**Sustainability Retreat Interest Application**

*Mission: The ECM Sustainability Retreat serves as an immersive exploration experience intended for students and recent graduate aged folks to explore the connection between themselves, the natural world, and the greater community.*

**Retreat Date: Friday, March 19-Monday, March 22 (possibly leaving on Thursday evening)**

**in Independence, KS**

***What is the sustainability retreat?***

Every semester, ECM hosts a weekend retreat at an organic farm with camping, vegan cooking, meditation, spiritual reflection, and hands on activities which focus on sustainable lifestyles and the environment. This retreat focuses on building an outdoor spa. Each participant must apply for the retreat weekend (which is free to students, recent graduates, and/or students during a college gap year). Applicants also receive a $200 grant to design their own project. Grant funds must be spent only on grant expenditures, and a simple report must be submitted to ECM to describe your experience. During COVID-19, social distancing and mask use will be required. The program is limited to 10 participants each retreat.

***Should I apply?***

We are looking for applicants who are interested in sustainable lifestyles and connecting with other like-minded people and communities. This includes exploring our inner connections. (Some refer to this as religious or spiritual connection.) Participants are expected to participate in the full program to receive their grant funds. This includes grant project check-in conversations. (These generally occur at the midway point of the project.) After receiving funds, students are expected to present their ideas at a publicly available venue (maybe a student group on KSU campus, after RFL, or for a church community-these are a few examples). If participants receive fund and do not complete the project, they will be expected to reimburse ECM for the distributed grant funds. Participants are not required to be enrolled in college/university but must be interested in scientific exploration.

Please submit these applications to [ecmksu@gmail.com](mailto:ecmksu@gmail.com) with the email subject line, “ECM Sustainability Retreat Application”.

If you require more writing space for the application, please feel free to extend beyond the following page.

**Your Name:**

**Phone Number:**

**Email:**

**Address:**

**Degree/Employment:**

1. What excites you about being a part of the ECM Sustainability Retreat?
2. What do you want to learn from ECM Sustainability Retreat?
3. What gifts/strengths do you offer to the group?
4. With which community/group would you want to present about your project? Why this group?
5. If you were given $200 to work on a project, what would you do with it (as it relates to sustainability)? (This doesn’t have to be perfectly formulated-just ideas.)
6. Anything else you would like for us to know?

By submitting this application, you acknowledge the information provided above and, if selected, your responsibilities as a program participant.

Sign:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*If English isn’t your first language, we can make other accommodations to complete the application.*