

EARTH ETHICS NEWS

EXPLORING ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ISSUES

DECEMBER 2020

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

Transition, Transition, Transition.

The last 4-years have seemed quite dark for those of that work in the environmental field. However, for some, it more than just work, it is a passion, a purpose, and makes up who we are. We watched in horror the devastating impacts the current administration had on public lands, other species, water, and air by allowing industry a free for all while eliminating or weakening current rules and regulations. The creation of these agencies and the rules that govern them were designed for the protection of our natural resources (see the article on the rights of nature). And while the current system in place does not always do what it is designed to do, it is all we have to work with right now.

So, we wait in great anticipation as to what Biden will bring as we transition to a new administration. There are so many issues that need to be addressed and it will take time to fix or undo everything the current administration has done. We need strong, diverse, open-minded leaders in key positions to get us back on track. Let's start with the wrong track.

The no's:

Michael McCabe – Worked public relations for DuPont who fight against regulating PFOA is now on the transition team for the EPA? Yeah, what's wrong with this picture? Yikes.

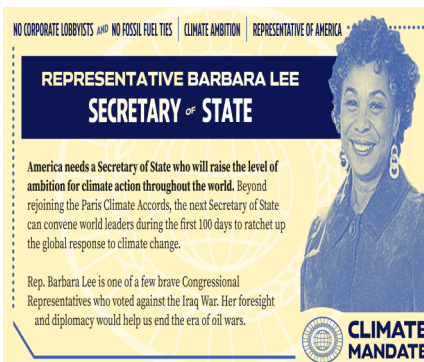
Cedric Richmond – Seriously? This guy has raked in massive money amounts from the fossil fuel industry in campaign contributions. Should NOT be the Director of Public Engagement since he's clearly only interested in his welfare and not those of the people.

Bruce Reed as the Director for the Office of Management and Budget? Uh, no. He had his hands in the 1996 Welfare "reform" law and headed the staff of the Bowles-Simpson Commission that called for cuts in Social Security. Clearly not for the people.

The yes's:

Earth Action supports the following candidates for a fossil fuel free cabinet.

We believe that the only way to get immediate action started is to put those who have a strong track record of doing the right thing for the environment and the



public.

Rep. Marcia Fudge has fought to protect water quality, improve soil health, and deliver on environmental justice.

We have a lot of healing to do. Let's put people in place that see the big picture..

Thanks to our brothers and sisters at Stop The Money Pipeline and Sunrise Movement for the great graphics!!

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Climate Change Forecasting

As local and global citizens, we are concerned about the present and future adverse impacts associated with climate change. As loyal viewers, we are reaching out to ask that in addition to the weather report, a broadcast of updated climate conditions be included. This would provide important and significant information to the viewing area. Obtaining and reporting information on climate conditions has become easy to achieve since the infrastructure for it is already in place and since there has been no push back on such reporting. As a result, more and more television stations are adding climate coverage to their weather report segment.

Sign the petition here
www.earthethics.us/climate-change-forecasting

2021: A Tree Huggers' Wish List

FOR KEEPS

SUN MAKES THE DAY NEW.
 TINY GREEN PLANTS
 EMERGE FROM EARTH.
 BIRDS ARE SINGING THE
 SKY INTO PLACE.
 THERE IS NOWHERE ELSE I
 WANT TO BE BUT HERE.
 I LEAN INTO THE RHYTHM
 OF YOUR HEART TO SEE
 WHERE IT WILL TAKE US.
 WE GALLOP INTO A WARM,
 SOUTHERN WIND.
 I LINK MY LEGS TO YOURS
 AND WE RIDE TOGETHER,
 TOWARD THE ANCIENT
 ENCAMPMENT OF OUR
 RELATIVES.
 WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
 THEY ASK.
 AND WHAT HAS TAKEN
 YOU SO LONG?
 THAT NIGHT AFTER
 EATING, SINGING, AND
 DANCING
 WE LAY TOGETHER UNDER
 THE STARS.
 WE KNOW OURSELVES TO
 BE PART OF MYSTERY.
 IT IS UNSPEAKABLE.
 IT IS EVERLASTING.
 IT IS FOR KEEPS.
 - JOY HARJO



Bring the United States back into the Paris climate agreement.

