the Earth's ocean and atmosphere.

1960: [John F. Kennedy](#) elected president.

1962: Publication of [Silent Spring by Rachel Carson](#), a book about the dangers of widespread pesticide use. Carson is often credited with sparking the modern American environmental movement.

1963: [Lyndon B. Johnson](#) sworn in as president after the assassination of President Kennedy.

1968: [Richard M. Nixon](#) elected president. The Nixon administration proposed numerous laws to safeguard the environment because it recognized the huge political power of the environmental movement at that time.

1970: April - Celebration of the first [Earth Day](#). November - Several government bureaus and centers combined to create the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency](#). December - Creation of the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) and passage of the [Clean Air Act](#).

1974: [Gerald Ford](#) sworn in as president after the resignation of President Nixon.

1976: [Jimmy Carter](#) elected president.

1980: [Ronald Reagan](#) elected president. The Reagan administration aimed to undo most of the environmental policies created by previous administrations.

1988: [George H.W. Bush](#) elected president. While campaigning, Bush promised to combat climate change but he was inattentive to the issue once in office.