



Nominate Your Local Eco-Hero as a Guardian of the Future

Is there an UUnsung environmental hero in your congregation? Often grassroots activists in our midst go unrecognized, yet their efforts to protect the world's natural resources are increasingly critical to the continued well being of Earth.

For Earth Day 2011, UU Ministry for Earth (UUMFE) invites you to identify and celebrate someone in your congregation who has made a significant effort that you would identify as Earth ministry by naming him or her a local Eco-Hero. This person could become the UU Ministry for Earth Guardian of the Future honoree at General Assembly 2011 if you choose to nominate someone.

Nomination Steps

- Identify an individual within your congregation who has done outstanding, dedicated work to build a just and sustainable Earth.
- Contact your Board or Worship Committee to plan for recognition of this person as part of your Earth Day service.
- Complete the specially designed Eco-Hero certificate to present on Earth Sunday.
- Include your honoree's name and a brief bio when you register your Earth Day event on the UUMFE website – we include it in the event listing that we publish on the website.
- Nominate your honoree for the **Guardian of the Future** award by printing out and completing the form on the next page and answering the questions on the following page. It will be necessary to conduct an interview with your nominee to complete your nomination.

Mail the completed nomination, no later than May 2, 2011, to:

UU Ministry for Earth, 1034 SW 13th Ave, Portland, OR 97205

You may also provide all requested information in a Word document and e-mail it to:

office@uuministryforearth.org

Nomination for Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth Guardian of the Future Award

Name of Nominating Congregation: _____

District: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title or role in congregation: _____

Contact address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please describe for us your nominee.

Nominee's name: _____

Nominee's phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Nominee's occupation: _____

Any other biographical information you would especially like us to know: _____

Environmental Justice Guidelines:

UUMFE defines environmental justice as “the human affirmation of our place within the interdependent web of all existence. Environmental justice pursues simultaneously the protection of natural systems and the ecological health of human communities, specifically poor, minority, and indigenous communities; and

- Guarantees basic human rights for all Earth's people;
- Distributes the benefits of Earth's resources fairly and sustainably;
- Avoids inequity in bearing the burdens of humanity's impact on the Earth;
- Recognizes that people have common but differentiated responsibilities according to abilities and resources available to them;
- Ensures the moral and political rights of all to participate in decisions affecting their environment and wellbeing;
- Provides equal participation in decision-making process regardless of race, class, gender, age, language, education, or economic barriers;
- Applies and enforces environmental rules, regulations, and laws equitably and impartially;
- Recognizes the inherent value of all species; and
- Acknowledges our human responsibility to seek a sustainable balance between the rights of nature and human rights.”

Briefly (500 word maximum) answer the four questions below on a separate sheet.

- 1) Describe the unique contributions your nominee has made to engage your congregation in Earth ministry. Many in our UU Earth community recycle, organize courses, etc. Our Guardian of the Future will be that person who has significantly inspired new understanding and behavior in others.
- 2) Describe how your nominee is working to build environmental justice and how he or she is helping others in your congregation to take that work out into your larger community.
- 3) Describe how your nominee makes care and celebration of the Earth central to both his or her personal life and the life of your congregation and wider community.
- 4) What has been the most transformative impact of your nominee on your congregation and your wider community?

Interview your nominee and write a brief (150 word) response to the following questions or ask your nominee to write his or her response.

- 1) What inspires the nominee's commitment?
- 2) What sustains the nominee in his or her work?
- 3) What does the nominee find most rewarding about his or her Earth ministry?
- 4) How has the nominee been changed by this work?