**ECO-ACTION FOR APRIL 16, 2021 – DELVING DEEPER**

**Land Acknowledgments**

An interviewer once asked a Native American person: “What did you call the land now called the United States?” The answer was, “We called it home.”

More and more groups now start their meetings remembering the Native Americans who called the land home before being evicted from it. Land Acknowledgements are reminders of native people and the relationship they had with their home.

Land acknowledgments are especially appropriate on Indigenous People’s Day, Oct. 14, but they are used any time. Some churches and organizations have posted land acknowledgements on their buildings or land. They are being used as signature quotes. You can even hear acknowledgements on the radio.

Individuals and groups are encouraged to create their own formulas. You’ll need to research what tribe(s) lived on the land, anything significant about them, how they left, and where they live now. Components of land acknowledgements usually include the following:

* recognize that we are on the traditional land of the [name] tribe,
* name the location to which they were forced to live and still reside,
* respect and appreciate them and their care for the land, and
* pledge to respect and care for the land.

Sample: We meet on the traditional land of the [name] people. I honor with gratitude the people who lived here for generations, and the loving care they took of the land that sustained them. I call us/ I pledge to continue to learn how to care for the earth and each other and to act responsibly to protect this land, our home.

**For further information:**[A guide to Indigenous land acknowledgment - Native ...](https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/)

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