

Dear Center and Class Coordinators,

Om Shanti and loving greetings.

Baba's USA Environmental Team has been working on a unified program for April in celebration of Earth Day, which falls on Tuesday, April 22nd.

- Please do an Earth Day program on April 22nd, or during a weekend close to that date.
- Earth Day is also a wonderful opportunity for community outreach as different community organizations, cities, universities and environmental groups hold events and fairs at which BK booths would be a welcome addition. Or be a speaker at another organization's event. Another option is to be part of a clean-up event, at a river, park or beach, either with another organization or one sponsored by the BKs.

Program

The BK USA Earth Day Theme will be: Caring for the Earth — Spirituality in Action

The message on the flyer: Rekindle your hope and enthusiasm in caring for our planet. There is much to do — and so much we can do to make a positive difference. Join us. Let us imagine, create and act together.

Please find the link for:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ghMjt3MPzxrjSI8dGOlbaccro1yadGyR?usp=drive_link

A template of the Earth Day program flyer

A template for Earth Day blessing cards to match

Please create your own program. You may wish to select from the below items:

1. Beginning with a meditative reflection on the importance of nature to you and the qualities you experience in nature.
2. Environmental Talk/ Inspirations: Although we have talked about letting go of the use of plastic bottles of water and single use plastics in our first two newsletter, these messages have been directed mostly towards the Centers and the Brahmin family to make sure we are following the best practices, setting a good example and creating positive karmas with the elements. That said, the general message for Baba's instruments to share publicly for Earth Day is a spiritual one: technical and political solutions to the challenges we now face in the world are not enough. There needs to be a radical change in the hearts and minds of people throughout the world – a realization that the world will only

change when we change the way we relate to ourselves, others, and nature. The attached "10 Ways to Change the World" summarizes this message beautifully.

There is a low resolution "10 Ways" poster available in the "Posters" folder which could be printed on a sheet of paper and used as a parting gift.

3. BK Video on the environment. There is a "Suggested Videos" folder in the shared google drive which has two documents. One is for suggested Video messages from Seniors and the other one is suggested meditation. We will continue to add more resources as they become available.
4. Discussion, asking for their ideas, questions, commitment to one action as a friend of the Earth.
5. Ending meditation to send peace and gratitude to the Earth.
6. Light refreshments on environmentally friendly plates.

BK Booths at a local Earth Day event

You may wish to create environmental posters for your display. The following posters are downloadable from the google drive.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ghMjt3MPzxrjSI8dGOlbaccro1yadGyR?usp=drive_link

- Use the "10 Ways to Change the World" poster — Link to a 30MB high resolution version for large format printing
- Another version that separates the "10 Ways" into six 18x24 posters that could be used for fairs and exhibitions.
- Beautiful poster with message about the importance of not using plastic bottles of water.

As part of your BK booth, you may also wish to have:

Your regular BK banner with meditation course or program offerings.

Perhaps a few copies of the public USA BK Newsletters #1 and #2.

A meditation booth for sending peace to the Earth.

A virtue wheel with the Earth blessing cards. (Template above under program.)

Activities for children, such as:

Coloring a picture of the earth or a tree and writing their wish.

Planting seeds in a paper cup to take home and plant.

Stories from the LVE Caring for the Earth and Her Oceans book.

A wishing tree where people of all ages can write out a card with their good wish, blessing or thought of gratitude for the Earth.

With all good wishes from your USA BK Environmental Team

P.S. Please email if you have any questions.