

## Mission

EarthCare is a Christian organization that exists to promote creation stewardship within the Christian community. It seeks to raise environmental awareness and encourage participation in church and community projects through various educational and advisory programs (such as holding an annual conference, distributing resource materials and lists, maintaining a speaker bureau, and helping churches establish creation care ministries), as well as by being actively involved ourselves as a model for others to follow.

EarthCare also exists to provide a medium for fellowship, interaction, and inspiration for Christians concerned with the biblical mandate to be stewards of God's creation.

## Creation Stewardship

EarthCare believes that caring for creation is a response to God's call for humans to be stewards of the earth.

We affirm:

That the creation belongs to God, not us;

That God has entrusted creation to our care;

That we do not have the right to exploit the environment for selfish gain;

That we should live a simple life that shuns unnecessary and conspicuous consumption; and

That our use of creation must take into consideration:

- potential health hazards to humans and animals,
- the ability of the earth to sustain present and future human and nonhuman life forms, and
- the preservation of the beauty of the earth so that it can reflect the glory of the Creator.

## History

EarthCare began in 1994 when a group of local Christians met to start fulfilling a vision of teaching Christians about their environmental responsibilities and encouraging them to become involved. The initial

project was a conference for the spring of 1995. The conference was held at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and was a great success, with over 200 persons in attendance. Over the next three years, the conference became an annual event at Chattanooga State Technical Community College. Annual fall retreats were introduced in 1997.

The group became incorporated as a Tennessee nonprofit organization in 1997 and received the IRS 501-C-3 status. Today EarthCare is an enthusiastic organization involving men and women from various denominations who are active in expanding EarthCare's environmental participation and educational projects.

## Monthly Meeting

EarthCare holds a planning/fellowship meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm. Normally meetings are held at Chattanooga State Technical Community College. Visitors are welcome to attend.

## Educational Activities

The heartbeat of EarthCare is education. EarthCare offers various educational programs and resources to assist individuals and churches fulfill their responsibility to be stewards of God's creation.

With the rising environmental awareness, more and more Christians are asking how their faith relates to creation care and how they, as individuals, families, or churches, can become involved.

EarthCare's educational programs assist in fulfilling these goals and in helping churches establish creation care ministries. EarthCare's vision is for each church to have its own creation care ministry so that the message of creation care can spread through each congregation.

EarthCare's educational activities include:

- **Annual Spring Christian Environmental Stewardship Conference**, feature nationally recognized and local speakers
- **Annual Fall Retreat** in a natural setting
- Occasional Seminars and Study Groups

- Distribution of Educational Materials
- Radio and Television Appearances
- Exhibits at Area Fairs and Events

## Community Service Activities

EarthCare's involvement in community activities, has included:

- Tennessee Adopt-A-Highway program
- Nature hikes and other local nature events
- Area river cleanup activities
- ELCA Environmental Advocacy (formerly ELCA Creation Care Task Force)
- Religious Campaign for Forest Conservation
- The Christian Environmental Council
- Chattanooga Environmental Educational Alliance

## Resources

EarthCare publishes web-based guides and handouts containing creation care information and tips, Internet links, community resources, and books for use in the home, church, and community.

## Speakers Bureau

The Speakers Bureau includes ministers, scientists, and other knowledgeable persons who are available to speak to churches, schools, and other organizations about creation care, or to assist organizations in developing creation care ministries.

## Lending Library

The EarthCare Library is a collection of creation care available for loan.

## Web-Based Newsletter and Email News Bulletins

Bimonthly newsletter and occasional bulletins with news and information about EarthCare activities, Christian environmental activities, selected local and international environmentally-related events, creation care resources, and practical ideas for caring for God's creation. **To subscribe to the email newsletter and bulletins, contact us at [news@earthcareonline.org](mailto:news@earthcareonline.org).**

## Membership / Sponsorship Form

We invite you to become a member of EarthCare and join with us in our efforts to care for God's creation.

Membership and sponsorship is a welcomed way for individuals, families, churches, nonprofit organizations, and businesses to support and become involved in providing education, encouragement, and assistance to those desiring to learn how to be stewards of God's creation.

Your tax-deductible membership contribution goes directly to support EarthCare ministries: conferences and retreats, website, web and print resources, email list, mailing services, and other EarthCare community service activities.

To become a member, please complete this form and mail with your tax-deductible donation payable to:

**EarthCare, Inc.**  
**PO Box 23291, Chattanooga, TN 37422**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

You will receive EarthCare's bimonthly online newsletter and occasional news bulletins. We do not rent, loan, or sell our list to anyone.

Please check one of the following:

### Membership

_____	\$5	Student
_____	\$5	Senior Citizen
_____	\$15	Individual
_____	\$20	Family

### Sponsorship

(individuals, churches, nonprofits, businesses)

_____	\$50	Friend
_____	\$100	Patron
_____	\$500	Steward
_____	\$1,000	Global Earthkeeper
_____	Other	

## Endorsements

Calvin DeWitt

President Emeritus, Au Sable Institute of Environmental Studies  
Professor, Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies,  
University of Wisconsin

"EarthCare is a pioneering venture in creation care. It provides a rich and full program, and it does so VERY WELL, with vigor, enthusiasm, and effectiveness. I am pleased to endorse EarthCare as one of the most effective efforts in caring for creation—ministry very much deserving our support."

Stan LeQuire

Instructorial Designer and Adjunct Faculty, Eastern University  
Former Director, Continuing Education, Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Former Director, Evangelical Environmental Network

"I have cherished every opportunity to collaborate with EarthCare over the years. They are an inspiration. Here is a group of Christians that are not ashamed to show Chattanooga that Jesus Christ is the only hope for their community and indeed all of creation."

Patricia A. Cahill

Rector, Thankful Memorial Episcopal Church  
Professor Emerita, Biological and Environmental Sciences, The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

"EarthCare serves to boost our energy and resolve to commit to a greener, more environmentally friendly way of life. The principles and ethics of stewardship, including a simpler lifestyle, are brought alive through workshops, lectures, and other opportunities throughout the year. Chattanooga is indeed fortunate to celebrate God's creation."



# EarthCare

*Caring for God's Creation*

[www.earthcareonline.org](http://www.earthcareonline.org)

**“The earth is the LORD’s,  
and the fulness thereof;  
the world, and they that  
dwell therein.”  
(Psalm 24:1, KJV)**

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