The fundamental role of EcoTheater is to encourage the development and performance of original theater created by local people. We assume that theater is a natural, simple and universal ability and that the telling of your own story has a powerful and life changing impact.

1. EcoTheater is committed to a theater stripped down to its essentials, to what is basic and real. This means it does not try to imitate the gloss and polish of professional productions. It is a theater from the bottom up, which can operate on low budget or no budget.

2. EcoTheater is committed to bringing theater back home, honoring local speech and idiom. This means trusting the power of that local voice which does not “talk down” to its audience.

3. EcoTheater is committed to protecting the authenticity of its productions by not using them to “grind axes,” “further a cause,” or as a tool of propaganda. This means that EcoTheater is art--a purposeful concentrated communication that reveals the mystery of our connectedness.

4. EcoTheater is committed to the role of playwright/director who cocreates scenes with the performers. This means the necessity of learning to take authority as a whole and to “flip” authority to others. Authority is not cut up in little pieces and shared. A seasoned company will, to the untutored eye, flip authority back and forth so rapidly it cannot be seen. This means that the scripts are made to fit the performers, not the other way around.

5. EcoTheater is committed to actors who do not want to act, playwright/directors who help people not to act, and audiences that welcome the above. This means the removal, not the adoption, of roles on stage.
Prairie Home Theater

May 14, 2011
Cappy's Cafe, Bonham, TX

Gene, Nate, Alan, John, Micaela, Mary, Jane, Joyce

“All the Good People”

“My Way”

“How much is that Doggie in the Window?”
House mates share a quiet evening

We met at the bus station!

Straightening out a secret

Gabe recalls the good old days

A tree and a lake talk to a surprised Bill

Mandra and Sandra set up the kitchen