



### **The Outdoors, Parks, & Green Spaces**

Hiking at Eagle Creek, strolling through Garfield Park, kayaking on White River, walking through labyrinths, gardening, and otherwise **being outside** was mentioned in a variety of ways. (“Being outdoors in the elements with zero technology.”) Planning outdoor events in November is a risk, but **trails, walking, hiking and outdoor spaces** resonate with the public and data backs this up: Outdoor festival events – even in cold/wet weather – have never failed to attract an audience!

### **Philosophical**

While many concrete examples were given in the survey, several people had more philosophical responses. NATURE made them think about:

- *Something that is bigger than me, but that I am a part of.*
- *What true meaning is for a human being and to connect with humans.*
- *Human nature.*
- *Nature reminds me I am not the center of the universe. I am a small part of a big creation. I am in community just by being alive.*
- *The setting and environment of a community. Emotions. Practices. Beliefs.*
- *Greek notion of physis.*

Events examining the nature of . . . “*something*” have an audience appeal. Individuals drawn to these kinds of events might also be the ones who prefer lectures and panel conversations more than hands-on events.

### **Climate Change & Creation Care**

Not surprisingly, several responses mentioned the **global warming/climate crisis** and the need for more **preservation and conservation efforts**. As referenced above, spiritually minded individuals also wrote about **God’s creation**. There is a strong opening here for congregations and others to explore the idea of **Creation Care** and the interconnectedness of religion and environmentalism.