

# Eco-Spirituality

Beauty, Reverence, Nature, Connection

**ECO-SPIRITUALITY** brings together religion and environmental activism. It represents the spiritual connection between human beings and the environment, in response to the ecological crisis through embodied awareness and a relational view of person to planet, inner to outer and soul to soil. The essence of eco-spirituality is tending, dwelling, reverence and connectedness. – Sage Journal

**SPIRITUAL ECOLOGY** is a spiritual response to our present ecological crisis. It is a developing field that joins ecology and environmentalism with the awareness of the sacred within creation. It calls for responses to environmental issues that include spiritual awareness and/or practice. The principles of spiritual ecology are simple: In order to resolve such environmental issues as depletion of species, global warming, and over-consumption, humanity must examine and reassess our underlying attitudes and beliefs about the earth and our spiritual as well as physical responsibilities toward the planet. Thus, ecological renewal and sustainability necessarily depends upon spiritual awareness and an attitude of responsibility.

Central to Spiritual Ecology is an understanding of the interdependence and living unity of the ecosystem. Real sustainability refers to the sustainability of the whole ecosystem rather than our energy-intensive, consumer-driven culture. This will require a re-evaluation of the central aspects of our materialistic culture as we move towards a way of life that is in harmony with the earth as a living whole, a culture that cares for the soul as well as the soil. Spiritual Ecology is not based on any single religion or spiritual path, rather the primary recognition of the sacred nature of all of creation. – Emergence Magazine

**INTEGRAL ECOLOGY** offers us a spiritual conversion built on a ‘culture of encounter’ as humanity faces a complex crisis that manifests in different way. It underlines how relationships should be based on an attitude of caring for ones common home; ones brothers and sisters; and one’s relationship with God, the creator. ‘A sense of deep communion with the rest of nature cannot be real if our hearts lack tenderness, compassion and concern for our fellow human beings.’ Integral Ecology challenges us to broaden our focus of concern and daily behavior... through contact with nature... highlighting the interconnectedness that exists among God, humanity and all of creation. – Catholic Reporter