

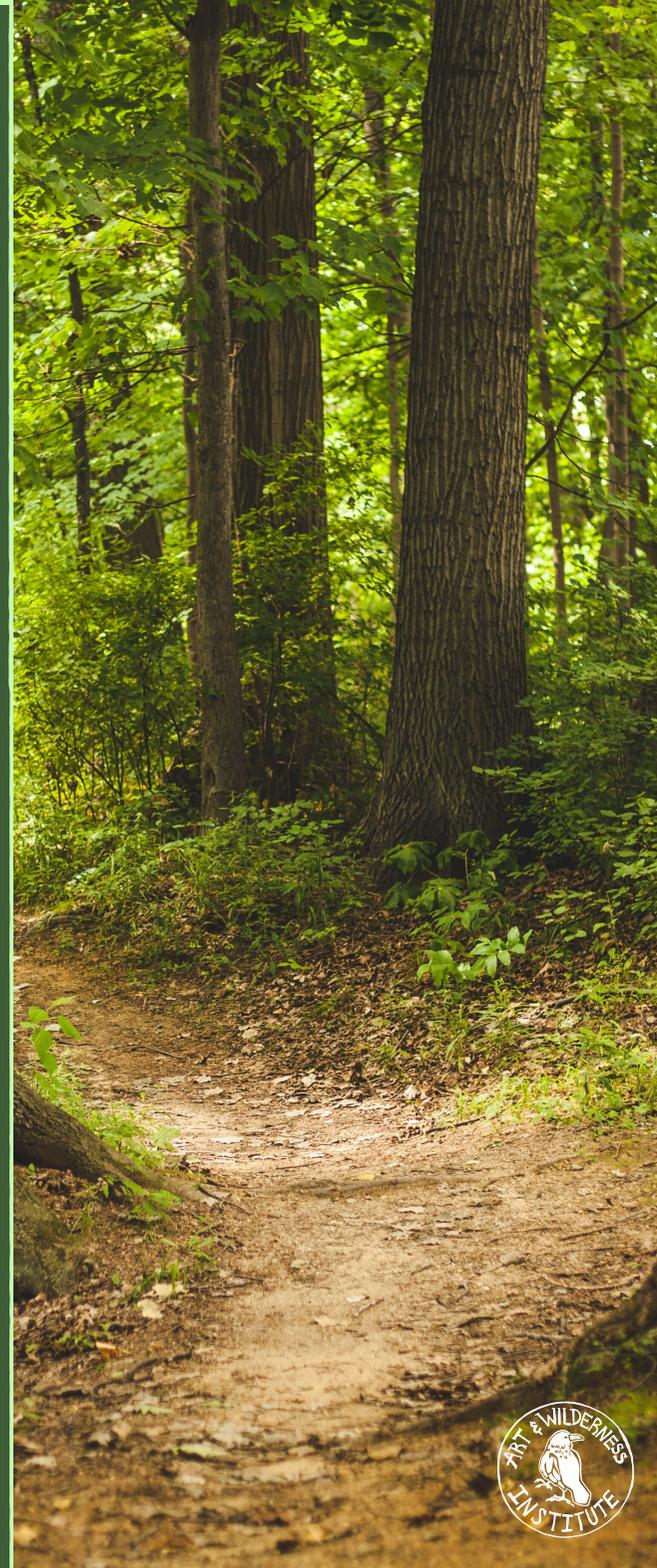
Environmental Practices in Accordance with Quran & Sunnah

Bismillahir rahmanir raheem, Assalaam Alaikum. Allah (SWT) has appointed us caretakers of the Earth: **“He is the One Who has placed you as successors on earth and elevated some of you in rank over others, so He may test you with what He has given you. Surely your Lord is swift in punishment, but He is certainly All-Forgiving, Most Merciful”**
(Quran 6:165)

Islam is a complete religion that encompasses all aspects of life. And part of that is to care for the creation of Allah. There are many eco-friendly practices engrained in the Qur’an and Sunnah of The Prophet (saw).

