Andrew Grigsby is Executive Director at the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP). Grigsby is a LEED Accredited Professional; a RESNET certified home energy rater, and a BPI Building Analyst and Envelope Professional. Previously he ran LEAP’s Home Performance with ENERGY STAR program.

Rev. Lennox Yearwood Jr. is President and CEO of the Hip Hop Caucus, a community activist and one of the most influential people in Hip Hop political life. A national leader and peacemaker within the Green Movement, Rev. Yearwood has been successfully bridging the gap between communities of color and environmental issue advocacy for the past four years.

Activists from the NAACP and EJHA (EJ4ALL) discuss the threats poor communities face such as toxins, policy reform and advocacy work to protect these marginalized communities. Threats include toxins which affect soil, water, and air quality, the impact on human health and state and federal environmental justice policies.

A. Grassroots / Advocacy Initiatives
   Michele Roberts
   Environmental Justice Health Alliance

B. Environmental Policy Law
   Jacqueline Patterson
   Environmental and Justice Climate Programs for the NAACP

Since 1990, Ms. Michele Roberts has provided technical assistance and advocacy support to communities regarding the impacts of toxins on human health and the environment. Roberts has co-authored reports on environmental justice issues, and her advocacy work has been featured on television and in print news and magazine.

Jacqueline Patterson is the Director of the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program. Since 2007 Patterson has served as coordinator & co-founder of Women of Color United. Jacqui Patterson has worked as a researcher, program manager, coordinator, advocate and activist working on women’s rights, violence against women, HIV/AIDS, racial justice, economic justice, and environmental and climate justice.

Thursday, May 18th

8:30 – 9:30 Morning Gathering
   Continental Breakfast Check In/Registration

9:30 -10:30 Morning Plenary
   Speaker: The Reverend Doctor Ambrose Carroll, Sr.

Rev. Dr. Carroll is one of the nation’s premiere Practical Theologians and Senior Pastor, Church by the Side of the Road. He is Co-Founder of Green The Church. Rev. Dr. Carroll combines theology with ecology and challenges the church universal to embrace its mantle of creation care.

10:40 -12:00 Gospel of the Garden Workshops

As temperatures and sea levels continue to rise, churches are recognizing the urgency to learn new environmental practices which will help congregations thrive while exercising responsible use of God given natural resources as citizens of a global community. These workshops give attention to climate change as it relates to strategies for water sovereignty and food security, as well as energy reduction and costs reduction.

A. Food Sovereignty & Water Security
   Speaker: Rev. M. Dele
   Nature’s Friend & VA Interfaith Power and Light

B. Energy Alternatives Reducing Costs
   Speakers: Mr. Andrew Grigsby /Susan Hill
   Richmond Region Energy Alliance

Rev. M. Dele is the Founder of Nature’s Friend, a renaissance woman who has lived and worked on the prophetic edge of social change in California, Oklahoma, Washington D.C. and Virginia. As spiritual director Dele emphasizes that redeeming the soul and redeeming the soil go hand in hand. Her current mission is rooting climate adaptation knowledge in communities most vulnerable and least prepared bounce back.

12 Noon Lunch (on site)

1:15 – 2:15 Video and Panel Discussion
   Caring for the Garden Panel Discussion
   Reverend Dr. Morris Henderson
   31st Street Baptist Church, Richmond, VA
   Pastor Ralph Hodge
   2nd Baptist Church, South Richmond, VA
   Reverend Dr. Heber Brown, III
   Pleasant Hope Baptist Church, Baltimore, MD

2:15 – 2:45 Question and Answer
   3:00 Fair and Networking Reception
   Visit and talk to grassroots organizers and vendors
   5:00 Dinner on your own
   6:30 Video Screening & Drop In Dialogue

Friday, May 19th

8:30 – 9:30 Morning Gathering
   Continental Breakfast Check In/Registration

9:30-10:30 Morning Plenary
   Calling Millennials and the Hip Hop Generation to Care for Creation
   Speaker: Rev. Lennox Yearwood

12 Noon Box Lunch