

EARTH ETHICS NEWS

Volume 1 Issue 1

Exploring Environmental & Social Issues

December 2016

EARTH ETHICS AND EARTH ACTION: A YEAR IN REVIEW

This year we saw several victories and a few lessons learned. As we continue our work to educate people and communities, engage them to become involved, and empower them to “be the change they would like to see,” we will continue our fight to create a world that is just and equal for humans and non-humans alike while protecting our Earth.

Below are some of the highlights of 2016. We look forward to working with you in 2017!

EVENTS

February 25, 2016: From Pensacola to Paris and back. Earth Ethics Executive Director discussed her trip as a delegate to the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris.

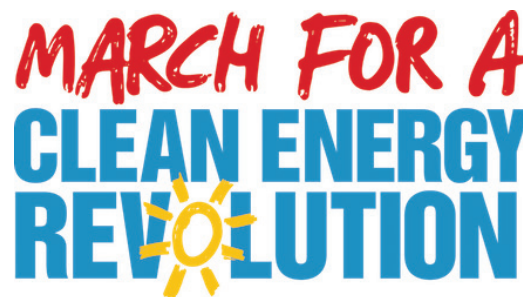
February 25, 2016: Viewing of Plastic Paradise. The film discussed the adverse impacts of plastics in the environment and to our health.

March 4-5, 2016: Viewings of This Changes Everything, the critically acclaimed documentary by Naomi Klein. The film documents people and communities adversely impacted by climate change.

March 30, 2016: Environmental Meet and Greet - A meeting of local environmental organizations who will discussed the work they do - past and present-

how you can become engaged and what are most pressing issues are.

July 23-24, 2016: March for a Clean Energy Revolution in Philadelphia. On the eve of the 2016 Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia, a group of like minded, passionate people met for a Summit for a Clean Energy Revolution on Saturday, July 23rd and for a March for a Clean Energy Revolution on Sunday, July



24th. The events were held to bring together individuals and organizations who are working daily on alleviating a climate crisis and to let current and future policy makers and leaders know that we want to make a change to secure a sustainable, clean energy market and future. As an endorsing organization, Earth Ethics, Inc. was in attendance for this wonderful gathering, thanks to Food and Water Watch!

August 20, 2016: Gulf Coast Interdependence Day - Frontline/ environmental justice communities, indigenous trib-

al members, fisherfolk, workers, celebrities, community organizations, national allies, faith leaders and faith based communities, youth, students, first responders, public health, immigrant justice, artists and culture workers, came together peacefully and in solidarity, to address the holistic needs of our region and world.

October 9, 2016: Our Water, Our Future - On Sunday, October 9th at FSU College of Medicine Auditorium Mr. John Moran discussed the changes he has witnessed with Florida's water. The discussion was followed by a panel discussion with Ryan Smart, 1000 Friends of Florida, Etus Whitfield, former Princi-

pal Environmental Advisor to Five Governors, and Jake Varn, Former Secretary to the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation and Department of Transportation. Florida Water Law and Regulation Attorney. Earth Ethics was a sponsor of this event.

October 28, 2016: Women Act for Climate Justice — Ten Days of Global Mobilization diverse women and girls around the world organized together and showed our resistance to environmental and social degradation.

November 15, 2016: Pensacola Stands in Solidarity! #NoDAPL - A stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters within the State of Florida against the Sabal Trail Pipeline and with our brothers and sisters to the north in their fight and commitment against the Dakota Access Pipeline!!



December 1, 2016: Global Day of Action: Standing in Solidarity with Standing Rock - A march to Wells Fargo, one of many banks funding the Dakota Access Pipeline.

December 7, 2016: National Call in Day - Calls were made to President Obama urging him to use his authority under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to protect our oceans and climate by permanently protecting ALL unleased waters - from coast to coast, the Arctic to the Gulf - from new offshore oil drilling.

ACTIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND MORE...

Partnership with Ocean Hour, the Scenic Highway Foundation, and the City of Pensacola for a month cleanup (second Saturday of the month) at Bay Bluffs Park.

The group meets monthly from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month to clean up Bay Bluffs Park and Chimney Park. The focus for 2017 will be Chimney Park. Sign-in begins at 8:45 a.m. Bags, gloves, and other items are provided for volunteers. Don't forget to bring water and sunscreen! Your help is needed and appreciated!

Outreach and education campaign on the environmental and public health impacts associated with hydraulic fracturing (Fracking).

Earth Action, Inc. is part of the collaborative Floridians Against Fracking, who include such organizations as Physicians for Social Responsibility, Florida Food and Water Watch, and others to educate public officials and the general public

about the impacts fracking has on our environment and public health. Check out Earth Ethics calendar for an upcoming events at <http://earthethics.us/community-events> and http://earthethics.us/earth_action for more information.

Outreach and education campaign on environmental, species, and public health impacts associated with plastics.

Earth Ethics, Inc. is partnering with the League of Women Voters of the Pensacola Bay Area in an effort to educate the public on the impacts of plastics in our environment and with our public health. Nationally, steps are being taken to ban the use



of plastic bags, bottles, and microbeads. Learn more at <http://earthethics.us/plastic-campaign>.

The outreach and education campaign will address plastic use and consumption, impacts to the environment, marine species, and public health. To keep up to date on events, visit and like our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/timesaredrasticbantheplastic>.

JUST TRANSITION

Earth Action is working with numerous organizations and individuals along the Gulf of Mexico to move our communities into alternative energy sources. We have started work on a toolkit that would provide communities with the information they need to build community campaigns and transition to sustainable, renewable energy sources.