Being grateful for all our blessings.

This Earth and the abundance of natural resources that was created within it, all gifts to us from the mercy of Allah SWT. The delicate balance of ecosystems working together in perfect harmony, maintaining balance. The countless amounts of fruits and vegetables, the animals on the land and in the sea...all for us. **“Then which of your Lord’s favours will you both deny?”** (Quran 55:13)



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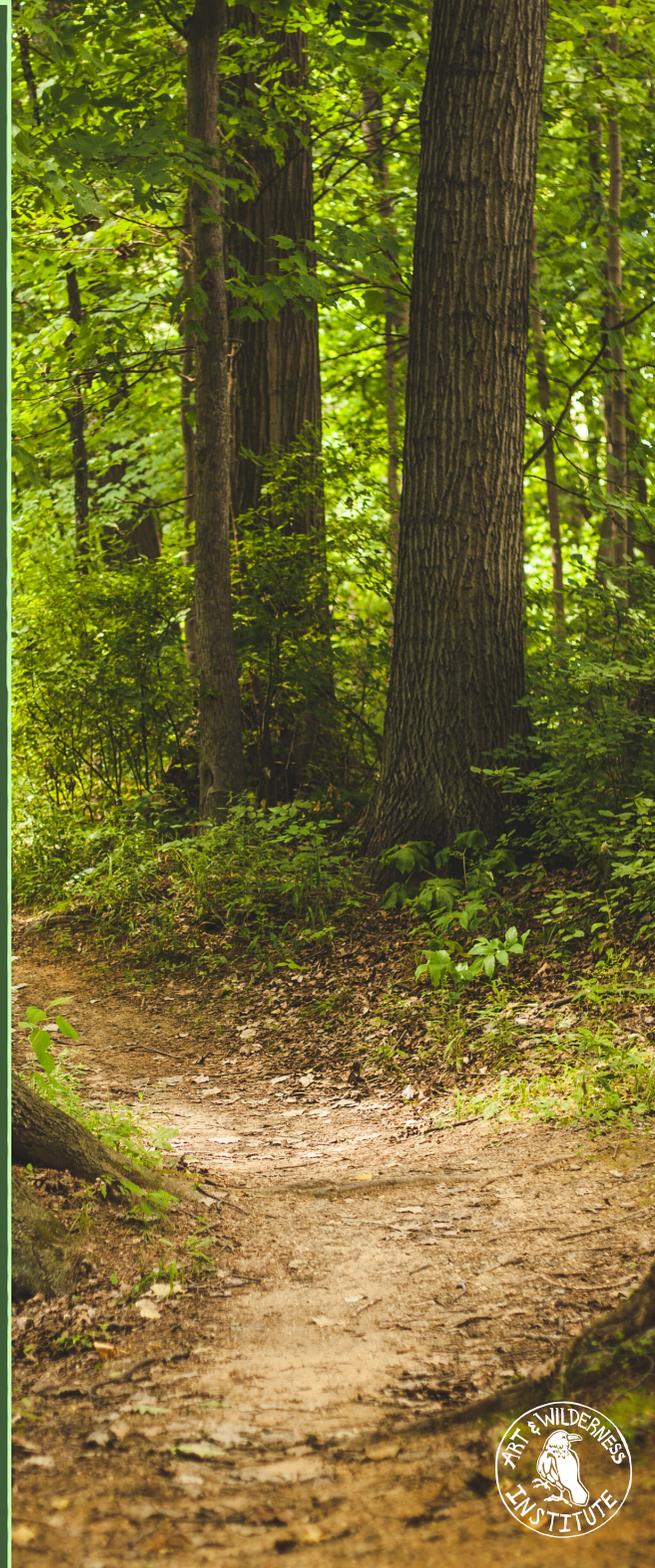
Traveling to see the creation of Allah.

