

## **ethics statement**

### Preamble

The Mother Grove Temple chooses to create a statement that reflects its core values within the matrix of a diverse spiritual community.

### Principles

- The whole of the material world is seen as a manifestation of the Goddess and also as a web of life that is interconnected.
- Our ethics are based in our human experiences, not through revelation or imposed rules, and through our observation of and participation in the ongoing cycles of the agricultural and natural year and in the life cycles of our physical selves.
- Our ethical principles include the full range of the human experience in the natural world. This involves radical change, and suffering as well as nurturing and healthy natural growth.
- We value knowledge as we strive towards wisdom.
- We honor those who have traveled the path ahead of us and sit in the fullness of their years.
- We trust that joy and pleasure are blessings of the Goddess, as affirmed in the text "The Charge of the Goddess" by Doreen Valiente--"For behold! All acts of love and pleasure are My rituals."
- We protect and nurture life and are mindful of our obligation to protect those who cannot protect themselves, whether through infirmity or having not yet reached the age of consent.
- Ever mindful of the interconnectedness of life, we strive to consume only as much as we need.
- Because all our actions have consequences, we work to be forward-looking regarding our actions and to think of the consequences of our decisions down to the ninth generation of our descendents.
- Because we believe in the inherent sacredness of life and the life force, we encourage the individual to give thoughtful consideration to the taking of any life and approach that contemplation with restraint and compassion.
- As our Ancestors did, we practice hospitality.
- As a community of healers, we do what we can to heal ourselves, our

kindred, and the Web of All Being.

--We place great value on the concepts and practice of shared leadership and facilitation, on cooperation and consensus building.