

Land Acknowledgment

“ecoAmerica’s mission to build public support and political resolve for climate solutions is built on our commitment to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion ([JEDI Statement](#)). Climate change problems are intersectional and our solutions must be as well.

In our work toward a thriving world for future generations where everyone has access to clean air, water, and nature, secure from the threats of climate change and injustice, we must at the same time work to heal current and past injustices. Climate change affects vulnerable communities first and worst.¹ Indigenous peoples continue to face oppression and exclusion, and often lack equal access to basic community services. Climate change multiplies inequities by impacting infrastructure, food sources, and cultural practices of indigenous communities.

As we at ecoAmerica work with our partners to help the US transition to a clean energy economy and restore thriving nature, we attempt to move forward in ways that learn from Indigenous knowledge and wisdom, support equitable education, health, justice, jobs, and prosperity, and compensate for damage and persistent inequity.

The ecoAmerica office is located in our nation’s capital, which sits on the unceded lands of the Nacotchtank people. At one time a thriving community of traders and artisans along the eastern banks of the Anacostia River, the Nacotchtank people lived in wigwams or longhouses, fished in the river and hunted in the area, and grew vegetables on the land where the Supreme Court and Library of Congress are now located. Within 40 years of the arrival of Europeans led by Captain John Smith, the Indigenous communities and cultures in the area of the US capital were crippled by the introduction of new diseases and violence. Remaining Indigenous people were forcibly removed from their homes or sold into slavery in the Caribbean Islands. According to officials at the National Museum of the American Indian, there is no living Nacotchtank lineage left; a result of displacement, dispossession, and death. Their numbers were decimated, and survivors were adopted into the [Piscataway Conoy people](#), losing their original identity and descendency.

A little over 4,000 [American Indians live in present-day Washington, D.C.](#) ecoAmerica recognizes Native Nations, historic Indigenous communities, Indigenous individuals and communities who live here now, and those who were forcibly removed from their homelands by settler colonial powers.

¹ [Indigenous Peoples | National Climate Assessment](#)

There are many organizations working to achieve liberation and a better quality of life for Indigenous people. ecoAmerica supports this through the work of our partners in [Climate for Health](#), [Blessed Tomorrow](#), and [Path to Positive Communities](#).

We all live on traditional Native homelands. [Find the Native Land You Occupy](#)

In offering this land acknowledgment and commitment to justice, we also affirm our commitment to truth, equity, and reconciliation, and we uplift and uphold Indigenous sovereignty, history, and experiences.