

—T-H-E—A-R-C-H-I-T-E-C-T-U-R-E—L-O-B-B-Y—

—E-A-R-T-H—D-A-Y—

—A-P-R-I-L—2-2—

WED 22  
Reflecting on Earth Day  
& Your Work  
TAL Victoria

Alone: a meditation

Together: a conversation

Prompts

Leave your work at your desk. Walk outside, to your yard or a nature strip. Take your shoes off and plant your feet in the grass. Maybe the earth is wet and cold, or prickly, or the grass tickles.

When you're ready, think about the last time you felt strong things about nature and the Earth.

Reflect on how these kinds of experiences feed into your values about the Earth. Is nature and the Earth an important part of your daily life?

How high does the protection of the Earth register in your values?

Are you able or encouraged to enact your values about the Earth through your work?

What are your workplaces policies in regards to protecting the Earth?

What is it about your workplace that enables or stops you from actualising your values? Are these obstacles inevitable? How could they be overcome?

Are your answers to these questions the norm for workers in similar positions at other workplaces?

Do you think your workplace is leading us toward a carbon neutral construction industry? How so (or not so)? Would you like them to be?

Would you be more fulfilled at work if you knew the projects you worked on were mitigating climate change? Do others in your workplace feel the same way?

Maybe you were grateful for the life nature provides. Sad at nature's destruction. In awe of big cats in a show. Or maybe you felt serene peace in a beautiful natural setting.

Through gardening, hiking, landscaping, tending your houseplants, fishing, laying in the sun at the beach? Driving along beautiful coastlines, hunting, paddling in the river, eating fruit from a neighbourhood tree, hearing birds?

Does your workplace have a policy about carbon neutral design? A just transition to a carbon neutral industry? Is your workplace with a clean energy company? Do they push a carbon neutral agenda with their clients? Do the firm's policies reflect your own values? Does it draw from other leading policies, e.g. the ILO's Guidelines for a Just Transition? If you don't know, is there someone you can ask to find out?

Get into a Zoom room with some of your colleagues! Workers, you can organise this amongst yourselves. Or, if the whole office is involved, get everyone into one Zoom meeting and randomise into Breakout Rooms of 3-6 people each.

To get into the right context, introduce yourselves if you don't already know each other. Each person share one thing about how the Earth is important to your life.

Allowing the conversation to flow naturally and for everyone to talk, discuss the following questions:

Are you able or encouraged to enact your values about the Earth through your work?

What are your workplaces policies in regards to protecting the Earth?

What is it about your workplace that enables or stops you from actualising your values? Are these obstacles inevitable? How could they be overcome?

Do you think your workplace is leading us toward a carbon neutral construction industry? How so (or not so)? Would you like them to be?

Who would you need to get in touch with to make something happen in your workplace around climate action?

Thank you for taking the time to reflect on Earth Day. If you want to speak to someone or get involved with organising around climate action in our profession, please get in touch.  
e archlobby.victoriachapter@gmail.com  
ig @archlobby.victoria  
tw @lobbyvic