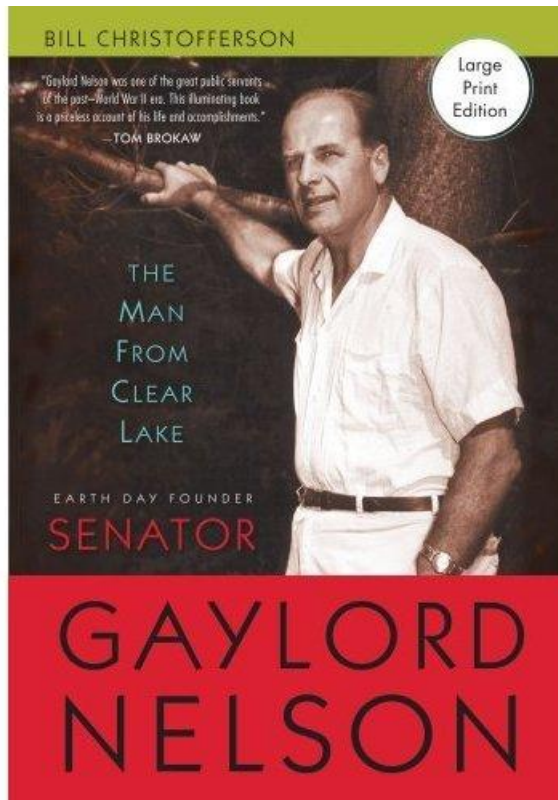


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*The Man from Clear Lake: Earth Day Founder Senator Gaylord Nelson*

Christofferson, Bill



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On Earth Day 1970 twenty million Americans displayed their commitment to a clean environment. It was called the largest demonstration in human history, and it permanently changed the nation's political agenda. More than one billion people now participate in annual Earth Day activities. The seemingly simple idea—a day set aside to focus on protecting our natural

environment—was the brainchild of U.S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin. It accomplished, far beyond his expectations, his lifelong goal of putting the environment onto the nation's and the world's political agendas. The life of Nelson, a small-town boy who learned his values and progressive political principles at an early age, is woven through the political history of the twentieth century. (Source: [University of Wisconsin Press website](#) .)

**Related links:**

- H-Environment, H-Net Reviews, reviewed by Thomas Brackett Robertson  
<http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php>
- University of Wisconsin Press featuring this book  
<http://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/4766.htm>

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