

Exploring Ecospirituality

1 Day Workshop — Perth, Saturday 22nd November 2014, 9.00am to 4.15pm
City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth, Western Australia 6005



Exploring the meaning, diversity and future directions of ecospirituality in Australia

Ecospirituality means different things to different people. At its essence it encapsulates a belief about the deep and sacred interconnectedness of all life and life supporting systems on earth. The aim of this seminar is to bring together people from secular and faith-based backgrounds, academics, students, environmentalists and interested citizens, to explore the meaning of ecospirituality in Australian society and its role in our daily lives.

This event is part of a seminar and lecture series being hosted by AELA and our partners in Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Perth during 2014 and 2015.

For more information, contact: convenor@earthlaws.org.au or visit: <http://www.earthlaws.org.au/events/Exploring-Ecospirituality-2014>



australian earth laws alliance

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

People from different faith communities, academics, environmentalists, students, researchers and anyone interested in ecospirituality and the role it plays in modern life.

HOW TO BOOK YOUR PLACE:

This workshop is FREE but places are limited. Please book your place by visiting our online booking system: <http://trybooking.com/GHKG>

Morning and afternoon tea will be available, but to ensure this workshop is free and open to all, lunch is not provided. Participants are invited to bring or purchase their own lunch at a nearby café

Draft Workshop Program



- 8.30-9.00am Registration, tea and coffee
- 9.00-9.15am Welcome and introductions—Michelle Maloney, Australian Earth Laws Alliance
Traditional welcome - Aunty Vivienne Sahana, Nyoongar Elder
- 9.15-9.40am “*Earth jurisprudence, the Earth Charter and Earth-centredness in secular life*” - Michelle Maloney, National Convenor, Australian Earth Laws Alliance (AELA)
- 9.40– 10.30 **Stewardship of the Earth**
- “*Indigenous people’s spirituality and connection to country*”, Aunty Vivienne Sahana, Nyoongar Elder and Tom Little Binjarup, Nyoongar community
- Questions and discussion
- 10.30 - 11am Morning Tea
- 11.00 -1.00pm **Interfaith and cross-cultural perspectives**
- “*Islam and the environment*” - Dr Samina Yasmeen
 - ‘*Christianity and the environment*’ - Gerard Siero
 - “*The Buddhist approach to our interconnected Earth*” - speaker to be confirmed
 - “*The meadow across the creek: Thomas Berry’s approach to eco-spirituality*” - John Gherardi
 - Questions and discussions
- 1.00-2.00 Lunch
- 2.00-2.30 **Re-connecting with the Earth and ourselves (participants can choose from one of the following 30 minute practical sessions)**
- Discussion about indigenous Earth stewardship —Tom Little Binjarup, Nyoongar
 - The place of ritual in earth-centred life - John Gherardi
 - *Other sessions to be finalised (eg Buddhist meditation/mindfulness session)*
- 2.30 - 3.00 **Small discussion groups - what eco-spirituality means for our work, life and practice**
- 3.00 - 3.30 Afternoon tea
- 3.30 - 4.15 **Eco-spirituality and the sustenance of our life’s work: where to from here?**
Facilitated discussion - Facilitated by Michelle Maloney and Gerard Siero
- 4.15 **Conclusions and next steps**