Traveling should strengthen our love for Allah through our love and appreciation for all of Allah's creation. Experiencing the miracle of His creation. Humbling ourselves under the magnificence of mountain peaks. Getting lost in the endless vastness of the ocean. Helping us reconnect with our Creator and develop a love and appreciation for this amazing planet.

Avoiding wastefulness. Avoiding food waste.

Part of showing our gratitude to Allah (SWT) is to not waste, **“O Children of Adam! Dress properly whenever you are at worship. Eat and drink, but do not waste. Surely He does not like the wasteful.”** (Quran 7:31)

Americans make up 5% of the world population but produce 30% of the waste globally. 2.5 million plastic water bottles are thrown away in the US every hour. It is projected that by 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in the sea.



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Mending things before throwing them away.

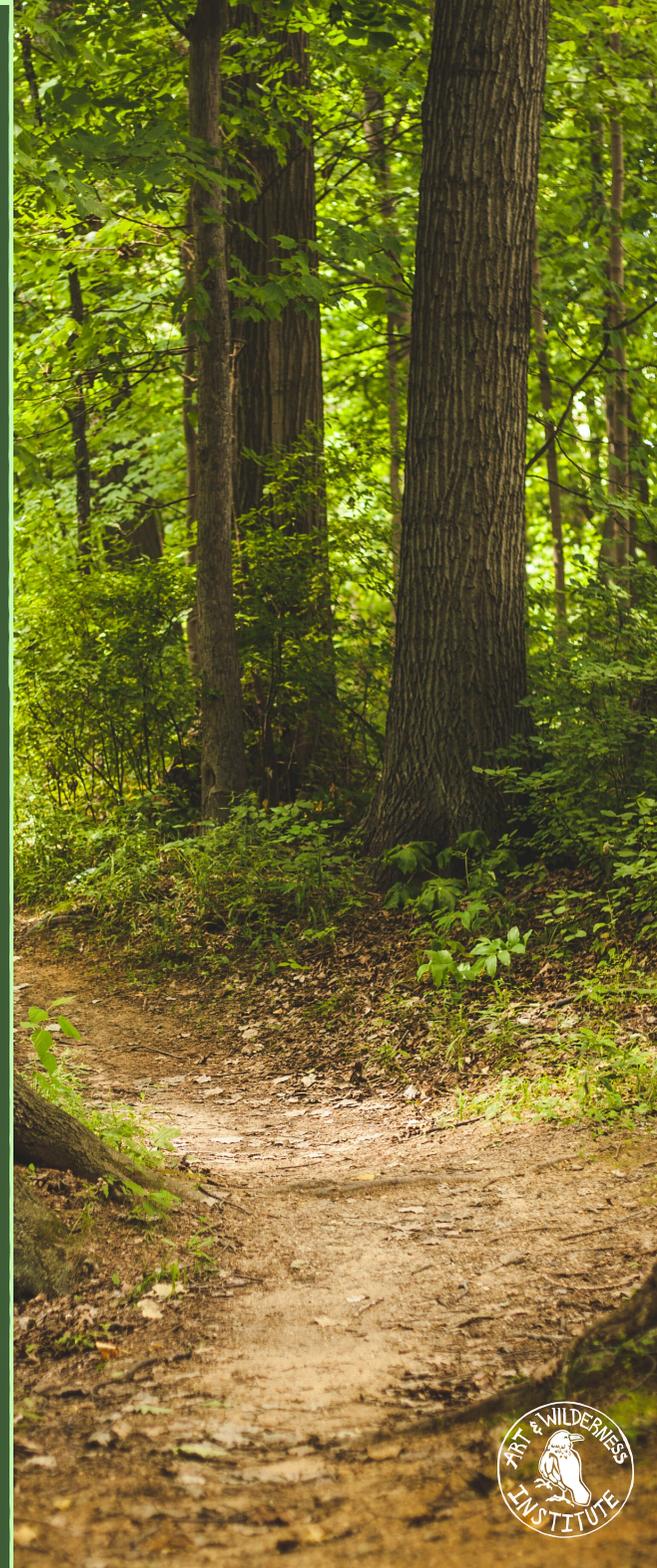
Hisham said, "I asked 'A'isha, 'What did the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, do in his house?' She replied, 'He did what one of you would do in his house. He **mended sandals** and patched garments and sewed.'" (Al Adab Al Mufrad)

