



Earthlife Africa Johannesburg (ELA Jhb) ***working for social and environmental justice***

www.earthlife.co.za
Tel: 011 339 3662

Our vision: Development that puts people and their environment first.

To work towards this, ELA Jhb encourages and supports people to:

- enhance their well-being and improve their quality of life without exploiting people or degrading their environment
- develop businesses and industries that reduce pollution, minimise waste and protect our natural resources.

ELA Jhb does this through:

- organising campaigns to highlight injustice and mobilise support for change, including direct action
- research and investigation
- providing information through publications, the internet and films
- hosting events at which people can discuss issues, generate new ideas and develop their skills
- working with decision makers in local, national and provincial government to shape and implement policy
- participating in networks of other organisations that share a similar vision.

Who we are

ELA Jhb is one branch of Earthlife Africa (ELA). There are also branches in Cape Town, Durban and Namibia. ELA Jhb is made up almost entirely of volunteers from many diverse backgrounds who are united in a shared vision and committed to making a difference.

Our guiding values

- Reverence for the Earth – a respect for and a responsibility to care for the diversity of the natural environment
- Freeing of human potential – a belief that everyone has the right to spiritual development and personal and social growth
- Grassroots democracy – a belief in participatory democracy in decision-making
- Non-violence in resolving conflict
- Rejection of discrimination – a respect for everyone's right not to be unfairly discriminated against
- Ending exploitation – a rejection of the abuse of power and exploitation
- Solidarity and co-operation with all people who struggle against oppression and exploitation

Our campaigns and projects

We have several campaigns, or project areas, that cover a wide range of issues. Members can volunteer to participate in one or more of the existing campaigns. A member can also initiate a new campaign to address a particular issue that is important to them, provided this is agreed by the organisation. Some of the achievements of ELA Jhb campaigns are highlighted below.

Sustainable Energy and Climate Change Project (SECCP)

- researched and published quality publications on the economic and social benefits of renewable energy for South Africa
- exposed the flaws in government energy policy that gives cheap electricity to multi-national companies at the expense of the poor

Biodiversity Action Group

- raised awareness of the impact of inappropriate development on Gauteng's wetlands and scarce water resources

Community Zero Waste Programme

- raised awareness of effective waste management systems in Diepkloof, Yeoville and Parkmore
- developed the financial skills of members of local communities

Toxics Action Group

- worked with the Zero Waste Communities Forum and groundWork to delay the importation of potentially harmful waste recycling technology
- alerted members of the community to the health and environmental hazards of proposals to incinerate waste in cement kilns in their area

Nuclear Energy Costs the Earth Campaign (NECTEC)

- assisted workers with occupational diseases, as a result of working at the Pelindaba nuclear facility, to have their claims investigated
- participated in the production of the film Uranium Road, revealing the vested interests behind South Africa's nuclear energy policy

Wonderfontein Spruit Campaign

- exposed the health and environmental consequences of 120 years of gold mining on the West Rand
- succeeded in getting the mining companies and government to begin a process to rehabilitate the area and protect people's right to clean water

What ELA Jhb members say

"What I like about ELA Jhb is the enthusiasm of the members - our tenacity, our creativity."

"Inspiring!" "Nourishing!"

"I like connecting with others that are concerned with environmental ethics."

"For me it is not only about snout beetle projects and saving flowers and trees but about corporate accountability and social and environmental justice."

"I joined Earthlife because I was frustrated by what seemed the 'conservation focus' of the environmental movement in South Africa. ELA is founded on a social/environmental justice perspective."

Social and environmental justice for all – be part of the change!

Membership form

Would you like to join Earthlife Africa Johannesburg (ELA Jhb)? If so, please complete this form to confirm your membership for one year. ELA Jhb values your support. Membership is free, but donations are welcome as they help to fund our awareness campaigns.

YES! I support Earthlife Africa Johannesburg's vision and values and would like to:

join the organisation renew my membership

Name: Surname:

Telephone contact details (please include a landline if possible):

Home: Work: Cell:

Postal address:

.....

E-mail: Date:

Unless you request otherwise, all newsletters and notices will be sent to you via e-mail

Which environmental issues particularly interest you?

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Which skills and/or resources would you like to contribute? (for example, areas of expertise, access to equipment):

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DONATIONS

Please fill in the amount you wish to donate:

R5 R30 R60 R120 R500 Other R_____

Regular monthly contributions of: R.....

I will make my donation by:

cash/cheque given to ELA Membership Officer (please obtain a receipt)

deposit/electronic transfer into bank account:

Earthlife Africa Johannesburg Bank: Nedbank

Branch: Braamfontein Code: 19500502

Account number: 1950644235 **Reference: Your initials and surname**

Please fax or e-mail proof of payment with membership form

Instalments of

Stop order

Please send your completed membership form, with proof of any payment, to the membership officer at: members@earthlife.org.za or fax to: 011 447 1134