NO NEW LEASES (KEEP IT IN THE GROUND)

Earth Action has worked with numerous organizations and individuals in opposition of expanding and opening new oil

In addition, Earth Action submitted comments to the Democratic Party National Platform on Friday, June 17, 2016 see the comments visit http://earthethics.us/earth_action.

Update: As of December 2016, although unsuccessful in having the Gulf of Mexico removed from BOEMs five year plan, we are working on obtaining Permanent Protection for the Eastern Planning Area in the Gulf of Mexico.

A letter has been drafted that will be submitted to President Obama asking that consideration be given to place the Eastern Planning Area of the Gulf of Mexico into permanent protection against the potential for offshore oil and gas exploration and drilling.

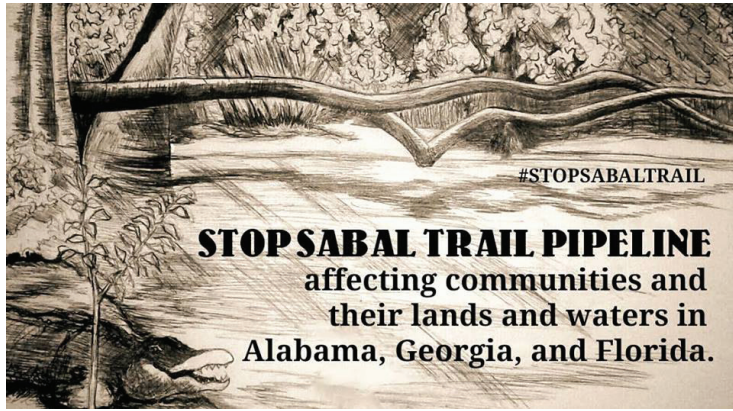
Several of us recently traveled to Washington D.C. to discuss our concerns with House and Senate representatives. We were welcomed by all. Representatives from FL, LA, VT, TX are in support of this proposal.

The letter along with a press release was submitted on Tuesday, December 27th, 2016.

SABAL TRAIL PIPELINE

The Sabal Trail is a natural gas pipeline that runs 515 miles through the states of Georgia, Alabama, and Florida. The environmental impacts associated with this project is immense. But there aren't just environmental impacts associated with this project, there's nonhuman species and public health impacts as well. As Floridians, we know the uniqueness and beauty of our natural resources, this is why so many of us have chosen to live here, right? Well

and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico. Artic, and Cooks Inlet. A comment letter has been sent the Obama Administration, Department of Interior and Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM). Please see the comments here Gulf Regional Letter (1). Earth Ethics/Action also signed on to another letter that can be seen here NGO letter on 5-year offshore leasing program 2016_final.



this project has the potential to impact thousands of acres of wetlands, our surface waters, springs, rivers, and drinking water supply. The risks outweighs any benefit they might be selling. And who are they? Duke Energy and Florida Power and Light. For more details. Check out the blog below.

Guest blog for outreach from Mary: <http://healthygulf.org/blog/stewards-earth-stand-sabal-trail>.

Get active, get involved, and engaged. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/earthethics/> for updates!

GULF SOUTH RISING

Gulf South Rising was a regional movement of coordinated actions and events to highlight the impact of the global climate crisis on the Gulf South region. Through collaborative events

and actions around strategic dates in 2015, Gulf South Rising demanded a just transition away from extractive industries, discriminatory policies, and unjust practices that hinder equitable recovery from disaster and impede the development of sustainable communities. Earth Action was honored to be part of this group and to be part of the Gulf Coast representation that to Paris recently to be part of the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Paris. A full report can be found at http://earthethics.us/earth_action.

A LETTER TO THE "BIG GREENS"

Sick and tired of being used by organizations to benefit their own agendas, a collaborative of grassroots regional envi-

ronmental groups drafted and supported this letter. We've been heard. We will no longer stand for being used! To review a copy of the letter, visit http://earthethics.us/earth_action.

UPCOMING - 2017

January 31, 2017 7:30 pm - SEED: The Untold Story is a feature-length documentary featuring Vandana Shiva, Dr. Jane Goodall, Andrew Kimbell, and Winona LaDuke, following passionate seed keepers protecting our 12,000-year old food legacy.

Get your ticket here <http://gathr.us/screening/19056>. The movie starts at 7:30, so please arrive early! Tickets are \$11.



Earth Ethics, Inc.

Environment, Education,
Sustainability and Planning

Mary Gutierrez
Executive Director
P.O. Box 37006
Pensacola, FL 32526

Phone: 850.549.7472
Fax: 850.458.7944

Email: mary.earthethics@cox.net



"Treat the earth well: it was not given to you by your parents, it was loaned to you by your children. We do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children."

-Native American Proverb

The MISSION of Earth Ethics is to educate the public and increase awareness about environmental and social issues at local, regional, and global levels in an effort to engage, empower, and encourage public involvement towards positive resolutions.

The VISION of Earth Ethics is to be a leader in identifying and resolving environmental and social issues while creating a positive, sustainable, and healthy way of thought and life.

www.earthethics.us
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Earth Ethics, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 tax-exempt organization created to engage, empower, & encourage public involvement towards positive resolutions with regards to environmental & social issues. All monetary donations are welcomed. To donate please visit:

<http://earthethics.us/donations/>

Earth Action, the legislative and educational arm of Earth Ethics, is a 501 (c) (4) organization.