

Loving Earth Project : Looking after what we love

The **Loving Earth** project invites anyone to contribute to a community textile project about building a more sustainable Earth. We hope this will encourage people to be aware of how many of our actions can endanger the world we love or help look after it. It will remind us of some of the wonderful things on this Earth, and may help us to mourn past or future losses.

The invitation

People are invited to consider three things:

- 1 Something, someone or somewhere precious in this world which is endangered by climate change or other ecological threats;
- 2 Something that they do that contributes to the threat or danger
- 3 Something that they could do to mitigate the threat and reduce the danger.

Then choose one of these three things and make a small textile panel to illustrate it. For example, this could be a person, an endangered species of plant or animal, a place that is being damaged due to erosion, pollution, global warming, etc. Alternatively it could illustrate a person's air travel (which contributes to global warming), or their decision not to fly or to campaign for a carbon tax. They should also write something very brief about each of these three elements.

Who can join the Loving Earth project?

We hope that people from many places, traditions and ages will join the project. Groups may wish to share ideas, skills and concerns and to respond together. Individuals might illustrate a particular love or challenge, prayerfully or otherwise. You can make as many panels as you like.

Specifics

Textile panels should be 30cm x 30 cm plus a 2 cm margin all round. They can be made of any kind of textile, but base fabric should be woven and sturdy. Any style or technique (embroidery, felting, appliqué etc) is welcome as long as the panel is robust enough to fold up safely and to be hung, pinned or stitched to other panels. Use of recycled or pre-used materials is strongly encouraged.

The written component should be short; 150 words maximum, but most contributions will be much briefer. It should say why the object/place/creature etc is precious, why it is endangered, and what you plan to do about it.

Panels and texts should be sent to Loving Earth Project, % Swarthmoor Hall, Swarthmoor Hall Lane, Ulverston, LA12 0JQ and an electronic version of the text and hi resolution image should also be emailed to lovingearthproject@gmail.com. Please include the name(s) of the maker(s), where they come from and contact details, including an email address.

What will happen to the panels?

Panels received by mid July will be displayed in the *Seeking Routes* exhibition at Swarthmoor Hall, when it opens on 20 July. <http://quakerarts.net/event/>. Others will be added as they are received, until the exhibition's close 2019. Please do not send panels to Swarthmoor Hall after 1 September.

And after that?

The project may develop in a number of ways after the summer. If you are interested in helping with this, or know others who would like to do so, please get in touch with us at lovingearthproject@gmail.com. Any major developments will be reported at quakerarts.net/news.

It will be for the Loving Earth project to decide what to do with the panels, but they will not normally be returned to the makers. Some panels and texts may also be reproduced in various forms. Copyright would be held jointly by Swarthmoor Hall, the Loving Earth project group and Quaker Arts Network. The makers of each panel also retain joint copyright of their own panel and are welcome to reproduce them.

lovingearthproject@gmail.com

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