



BUCKET FILL-OSOPHY 101™

Words of Wisdom to Keep Your Bucket Filled

Volume 7, Issue 8

Week of April 21, 2013

Filling Mother Earth's Bucket

By Donna dewitt Schnell, Bucket Fillers Team Member



BIG STOCK PHOTO

If you live north of the Equator and are reading this, it is officially spring, a season that is synonymous with renewal. Blossoming flowers, greening trees and grass, and the return, here in Michigan, of our state bird, the robin, are all harbingers of this bucketfilling season.

Earth Day, an annual event since 1970, has become a bucketfilling part of spring as it encourages us to respect and care for our planet and all its gifts. In other words, *fill Mother Earth's bucket.*

While the media reports the many large-scale Earth Day happenings, significant things also take place on the tiniest level. One of these small happenings occurred when little a little girl named Evie visited Yosemite National Park two months ago. When she returned home, Evie discovered that she had unintentionally brought home two twigs, both smaller than a ruler. If you have visited state our national parks, you know that you are cautioned to, "Take home only memories."

Young Evie wrote a note to the park rangers and included the two wayward twigs along with a request to return them to nature. The bucketfilling lesson of Evie's story far outweighs any environmental impact done by the dislocation of two small twigs. It shows that any small measure of consideration has significance. Respectful actions, no matter how small, create a multiplying factor that influences and encourages others to do likewise. It reminds me of the "smile effect." When a smile passes from one person to another, it has the power to change the moment, the attitude, and the feelings of two people. It becomes an experience that fills two buckets.

When my children were young we often visited the local parks, swam at the beach, and took evening walks in the neighborhood.

Those memories are bucketfilling. Frequently, we would each take along a small bag. Near the end of the playtime, we would pull out our bags and pick up some of the litter that had been thrown to the ground. When we first began doing this, the children told me that this "stuff" wasn't ours. I would ask them, "If we didn't pick it up right now, who would?" They learned early that if we didn't take care of our environment, it would soon become a place they wouldn't enjoy.

Bucket fillers appreciate the outdoors and all it has to offer. They realize that every day our earth has a bucket waiting to be filled.

Whether it's returning two little twigs or picking up litter at the end of playtime, when we take care of Mother Earth, as she takes care of us, our buckets are filled.

Bucket Chuckles

Funnypuns (groans allowed, but not too loud)

- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- Every calendar's days are numbered.
- Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

Designed and edited by Glenny Merillat

Congratulations, Jamelia!

Jamelia Fech, of Wixom, Michigan, is our bucket filler of the week. You have a book coming your way. Every bucket filler is a winner. Encourage your friends to get their buckets filled by subscribing to our free e-newsletter at www.bucketfillers101.com

Words of Wisdom

"In every walk with nature one receives far more than he seeks." — John Muir, Scottish-born naturalist and early advocate of preservation of the United States wilderness.