WE ARE A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG ACTIVISTS, ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE STEPPING UP AS LEADERS TO CO-CREATE THE FUTURE WE KNOW IS POSSIBLE.
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Welcome to the Earth Guardians family. Introducing Earth Guardians as a family is a bold statement, though it is the truest way to describe our organization. Earth Guardians started in 1992 as an accredited high school on Maui, HI and has grown into a global movement with active Crews - groups of young people taking action in their communities, in over forty countries on six continents. Earth Guardians is on a mission to unify humanity from all corners of the world, on behalf of the environment, regardless of anyone’s race, religion, age, economics or education. We are committed to growing a resilient, intergenerational movement with youth at the forefront by empowering them as leaders and amplifying their impact. If you feel called to take meaningful action in your community, we are here to help you get started and to support you along the way.

So, welcome to the family!
Why YOU are Here

We believe you wouldn’t be here unless you have been feeling a call to contribute to something greater than yourself. Maybe the call is more of a whisper or feels like a curiosity. Maybe you have already started advocating for the environment and are now looking for a group of like-minded individuals to join you.

Earth Guardians invites you to share your voice and take action through one of our strategic programs, that build upon one another and offering you opportunities to participate.

This packet walks you through our programs Step-By-Step, beginning with simple ways you can upgrade your choices by following our list of 50 Simple Things, and guides you toward launching your very own Earth Guardians Crew.
START SIMPLE
Join fellow Earth Guardian PATHFINDERS who are making a difference every day by incorporating at least 10 behavior upgrades, guided by our 50 Simple Things. Find our full list at www.earthguardians.org/50simplethings.

When you are ready for more, keep up your chosen 10+ upgrades (add 1-3 per month) AND...

OWN YOUR ENERGY
Conduct a Home Environmental Audit using our guide www.earthguardians.org/audit. Earth Guardian PATHFINDERS invite family, roommates and fellow Crew members to conduct an audit of their home. Learn where energy leaks are, how to make natural cleaning products and much, much more. We recommend celebrating with a delicious meal following your audit!

Hungry for more? Rock your 50 Simple Things, invite others to do a Home Environmental Audit AND...

UNIFY
Take another step forward by joining our global family of TRAILBLAZERS and protecting our future, and the future of generations to come. Every season we focus on one element, together, to protect the places we love and live in. In the Spring we focus on Earth, Summer on Water, Autumn on Air and Winter on Climate. For more information, check out our Protect Our Future guide at www.earthguardians.org/pof.

Now that you have committed to your 50 Simple Things, Owned Your Energy, Protected Our Future, AND still want more...

LAUNCH YOUR CREW
Step into your leadership by launching your Crew and calling together your most impassioned family members, friends, colleagues and neighbors. Now you are an Earth Guardian FRONTRUNNER. Claim your power and take a stand as an official Crew leader.
So, what is a CREW?

Crews are youth-led, intergenerational groups of impassioned leaders taking action for a healthy, just and sustainable future. They are the heartbeat of Earth Guardians, because real, sustainable and organic change doesn’t come from the top-down, rather it comes from widespread cultural shifts inspired by dedicated individuals leading the way.

Earth Guardian Crews are emerging all over the planet and can be a family, school, group of friends or community dedicated to making a difference. It starts with one person, like yourself, who is willing to step into leadership, guided by passion and committed to social and environmental justice. Start your Crew and start impacting your community, your region and ultimately the world through our global network of people just like you.

We are all in this together.
How do YOU start a CREW?

Thank you for asking

- You already started by filling out the online Sign-Up sheet.

- Along with this Crew Packet, we have sent you Agreements for how you and your Crew members represent yourselves as official Earth Guardians.

- Once you read, sign and email your Earth Guardians Agreements to crews@earthguardians.org, we will know you are committed and ready to get started.

- Earth Guardians will introduce you to your nearest Regional Crew Director who will assist and support you and your Crew.

- Next, you will receive your personalized Earth Guardians Logo with the name of your Crews’ location.

- After you receive your personalized logo, you are ready to set up your Crew’s Facebook page. Use your Crew’s logo for your profile picture and digital marketing materials. Notify the main Earth Guardians Facebook page when your NEW profile is ready so we can “Like” it and invite others to do the same!
Layers of Leadership

**EARTH GUARDIANS CREW DIRECTOR** organizes, behind the scenes, from our offices in Boulder, Colorado, USA and connects Crews to additional support all around the world.

