Environmental Justice in a Rapidly Changing World
Shelley Tanenbaum, General Secretary, QEW

We are at an important juncture with regard to climate change and ecological collapse. Ecological crises are magnifying and happening more rapidly than predicted. Thankfully, people are waking up to the crises, technology has caught up, and we are starting to evolve our relationship with nature. Environmental injustice is holding us back—historically, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) communities have been used as dumping grounds for pollution, toxins, and degraded landscapes. Let’s explore our changing world view—we are all related.

Radical Imagination: Building the World We Want Amidst Climate Crisis
Hayley Hathaway, Communications Coordinator, QEW

It’s the year 2050, thirty years after we faced a global pandemic, economic collapse, and impending climate chaos. Where are we now? How did we get here? Hayley will guide us through a creative exercise in radical imagination, to help us move toward the world we want.

Living in Right Relationship with the Living World: Quaker Testimonies as Template
Mary Ann Percy, QEW Steering Committee

How might our lives change if we were to apply our Quaker Testimonies to the entire Living World rather than only to our relations with human beings? Using Quaker contemplative practices and exercises from Joanna Macy’s The Work That Reconnects, we will begin to deepen intimacy with all beings, and to understand how our Testimonies direct us toward harmonious and reciprocal relationships which respect the inherent integrity of the Earth community. And we will begin to experience how we are led to witness this reciprocity both to and in the world.

Gratitude, Pain & Transformation: Grieving & Dreaming
Mary Ann Percy

A half or full day or weekend retreat of spiritual deepening and discernment toward right action on behalf of our Living World. Using Joanna Macy’s The Work That Reconnects, as experienced through a Quaker lens, we will support one another with worship, experiential and contemplative practices, evocative queries, journaling, collage, discussion, and deep listening, creating ways to support our faithfulness in our daily lives.

Tailored Earthcare Workshops
Beverly G. Ward, QEW Co-Clerk & Southeastern Yearly Meeting Field Secretary for Earthcare

» Angelic Earthcare Troublemaker training: Beyond Bystanding
» Climate Justice in Our Community
» Transportation, Migration, and Climate
» Water: Sea Level Rise, Flooding, and Water Quality
» Displacement, Gentrification and Why Quakers Should Care
» Climate Justice and the Breath of Life: Air Quality and Frontline Communities
» Introduction to Project Drawdown with Quakers

Sounds of Silence
Brad Stocker, QEW Co-Clerk

“Do not break the silence unless you can improve upon it.” —William Ralph Inge

We often mistakenly assume silence is the absence of sound. It has been said that hearing is the last sense to die and so we are encouraged to speak to those in a coma or near death. In this workshop we will explore silences and sounds. We will aim to become more mindful about how silence and sound are functioning in our lives and affect our care for Earth. This workshop is currently designed for Zoom.
Regenerative Agriculture: Sustainable is Not Enough
Carol Barta, QEW Steering Committee

Why is “sustainable” not enough in the world of agriculture? What will it take to produce nutrient dense food on healthy soil? Regenerative agriculture is a systems approach to restoring the health of our food system. We’ll explore the component parts of regenerative agriculture and discuss why “whole system thinking” is the best way to feed the world.

Regenerative Agriculture: Renewing Biodiversity, Mind, Body & Spirit
Jim Kessler, QEW Steering Committee

Creating native plant habitat has positively impacted the mental, physical, and spiritual health of Jim’s Quaker family—as well as the songbird, pollinator, and wildlife populations at his home. His goal is to motivate others to plant butterfly gardens and larger native plant habitats to confront the extinction crisis. Loss of biodiversity can be reversed by the actions of ordinary people.

Financial & Economic Roots of the Climate Emergency
Pamela Haines

The dynamics and priorities of our economy are a key driver of the climate emergency, and the economy is now driven to a significant extent by the financial sector. You don’t have to be an economist to explore these connections and identify key issues and areas of opportunity.

Finding Way Forward: Friends Care for the Earth
Mary Jo Klingel, QEW Mentoring Clerk

Today, Friends are fully aware of the tragedy of our failure to care for the Earth. Friends are likely to ask us, “What can I do?” Mary Jo’s interactive and optimistic workshop will address that question directly, grounded in Friends Testimonies. We will come together in community and seek collectively to guide Friends to support one another and our Earth.

Voluntary Family Planning & Education Can Help Solve Myriad Problems
Dick Grossman, QEW Steering Committee

With the help of education and access to contraception, people choose to have smaller families and therefore less environmental impact. In fact, the most humane and least expensive way to slow climate chaos, save species, and protect the environment is with family planning and educating girls and women.

Population Concerns
Stan Becker

The world population grew from 2.5 billion in 1950 to 8 billion in 2022 and we’re adding about 200,000 persons per day. Humans have invaded virtually every ecosystem on the planet and our activities are leading to rapid diminishment and extinction of species. To be sustainable on this planet we must reduce both our individual impact and our numbers. With presentation, queries, and worship-sharing we will probe these concerns.

Quaker Earthcare Witness is a network of North American Friends (Quakers) and other like-minded people who are taking spirit-led action to address the ecological and social crises of the world, emphasizing Quaker process and testimonies. Visit QuakerEarthcare.org.

Quaker Earthcare Witness P.O. Box 6787 Albany, CA 94706