

ABOUT THE EARTH SANGHA

OUR VISION AND HOW WE ACT ON IT

The Earth Sangha is a community of activists, students of environmental issues, practitioners of meditation, and other people interested in helping to create environmentally sustainable ways of life.

Most of us live in the Washington, DC, area; some of us live elsewhere in the United States or abroad. We believe that there are close connections between our own well-being and the health of the lives and lands around us. We seek to act on those connections, in open-minded and collaborative ways, wherever we can do so effectively. Our effort is:

Spiritual. Through meditation and environmental work, we aspire to see things as they really are. We recognize that all things, including ourselves, arise and pass away, that nothing is permanent, and that all life is profoundly interdependent. We strive to express this understanding through compassion for all living things.

Ecological. We accept the science of ecology as a guide to the impermanence and interdependence of living things. We strive to apply both ecological principles and political skill to the task of building healthier relationships between people and the lands they inhabit. We organize volunteer-based ecological restoration projects for degraded natural areas, and agroforestry projects for impoverished farm communities.

Social. We realize that conservation requires strong public support if it is to endure, so we work to improve the public understanding of nature. We create activities and spaces that help people—especially young people—learn about nature and develop more meaningful connections to it.

Ethical. We strive to live in ways that are environmentally aware and environmentally benign, and we aspire to help other people do the same. We believe that other species have a right to their own existence, and that we have a moral obligation to preserve them. We seek the wisdom and compassion that will allow us to benefit all lives through our lives.