**REGIONAL CREW DIRECTORS** are impassioned leaders making massive impact with their Crew and Crews in their region. They are the primary contact person for questions and support when launching your Crew and organizing projects.

**CREW LEADERS** are individuals like you who have started a Crew in their area and are inviting others to join them in protecting the environment for the present and for future generations.

**CREW MEMBERS** are family, friends, classmates, colleagues and community members who care about the environment and are looking for like-minded individuals and opportunities to take action.
How to Build Your Crew

Best Practices

A Crew can be as small as you and your siblings or as big as your entire school district.

- Act from your heart. Lead with some structure.
- Invite individuals to join your Crew who are impassioned and reliable. A Crew of 2 active EG’s accomplishes more than a Crew of 20 inactive EG’s.
- Host Your First Meeting: Welcome your friends, family, colleagues, teachers and neighbors to an information session about your new Earth Guardians Crew. Tell them who you are, what an Earth Guardian Crew is, what Crews can do in the community and why you would like them to join you.
- Get contact information from those who attend your meeting and tell them how you will follow-up after the first meeting.
- Once you get one or more people to join you, create the culture of your Crew: How will your Crew represent itself to the world?
- Get Organized:
  - Decide how you will communicate with your Crews. Will you use emails, texts, phone calls or Messenger to stay connected?
  - How often will you meet? Once a week or every other week?
  - How will you assign tasks and support one another to complete them?
How to Choose and Accomplish Meaningful Projects

- Start small with meaningful projects you can carry through to completion.
- Identify environmental issues and opportunities you care about in your area.
- Inform yourself. Read the newspaper and focus on current events, political news and the community spotlight sections to identify issues and learn about the people involved.
- Attend community meetings from neighborhood potlucks to City Council meetings.
- Reach out to people who have been active in current events and ask them to mentor you. Intergenerational relationships provide amazing insight, support and resources.
- Find ways to get creative and build projects you love.
How to Start Your Project

Ask yourself...

1. What exactly will **you** and your **Crew** accomplish?

2. Map out an **action plan**. What steps will you take to reach your goal?

3. Look for ways to incorporate your **Crew’s skills and passions**.

4. **Empower** your **Crew members** to take initiative in areas that inspire them.

5. **CELEBRATE** every step of the way. Set small goals for yourself toward achieving your ultimate goal, and celebrate every completed task!

6. Send your **Crew’s stories and pictures** to crews@earthguardians.org so we can share them with the world.

Best Practices
Send Us Your Stories

As the heartbeat of Earth Guardians, we want to highlight your Crew and the differences you are making in your community and the world. So, share your great work with us!

- Get creative, share your personality and passion.
- Submit 2-5 quality photos every month with 3-5 well written sentences explaining what’s happening in your pictures. Or, send us a 30-60 sec video capturing your Crew in action.
- Please send all information as if you were going to post it for the world to see.

Email all submissions to crews@earthguardians.org

Read the story below for inspiration.

Earth Guardians Odisha, India

“Art for Climate Change” Program launched in a school named “Sitanath High School”, Bhubaneswar. Thirty-five student artists and 2 teachers created 35 interesting and educative posters relating to climate change. An Earth Guardians student club was formed to undertake different environment protection campaigns, including tree planting! A jury team consisting of teachers and Earth Guardians Odisha India’s Crew Leader, Dr M.R. Mishra, selected three artists for their posters on climate change. The winners were awarded prizes and certificates.”
**Use your Social Media**

1. Post, post and post some more. The world wants to be inspired by your stories.

2. Alongside sending Earth Guardians your stories and pictures so we can post them on the main Earth Guardians Facebook page, update your Facebook page regularly. Use mainstream media to connect with other Earth Guardians and spread your messages far and wide.

3. After you launch your Crew’s Facebook page, set up Twitter, Instagram and your preferred social media platforms.

4. Make memes and post pictures of your Crew and your projects. Share your news and invite others to work with your Crew.

5. Post articles about innovative solutions to the climate crises, local and global current events and other people’s inspiring stories.

6. Make sure to add #EarthGuardians & #ProtectOurFuture and attract more views.

Now you are officially ready to go!
We Are Happy You Are Here...
and look forward to working with you!

As you can see, there are many ways to become an Earth Guardian, and we are thrilled you are answering the call to step up and share your voice as a leader. Follow your passion, focus on what you care about and commit to meaningful and sustainable solutions.

We truly never know how powerful our impact is and just how far our “ripple effects” can reach...

“We Are the Ones We’ve Been Waiting For”
Contact

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Facebook Earthguardians/tribe
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