

What is Eco-Spirituality?

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*

Eco-spirituality leads us to an understanding that we are part of an interrelated, interconnected, evolving web, calling us to live in right relationship with all of creation.

– *Barbara Fraser, National Catholic Reporter*



Visit us online at
www.taucenter.org

Tau Center

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In the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi, Tau Center provides a peaceful and reflective environment for people seeking a deeper relationship with God, self, others and all of Creation. We are committed to the transformation of our world by helping individuals awaken to the sacredness of Life and reveal the unique gifts each person contributes to the hope and healing of all.



a spirituality ministry of the Wheaton Franciscans

ECO-SPIRITUALITY

Eco-Spirituality is more than ecology and theology. It calls us to reconnect.



At Tau Center we offer

a sacred space to assist individuals on their own spiritual journey – whether it is to reconnect with nature, their inner-spirit or whether they are seeking a deeper relationship with God and the world around them.

Established in 2008 by the Wheaton Franciscans, the Tau Center is committed to the transformation of our world by helping individuals awaken to the sacredness of life.

No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you will find a comfortable atmosphere for further spiritual exploration and enrichment at Tau Center.



Explore Spiritual Ecology

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

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*

Integral ecology is a key concept in chapter four of Laudato Si’, Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment. It flows from his understanding that “everything is closely related” and that “today’s problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis.”

– *Integral Ecology: Everything is Connected*
by Thomas Reese

Tau Center continues to add offerings centering in Eco-Spirituality.

Find our current list of programs and retreat options at

www.taucenter.org