No New Leases in the Gulf of Mexico, Cook's Inlet, or anywhere.

Place the state of Florida in a permanent moratorium against offshore drilling and exploration.

Say no to opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and other public lands to oil drilling or exploration.

Restore the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act.

Invest in and implement a economic recovery plan that has a strong emphasis on a renewable energy and job creation/market that focuses on lifting up communities of color.

Transition off Fossil Fuels. Develop a comprehensive plan that addresses the transition of FF workers, creation of a tax base for areas that will lose those taxes, include remediation jobs that address decommissioning and clean-up activities.

Implement the Climate President Plan.

Create a White House Climate Office.

End Factory Farming.

Stop horse, bear, and other wildlife executions as means of population control.

Implement programs and incentives that encourage farmers to move to organic farming.

End all animal testing.

Implement a national mask mandate until COVID 19 is under control.

Install EV charging stations (powered by solar/wind) along every major highway in the U.S.

Transition Federal and state "environmental protection" agencies from allowing industries/businesses/individuals to pollute at will. Create agencies that don't just regulate pollution, but provides meaningful enforcement of regulations. Ensure that they provide real preservation, conservation, restoration, and protection of natural resources, all species, and public health.

In 2021, Earth Ethics and Earth Action will continue to work on the following:

Earth Ethics Environmental Education Series.

Transitioning off fossil fuels and the advancement of renewable energy;

Addressing climate change and the communities most impacted;

Supporting water quality improvements, water access and equity for all citizens;

Keep it in the ground and stop the money pipeline activities including divestment and direct actions.

The Rights of Nature.

The uplifting and support of brown and black communities.

Work with Indigenous communities and their inherit rights.

National and international work on climate change and fossil fuels.

Advancement of EVs and charging stations.

THE ASSUMPTION THAT
 ANIMALS ARE WITHOUT
 RIGHTS AND THE ILLUSION
 THAT OUR TREATMENT OF
 THEM HAS NO MORAL
 SIGNIFICANCE IS A
 POSITIVELY OUTRAGEOUS
 EXAMPLE OF WESTERN
 CRUDITY AND BARBARITY.
 UNIVERSAL COMPASSION IS
 THE ONLY GUARANTEE OF
 MORALITY."

— ARTHUR SCHOPENHAUER, THE BASIS OF MORALITY

The Rights of Nature

The rights of nature is not a new concept, but the terminology might be new to some. It is a call for humans to wake up and change their relationship with nature, to stop treating it as an object and as if we have ownership over it.

It is also time for humans to recognize that we aren't the only species that has a right to exist, every other species that we share space with has the right to exist. This not only includes animal species, but plants, rivers, forest, glaciers, everything that makes up the earth, gives us life, and is here for their own reasons. These entities in and of themselves are living beings.

It is time that we recognize that we are all part of the Earth community.

For generations, prior to the invasion

of colonizers, indigenous folk understood and respected this familial relationship we have with the earth. But as we were stripped of our beliefs, culture, and language, we were also condemned for our relationship with the earth. The antiquated Christian dogma that humans have dominion over the earth and animals is false. True Christians know that the Creator has dominion over the earth and animals. And just as important, they know that the Creator lives in ALL of his creations not just us. So, as we destroy the earth and other species, we are destroying the Creator.

Let that sink in.

Even if you aren't a religious or spiritual person, surely you can still recognize that we can't exist without a healthy earth and must take the necessary steps to ensure her protection.