Narrated Um Khalid bint Khalid:

The Prophet (ﷺ) was given some clothes including a black Khamisa. The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "To whom shall we give this to wear?" The people kept silent whereupon the Prophet (ﷺ) said, "Fetch Um Khalid for me." I (Um Khalid) was brought carried (as I was a small girl at that time). The Prophet (ﷺ) took the Khamisa in his hands and made me wear it and said, "**May you live so long that your dress will wear out and you will mend it many times.**" On the Khamisa there were some green or pale designs (The Prophet (ﷺ) saw these designs) and said, "O Um Khalid! This is Sanah." (Sanah is an Ethiopian word meaning beautiful). (Bukhari)

Narrated `Asim al-Ahwal:

I saw the drinking bowl of the Prophet (ﷺ) with Anas bin Malik, and it had been broken, and he had mended it with silver plates. That drinking bowl was quite wide and made of Nadar wood, Anas said, "I gave water to the Prophet (ﷺ) in that bowl more than so-and-so (for a long period)." Ibn Seereen said: Around that bowl there was an iron ring, and Anas wanted to replace it with a silver or gold ring, but Abu Talha said to him, "Do not change a thing that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) has made." So Anas left it as it was. (Bukhari)



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Upcycling or donating things instead of throwing it away.

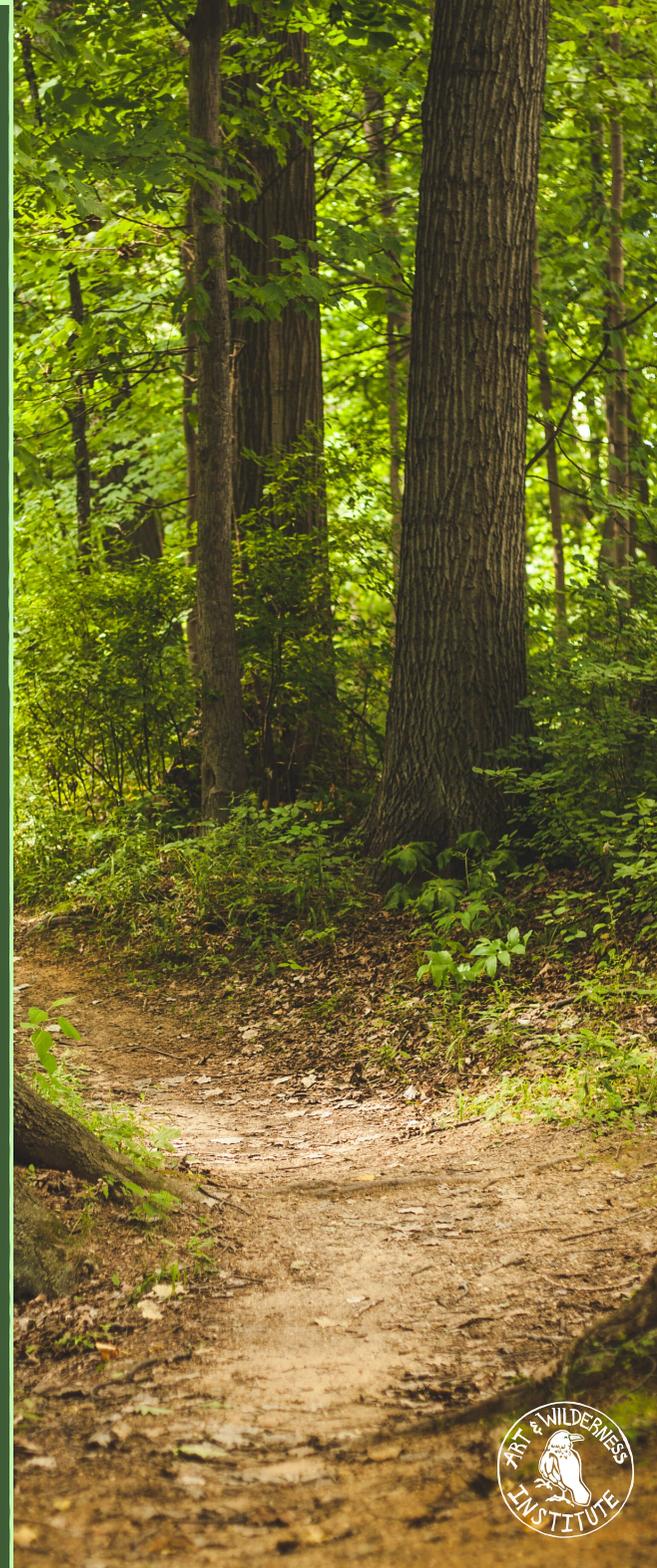
Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (saw) as saying: "Charity does not decrease wealth..." (Muslim)

