

Social Work Practice with Environmental Issues

Issues	Interventions
Destruction of Natural Resources	<p>Micro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health & Personal Growth initiatives oriented toward changing consumption-oriented values. • Educational programs teaching about scarcity and environmental destruction; teaching about alternative lifestyles [simple living, voluntary simplicity movement]. • Crisis intervention with persons who have lost needed resources.
	<p>Macro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Conservation & Recycling programs • Eco-system Restoration programs • Direct practice and Consultation on Sustainable Economic Development: [Worker & Community-owned Businesses] • Initiate and monitor enforcement of Policy Changes to protect and restore resources • Social Action & Advocacy around patenting of genetic materials [protect biodiversity and reduce corporate commodification of life]
Global Warming & Climate Change	<p>Micro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health interventions with skin cancer victims & other diseases • Crisis intervention & Recovery assistance for victims of floods, tornadoes, and other climate-related Disasters • Educate about Dangers, Values & Behavior Changes: [e.g. public vs. private transportation; burning of fields, etc.]
	<p>Macro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop urban gardening & tree-planting; develop Reforestation Programs • Develop and support Bicycle & Pedestrian -friendly urban design • Initiate and monitor enforcement of policy changes re pollution emissions; Redirect policy toward soft-path Energy Systems (Wind and Solar Power development)
Toxic Materials Production & Waste Disposal	<p>Micro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis Intervention around stress issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Individuals ◦ Families -- especially impacts on children ◦ Workers ◦ Communities • Material Emergency Services (health, housing, income) • Coordination of Health and Social Interventions around hazards; casefinding for workplace-based illnesses • Educational materials warning of dangers & safety precautions; education on use of alternative, non-toxic materials

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<p>Toxic Materials Production & Waste Disposal</p>	<p>Macro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Relocation, Community Development for victims of hazardous waste accidents or irremediable sites • Policy Development and Enforcement of Workplace safety Standards • Advocacy for Research on development of non-toxic products for Workplace & Home use. • Advocacy for Monetary Compensation and Psychological Recovery programs for victims of Toxic Waste • Social Impact Analysis of siting of production facilities
<p>Air and Water Pollution</p>	<p>Micro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crisis Intervention & other mental health intervention around stress caused by exposure [e.g. support groups for asthma sufferers] • Health Services for persons with acute or chronic illnesses • Health Assessment & Service aimed at children [e.g., lead levels]
	<p>Macro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Public Education programs about the dangers of air and water pollution & how citizens can support clean-up. • Improve Public Monitoring and Enforcement of air and water quality standards • Promote and enforce Policy Changes to reduce air & water pollution • Develop Advocacy programs for victims of air & water pollution (esp. low income communities) • Support Research and Social Impact Analysis
<p>Species Extinction</p>	<p>Micro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health & Personal Growth initiatives oriented toward changing consumption-oriented values • Educational initiatives to teach about ecological science (species interdependency) and sustainability
	<p>Macro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop habitat conservation programs • Sustainable Economic Development initiatives with communities to support species preservation • Community and Family-based Sustainable Agriculture (research and policy on community-based food systems) • Improved Policy measures to support endangered species & habitat; support for preservation of agricultural seed diversity • Advocacy and Public Education on the dangers and social injustices of corporate patenting of life-forms