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NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Environmentalist Bill McKibben speaks at Wilton Library April 28

Wilton, CT – According to author and environmentalist Bill McKibben, the Earth we knew from twenty years ago has changed so dramatically, that it should now be called “Eaarth.” People will be able to hear Mr. McKibben’s explanation of the changing Earth on Thursday, April 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. when he addresses the audience at Wilton Library based on his book, *Eaarth: Making a Life on A Tough New Planet*. In 2010, the *Boston Globe* called him “probably the nation’s leading environmentalist” and *Time* magazine described him as “the world’s best green journalist.”

Mr. McKibben’s talk is founded on his book, *The End of Nature*, in which twenty years ago he provided dire predictions of what would happen to the planet. His new book suggests that a new planet, still recognizable but fundamentally different has arisen, hence the title, *Eaarth*. According to the author, there is still hope for the planet; his talk centers on his vision of how people can change for the better to help the planet. His ideas focus on scaling back, concentrating on essentials, and creating communities capable of weathering climate troubles on an unprecedented scale.

Many important environmentalists offer praise for McKibben’s work. James E. Hansen, director, NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies notes, “Bill McKibben foresaw ‘the end of nature’ very early on, and in this new book he blazes a path to help preserve nature’s greatest treasures.” Author Barbara Kingsolver (*Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*) stated, “What I have to say about this book is very simple: Read it, please. Straight through to the end. Whatever else you were planning to do next, nothing could be more important.”

McKibben was a founder of Step It Up 2007, which organized more than 1,400 climate-change demonstrations across the United States. He now leads the organization of 350.org, which mounted what *Foreign Policy* magazine called “the largest ever global coordinated rally of any kind,” with 5,200 simultaneous demonstrations in 181 countries. Bill is a frequent

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contributor to various magazines including *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Orion Magazine*, *Mother Jones*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Granta*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Outside*. He is also a board member and contributor to *Grist Magazine*.

Bill has been awarded Guggenheim and Lyndhurst Fellowships, and won the Lannan Prize for nonfiction writing in 2000. He has honorary degrees from Green Mountain College, Unity College, Lebanon Valley College and Sterling College.

Bill currently resides with his wife, writer Sue Halpern, and his daughter, Sophie, who was born in 1993, in Ripton, Vermont. He is a scholar in residence at Middlebury College.

The evening is sponsored by the Betsy and Jesse Fink Foundation for Wilton Library's Environmental Initiative. Tim LaBant, chef/owner of the Schoolhouse at Cannondale in Wilton, will prepare a light tasting for the reception following the talk. There is no charge for the program. Books will be available for purchase and signing during the reception, with purchases benefiting the library. Registration is strongly recommended due to the popularity of the distinguished speaker. For information, directions and registration, visit

www.wiltonlibrary.org/events or call (203) 762-3950, ext. 213. Wilton Library is located at 137 Old Ridgefield Road in the heart of Wilton Center.

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Caption: Author and environmentalist Bill McKibben speaks at Wilton Library on Thursday, April 28, from 7 to 9 p.m. on his latest book, *Eaarth: Making a Life on A Tough New Planet*. Tim LaBant, chef/owner of Schoolhouse at Cannondale will prepare a light tasting for the reception following the talk. Books available for purchase and signing. Registration recommended; event free of charge. Wilton Library, 137 Old Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT, 203-762-3950, ext. 213, www.wiltonlibrary.org/events.

Photo credit: Nancie Battaglia