Narrated `Adi bin Hatim: The Prophet (saw) then said, "(O people!) Save yourselves from the (Hell) Fire even if with one half of a date fruit (given in charity), and if this is not available, then (save yourselves) by saying a good pleasant friendly word." (Bukhari)

Donations of any kind have always been highly encouraged in our deen both in the Qur'an and Sunnah and has many benefits. It leads to gratitude and appreciation for the blessings we have been given. It humbles us, and softens our hearts.

Conserving water.

The conservation of water is embedded in our Sunnah, as it is the source of light and a means to purity. Narrated Jabir ibn Abdullah: The Prophet (ﷺ) used to take a bath with a sa' (of water) and perform ablution with a mudd (of water) (Sunan Abi Dawud)



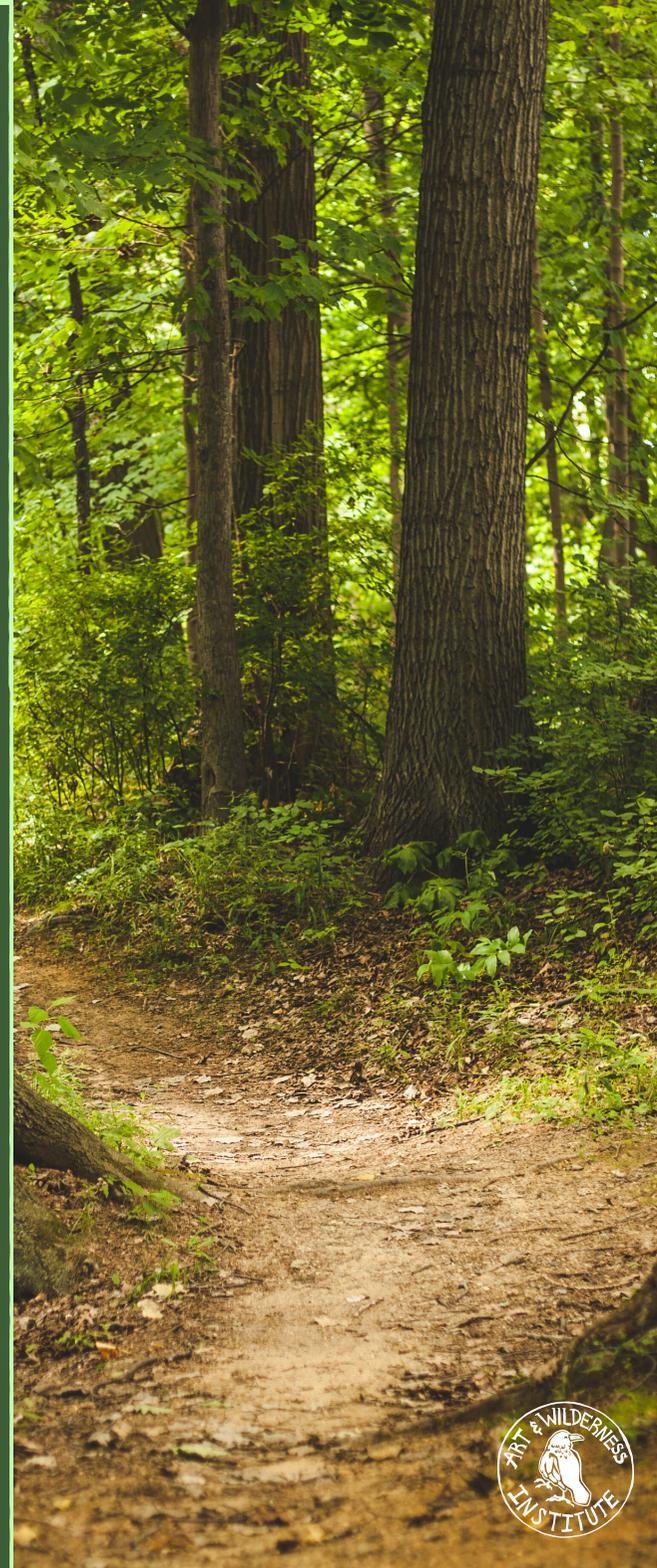
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Showing mercy to all of Allah's creation. Treating animals humanely.

