

# Wednesday Earth Wisdom

Wednesday, July 6



## **Message From Reclaiming Earth Committee – Wednesday Earth Wisdom:**

As we read, listen and reflect on integral ecology, it is a human tendency to think that it affects everyone else but not us. After all, the news is full of refugees from drought, war and famine. News of oil well fires and the hazards of fracking, cost of food escalating and more. As we learned from Francis, what impacts one person affects everyone because of the interrelatedness of all creation.

In our own regions there are multiple examples of integral ecology in distress. In Oregon, we heard of the oil train derailment and fire that could have been much worse but still a huge awareness raiser of the inherent dangers. Heavy metals such as cadmium and arsenic have been found in neighborhoods near glass plants.

In Washington, radiation persists leaking from the Hanford underground tanks. Polluted storm water and toxic chemicals continue to drain into Puget Sound.

In California, even with significant laws on the books, there is a problem with pesticide usage that impacts the health of farm workers and those who live close to agricultural areas. Fossil fuel transportation is a concern for safety but also for health. According to [EarthJustice.org](http://EarthJustice.org), crude oil terminals are considered to be a major source of organic volatile compound which evolve into ozone which can then worsen symptoms of asthma.

There are signs of hope if we look for them. A fairly recent phenomenon are churches and people of faith coming together around the globe to pray for, find and express hope for all of nature and the interrelatedness of life.

*See, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? Isaiah 43:19*