

## Supporting Quotes for the 2018 Query

We recognize that the well-being of the earth is a fundamental spiritual concern. From the beginning, it was through the wonders of nature that people saw God. How we treat the earth and its creatures is a basic part of our relationship with God. Our planet as a whole, not just the small parts of it in our immediate custody, requires our responsible attention.

-From *Philadelphia Faith and Practice (2002)*, Application of Friends Testimonies, Living in the World

We do not own the world, and its riches are not ours to dispose of at will. Show a loving consideration for all creatures and seek to maintain the beauty and variety of the world. Work to ensure that our increasing power over nature is used responsibly, with reverence for life. Rejoice in the splendour of God's continuing creation.

-From *Religious Society of Friends in Britain, Quaker Faith and Practice*. Advices and Queries

**Earthcare:** Friends seek harmony with all of God's creation, recognizing the need to live lightly and sustain the Earth's ability to support life.

Ann Arbor Handbook

All species and the Earth itself have interdependent roles within Creation. Humankind is not *the* species, to whom all others are subservient, but one among many. All parts, all issues, are inextricably intertwined. Indeed the web of creation could be described as of three-ply thread: wherever we touch it we affect justice and peace and the health of all everywhere. So all our testimonies, all our Quaker work, all our Quaker lives are part of one process, of striving towards a flourishing, just and peaceful Creation – the Kingdom of God.

Audrey Urry, 1994 Britain F&P

The produce of the earth is a gift from our gracious creator to the inhabitants, and to impoverish the earth now to support outward greatness appears to be an injury to the succeeding age.

John Woolman 1772