Every form of creation is in a constant state of obedience to their Creator. They are praising Allah and obeying Him by serving their purpose.

All of Allah's creation (swt) belongs to Him, including ourselves. And all of Allah's creation have rights over us, including our bodies. Of the rights given to living beings- is to be treated with respect and used for its purpose. We do not chop down trees without reason, we do not kill animals for fun, and we treat them kindly. Narrated Abu Huraira:

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said, "While a man was walking on a road. he became very thirsty. Then he came across a well, got down into it, drank (of its water) and then came out. Meanwhile he saw a dog panting and licking mud because of excessive thirst. The man said to himself "This dog is suffering from the same state of thirst as I did." So he went down the well (again) and filled his shoe (with water) and held it in his mouth and watered the dog. Allah thanked him for that deed and forgave him." The people asked, "O Allah's Messenger (ﷺ)! Is there a reward for us in serving the animals?" He said, "(Yes) There is a reward for serving any living being." (Bukhari)



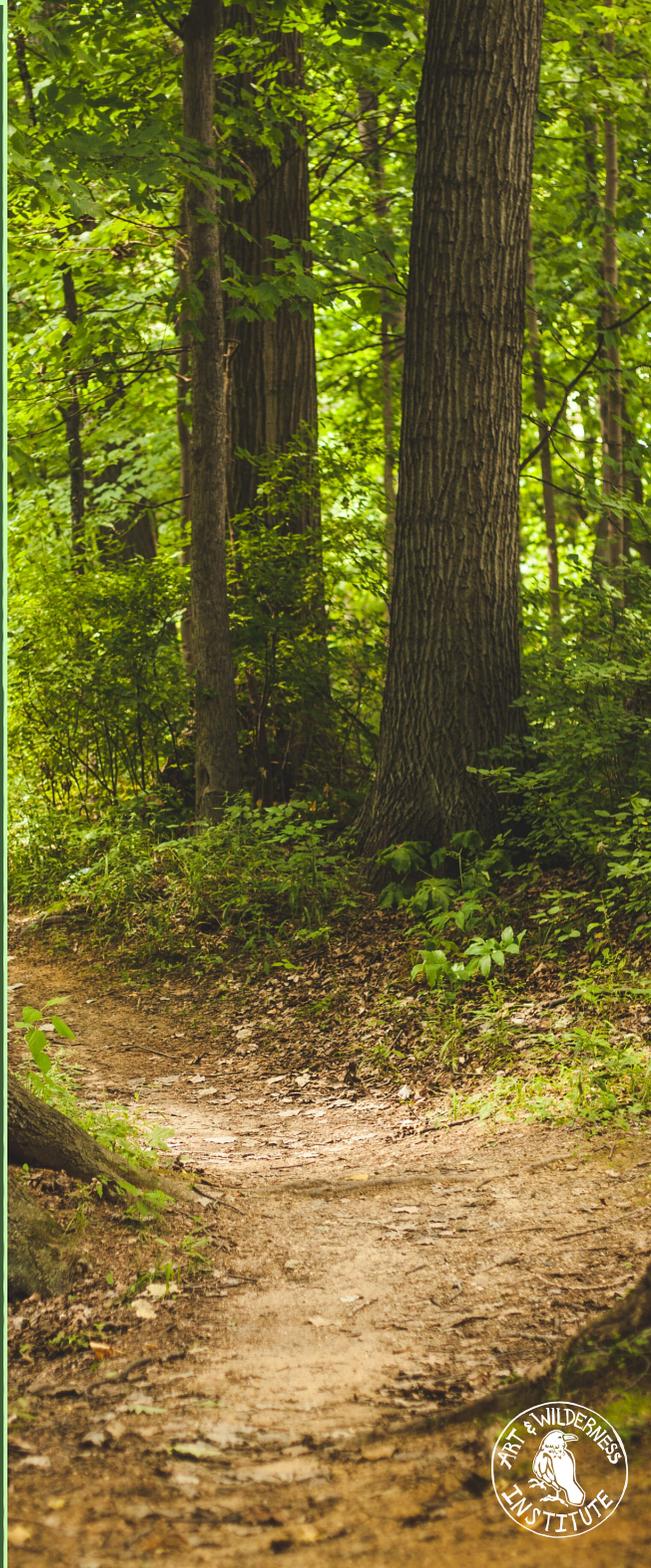
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Planting a tree

Planting trees is from our amazing islamic traditions, and something our beloved Prophet (saw) did.

Jabir b. Abdullah (Allah be pleased with them) reported: Allah's Apostle (ﷺ) visited the orchard of Umm Ma'sud and said:.....No Muslim who plants (trees) and from their fruits the human beings or the beasts or birds eat, but that would be taken as an act of charity on the Day of Resurrection. (Muslim)

