

Guidelines for the Members of the International Ecoart Network



INTRODUCTION

The Ecoart Network started as a listserv in 1998 by Tim Collins, Erica Fielder, Lynne Hull, Don Krug, Beverly Naidus, Baile Oakes, Aviva Rahmani, and Susan Steinman, as an organizing tool in preparation for the CAA panel on ecoart in 1999. It has grown into an international group dedicated to the practice(s) of ecological art that inspire caring and respect, stimulate dialogue, and encourage the long-term flourishing of the social and natural environments in which we live. Our ecoart listserv was originally designed to provide a forum for discussions about our practices, ideas, and information pertinent to ecology and art, and to share opportunities for exhibitions, conferences, and publications. While the listserv continues to meet those goals, we have grown from a small group of 8 – 10 participants to 220+ members from all over the world. Please see our statement about our work, co-authored by members of the Ecoart Network at the end of this document and on our website (www.ecoartnetwork.org).

ECOART LIST POLICIES

This is an unmoderated email list.

On a yearly rotating basis, members of the Ecoart Network take on the administrative duties necessary to facilitate membership, including welcoming new members. The current list administrator is Geetanjali Sachdev. Current policy advisors include Aviva Rahmani, Ann Rosenthal, Richard Povall, and Jan van Boeckel.

Posts to the ecoart list should be sent to:

ecoart-list@googlegroups.com. Messages will reach all group members directly without interference. The emails that you receive from other members in your inbox, as a rule, have the tag [ecoart-list] in the subject line and the indication "via Ecoart-list," following the name of the person who posted the message.

We have a code of dialogue.

It is expected that members will not always agree on topics under discussion. Interactions based on contrasting ideas and perspectives sharpen us all and allow for conceptual

transformation and expansion. Given this, it is expected that all posts will be written with kindness and respect for those with whom we disagree. Members are encouraged, in their discussions, to adhere to principles of non-violent communication and to follow this advice by Daniel Dennett*, on composing a successful critical commentary:

- attempt to re-express your target's position so clearly, vividly, and fairly that your target says, "Thanks, I wish I'd thought of putting it that way."
- list any points of agreement (especially if they are not concerns of general or widespread agreement);
- mention anything you have learned from your target;
- and only then voice your rebuttal or criticism.

* (Dennet 2013, *Intuition Pumps and Other Tools*, p. —)
Extending Anatol Rappoport's Rules found in (1961) *Fights, Games and Debates*.

Complaints

If you have a concern about our list operations, group policies, specific posts, or members, please contact the list administrator. This will enable the best response to your concerns.

Reply to all or individual sender

At present, the ecoart list is set up so that replies are sent directly to the entire list. Please consider whether a response you would like to post is meant for just one person or is appropriate for the whole group. If you only want to reply to this one person, then do not post your reply to the whole ecoart list, or provide very short, unelaborated responses. Personal communication is better sent directly (and exclusively) to the person for whom such a message is meant.

Attachments

At present, you can add any attachment you want to your email. If you do send an attachment, please describe in the body of your email what the attachment is about, so people know beforehand what they will open.

Thread retention

Please make every effort to ensure that subject headings maintain an obvious connection to the post that you are responding to. Constant changes in subject headings may make your post distinct, but this also makes it very difficult to follow specific conversations over time.

Email digest

If desired, you can adjust your settings yourself so that you receive daily or weekly email digests, rather than individual emails. To change your preferences, go to:

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/ecoart-list>. If you need assistance doing this, please ask the list administrator for help. There are three options:

- Receiving all email: this is the default setting (and thus what you most likely have now): you receive each individual email at once when someone shares a message with the list;
- Receiving mail in abridged format: per day, you receive email updates as a single email summary of new activity;
- Receiving mail in digest format: you receive the full content of up to 25 messages in a single email per day. If there are more than 25 new messages, you will receive multiple digests.

While you can see the sender, subject, and a brief summary with abridged emails, you can view all text and images from all group activity in the digest email.

ARCHIVING

E-mails shared on the ecoart list are archived at:
<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/ecoart-list>.

NOMINATING NEW MEMBERS

To nominate a new member, please post a request to the group at large indicating who you would like to nominate and why. Be sure you have discussed the nomination with the nominee and that they *want* to be a member of the Ecoart Network! In your nomination post, include the nominee's website, bio, and other pertinent information. The subject heading for nominations should clearly indicate that this is a "new member nomination" to make tracking easy. Be sure to inform the administrator of the right email address of the person concerned. After five days, if there are no objections from group members, the list administrator will send the nominated individual a new member's package and they will be officially invited to join the Ecoart Network and participate in the listserv. When you approach potential new members about their possible interest in joining the list, please indicate to them that they are expected to post an introduction to the group upon joining.

PERMISSIONS

As a rule, it is important to ask permission before using and/or distributing material from the ecoart list. All posts include the email address of the original author. If you are considering quoting, distributing, or publishing any writing and/or images from the ecoart list to external parties, please contact the author(s) directly. We consider content posted through the ecoart list to be confidential and copyrighted by the author of the material. Once permission is granted and you prepare to refer to ecoart list content in a subsequent publication, please provide accurate attribution of your source.

HOW TO BE LISTED ON OUR WEBSITE

(www.ecoartnetwork.org).

The Ecoart Network website has a searchable members directory. It includes a brief bio, image, and link to one website for each member. To be included in the directory, please email networkecoart@gmail.com and request the Directory Listing Form which provides details of the process and guidelines for your listing. Once you have a listing, if you would like to update it at some point, go to the Contact section of the website and download the form for updated listings.

ECOART NETWORK MISSION STATEMENT

The following statement was co-authored and agreed upon by members of the Ecoart Network to define our field and represent the range of ecoart practices:

We are a network of professionals dedicated to the practices of ecological art. We work across disciplines and within communities to:

- *Focus attention on interrelationships in our environment - the physical, biological, cultural, political, and historical aspects of social and ecological systems*
- *Create artworks that employ natural materials, or engage with environmental forces such as wind, water, or sunlight*
- *Reclaim, restore, and remediate damaged environments*
- *Inform the public about ecological dynamics and the environmental problems we face*
- *Imagine new ecological relationships, new possibilities for co-existence*

Our work is created to inspire caring and respect, stimulate dialogue, and encourage the long-term flourishing of the social and natural environments in which we live.

ECOART IN ACTION BOOK

Ecoart in Action: Activities, Case Studies, and Provocations for Classrooms and Communities provides ready-to-go, vetted approaches to facilitating ecoart projects featuring contributions by 67 Ecoart Network members. The book was over five years in the making, edited by Network members Amara Geffen, Ann Rosenthal, Chris Fremantle, and Aviva Rahmani and published by New Village Press in 2022. Learn more in the Projects section of our website!

Last updated by admin team, Apr 3, 2025

New list administrators name added, November 2023