Schedule for “Hinduism and Ecology: Towards a Sustainable Future”
Govardhan Ecovillage Conference (December 11-14, 2017)

(December 10th: arrivals, settling in, dinner 7pm)

Day 1 (December 11th)

Morning:
7:30-8:30 Breakfast

9:00-10:00 Welcome by Gauranga Das and Introduction of Radhanath Swami
Keynote Talk by Radhanath Swami (GEV) on his vision of GEV

10:30-12:30 Tour of Govardhan Ecovillage

Afternoon:
1:00-3:00 Lunch and Break

3:00-5:00 Panel #1
Eco-Communities and Environmental Policy

Christopher Fici (Union Theological Seminary):
“Bhakti for Bhumi Devi”

Harry Blair (Yale University):
“Hinduism, Ecology and Civil Society Activism”

Christopher Miller (University of California-Davis):
“World Brotherhood Colonies”

Mat McDermott (Hindu American Foundation):
“Rights of Nature Through a Hindu Lens”

6:00 Yamuna Arati

7:00 Dinner and Evening of Socializing

Day 2 (December 12th)

Morning:
7:30-8:30 Breakfast

9:00-10:00 Introduction by David Haberman of Shrivatsa Goswami
Keynote Talk by Shrivatsa Goswami (Radharaman) on Hinduism and Ecology
10:30-12:30  Panel #2  
Vaishnavism and Ecology

Abhisheek Bose (University of Calcutta):  
"Towards a Personal Ecology: Chaitanya Vaishnavism"
Ravi Gupta (Utah State University):  
"Trees in Trouble, Humans in Need"
Kenneth Valpey (Oxford University):  
"Tending Krishna’s Cows"
Devamrita Swami (ISKCON educator-author):  
"Ecological Sustainability from a Bhakti-Yoga Perspective"

Afternoon:
1:00-3:00  Lunch and Break

3:00-5:00  Panel #3  
Ecological Lessons from Hindu Texts and Philosophies

Kusumita Pedersen (St. Francis College):  
"The Value of the World in Vedāntic Perspectives:  
Traditional Sources and Sri Chinmoy’s Philosophy"
Yajneshwar Shastri (Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies):  
"Ecology in Vedas and Upanishads"
Madhu Khanna (National Museum; Centre for the Study of Comparative Religion):  
"Rice as Self: The Metaphoric Ecosophy in the Theory of Karman"
Rich Jarow (Vassar College):  
"Mahabharata on Environmental Ethics of Yudhisthira"

6:00  Yamuna Arati or wandering time
7:00  Dinner
8:00  Journey of the Universe film and discussion by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

Day 3  (December 13th)

Morning:
7:30-8:30  Breakfast

9:00-10:00  Introduction by Chris Chapple of Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim  
Keynote Talk by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim (Yale University)  
on Religion and Ecology
10:30-12:30  Panel #4  
**Hindu Goddesses and Sacred Nature**

Frederique Apfel-Marglin (Smith College): 
“Regenerating the Earth, the Body and the Body Politic in Odisha”

Probal Ray Choudury (Amrita University): 
“Ecology and Durga Puja in Bengal”

Nanditha Krishna (environmental activist-author, Chennai): 
“Hinduism and Nature”

Rita Sherma (Graduate Theological Union): 
“Shakta Theology and Ecology”

*Afternoon:*
1:00-3:00  Lunch and Break

3:00-5:00  Panel #5  
**Hindu Resources and Approaches for Environmental Care**

Christopher Chapple (Loyola Marymount University): 
“Living Landscapes in Hindu Yogas”

Bhaktirasamrita Swami (ISKCON scholar and teacher): 
“Vaishnava Aesthetics and Ecology”

David Haberman (Indiana University): 
“Inter-Facing the World: Devotional Personification as Environmental Care”

Gopal Patel (Bhumi Project, Oxford University): 
“Opportunities and Challenges in Hindu Ecology in India and Diaspora”

6:00  Yamuna Arati or wandering time

7:00  Dinner

8:00  Classical Music Performance: Healing Chakras Through Ragas

**Day 4 (December 14th)**

*Morning:*
7:30-8:30  Breakfast

9:00-10:00  Local Village Performance and Presentation

10:30-12:30  Wrap-up Discussion: Lessons Learned and Future Directions

*Afternoon:*
1:00  Lunch

End of Conference: Goodbyes, packing, and departures for Mumbai