And trees have enormous benefit to the world and its creation. Trees purify our air, create shade, provide homes for many animals, grow fruits for all of creation to benefit from and so much more!



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Caring for the earth as Khalifahs.

Allah created the earth and everything in it for US! After our Iman, it is one of the greatest gifts Allah has given us, and taking care of it is an act of worship, with the right intention.

Cleaning the earth is actually a sadaqa!!

Abu Dharr is reported as saying, "Your putting some of the water from your bucket in your brother's bucket is sadaqa. Your removing stones, thorns and bones from people's path is sadaqa. Your guiding a man in a place where there are no guides is sadaqa."

Imagine the reward for contributing to help make the earth a continual resource for all of Allah's creation (SwT)!

As muslims we need to help salvage the planet if we want our great grandchildren to benefit from it the same way we do. Let's make an intention to help in any way we can. And know that everytime we make an intention to be a khalifah by choosing to save electricity, or use a reusable water bottle, or take our own bags to the grocery store, Allah sees us and our efforts.

The more we spend time in nature and take time to learn about our surroundings, the more we become connected with our natural way of life as a Muslim. To be in a state of awe from a sunrise, sunset, observing the pattern on the wings of a fly, brings us closer to Allah (swt) and enables our hearts to want to do its duty of being a caretaker of the earth.