Beginning in the new year, we will host a series of workshops educating on the importance of Rights of Nature. We will also be creating a series of short videos recognizing the importance of our area's natural resources and what actions we can take to ensure their protection.

The RESTORATION of the Rights of Nature is a global and national movement as well as a regional one. Interested in becoming engaged in local efforts? Contact us at earthethicsaction@gmail.com.

**"TO BE WHOLE. TO BE COMPLETE.
WILDNESS REMINDS US WHAT IT
MEANS TO BE HUMAN,
WHAT WE ARE CONNECTED TO
RATHER THAN WHAT WE ARE
SEPARATE FROM."
- TERRY TEMPEST WILLIAMS,
NATURALIST AND CITIZEN WRITER**

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 11, 2021 - Earth Ethics Environmental Education Series - Stay tuned for details. Visit earthethics.us or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/earthethics or more details.

Monday, February 8, 2021 - Earth Ethics Environmental Education Series - Join us welcome Dr. Jackie Lane, Friends of Perdido Bay, as she discusses the struggles with International Paper, the hearings in November, moving forward, and what we can do to help. Visit earthethics.us or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/earthethics or more details.

Saturday, February 20, 2021 - Earth Action Boots on the Ground Event - Rally for the Earth from 11 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Stay tuned for a line-up of speakers, music, and poets.

Monday, March 8, 2021 - Earth Ethics Environmental Education Series - Join St. Monica's Episcopal Church of Cantonment, Unitarian Universalist Church of Pensacola, Earth Ethics, and Escambia County Environmental Democratic Caucus for the viewing of The Condor and The Eagle from 6:00 pm.—8:00 pm. Up to 8 people can join us at Ever'mans Education Center for a viewing or join us virtually. You must register to get the link for the viewing. Visit earthethics.us or our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/earthethics or more details.

Earth Ethics Environmental Education Series is the second Monday of every month beginning at 6 pm at Ever'man Education Center.

Stay up to date on activities by visiting <http://earthethics.us/community-events/>.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Federal solar tax credit

The federal solar tax credit, also known as the investment tax credit (ITC), is one of the best financial incentives for solar in the United States. However, this solar incentive will be phased out starting in 2020, with the exception of commercial solar installations.

2020: Owners of new residential and commercial solar can deduct 26 percent of the cost of the system from their taxes. 2021: Owners of new residential and commercial solar can deduct 22 percent of the cost of the system from their taxes. 2022 onwards: Owners of new commercial solar energy systems can deduct 10 percent of the cost of the system from their taxes. There is no federal credit for residential solar energy systems. Source: energysage.com

There is a current collective push to have the credit re-established to the 2019 criteria. There have been at least two extension since it's inception as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. **We are looking to move forward with additional Solar co-ops in 2021. Contact us at earthethicsaction@gmail.com if you're interested in learning more or want to volunteer to help with these efforts.**



WHO WE ARE

The **MISSION** of Earth Ethics is to educate the public and increase awareness about environmental and social issues at local, regional, and global levels in an effort to engage, empower, and encourage public involvement towards positive resolutions.

The **VISION** of Earth Ethics is to be a leader in identifying and resolving environmental and social issues while creating a positive, sustainable, and healthy way of thought and life.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING ENGAGED?

Contact us at one of the many ways listed below.

BOARD MEMBERS

Gina Cooke
Laura Jolley
Marsha King
Elizabeth MacWhinnie
Christine Thompson

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mary Gutierrez

*As always, we will continue our fight to create a world that is just and equal
for humans and non-humans alike while protecting our Earth.*

Earth Ethics, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization created to engage, empower, & encourage public involvement towards positive resolutions with regards to environmental & social issues.
All monetary donations are welcomed.

To donate please visit: <http://earthethics.us/donations/>
Earth Action, the legislative and advocacy arm of Earth Ethics, is a 501 (c) (4) organization.



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EARTH ACTION

because the earth is not for sale

"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children."

First People Proverb