



Multimedia Library Collection: Environmental Values (journal)

"Goodwill Toward Nature"

Freiman, Christopher

Freiman, Christopher. "Goodwill Toward Nature." *Environmental Values* 18, no. 3 (2009): 343–59. doi: [10.3197/096327109X12474739376532](https://doi.org/10.3197/096327109X12474739376532). Republished by the Environment & Society Portal, Multimedia Library. <http://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7505>.

It is sometimes claimed that an ethical relationship with nature is analogous to Aristotelian friendship. Aristotle claims that friends are valuable principally in virtue of providing reflections of ourselves; yet extant accounts of environmental friendship do not explain how nonhuman organisms can satisfy this role. Recent work in neo-Aristotelian metaethics delineates a theory of value that underscores the similarities between the biological evaluations we make of living things and the moral evaluations we make of ourselves. I argue that these similarities help us make sense of the claim that nonhuman organisms can be reflections of ourselves and thus the object of a relationship akin to friendship. I conclude by suggesting that Aristotle's conception of goodwill may be even more appropriate than friendship as a model for a virtuous relationship with nature.

— Text from [The White Horse Press](http://www.whpress.co.uk) website

All rights reserved. © 2009 The White Horse Press

Download:

PDF: https://www.environmentandsociety.org/sites/default/files/key_docs/ev183_freiman.pdf

Related links:

- Article on the official website
<http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EV1814.html>
- EV 18, no. 3—Editorial by Clive L. Spash (WHP)
<http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EditEV183.html>
- The White Horse Press
<http://www.ericademon.co.uk/>

Websites linked in this text:

- <http://dx.doi.org/10.3197/096327109X12474739376532>
- <http://www.whpress.co.uk/EV/EV1814.html>