5 Women Environmentalists to Know

Greta Thunberg: Young Swedish environmental activist who is recognized internationally for sharing her view that humankind is standing in the face of an existential crisis from climate change. Thunberg began her activism at home, convincing her parents to change their lifestyle to reduce their own carbon footprint. At age 15, (2018) she started protesting outside the Swedish parliament instead of attending school, calling for stronger action on climate change. Soon, other students inspired by Thunberg held similar strikes in protest in their own communities.

Wangarai Maathai: The first African woman to win the Nobel Prize, Maathai was a renowned Kenyan social, environmental and political activist. In 1977, Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental organization focused on planting trees, women's rights and environmental conservation.

Winona LaDuke: An American political activist, an environmentalist, economist, and writer who is known for her work on tribal land claims and preservation, as well as sustainable development. LaDuke is the founder of the White Earth Land Recovery Project and the program director of Honor the Earth. She is widely known for her work on issues of sustainable development and renewable energy and food systems.

Jane Goodall: An English primatologist and anthropologist known for her 60-year study of social and family interactions of wild chimpanzees. The founder of the Jane Goodall Institute, and she has worked extensively on conservation and animal welfare issues. In April 2002, she was named a UN Messenger of Peace and is an honorary member of the World Future Council.

Rachel Carson: An American marine biologist, author, and conservationist who wrote the seminal book *Silent Spring* which has been credited as spurring on the global environmental movement. Her work in the latter half of her career focused on environmental issues caused by synthetic pesticides, leading to the reversal of a national pesticide policy at that time. Her book *Silent Spring* is also credited with inspiring a grassroots movement that led to the founding of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.







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