

Greening Congregation Annual Plan Template

Use this annual plan outline as a guide to help you in the yearly renewal process. Under each Green Field are suggestions to assist in your planning.



Congregation Name Annual Plan for 20XX

MISSION STATEMENT

Insert your mission statement as a guide for your congregation's greening activities.

GREEN TEAM MEMBERS

Please include names and contact information for each person involved with your creation care group. This allows us to contact you with pertinent information.

GREEN FIELDS

WORSHIP

- ✓ *Attend and encourage others in your congregation to attend Earth Ministry's Celebration of St. Francis in the fall*
- ✓ *Special worship services during Earth Month*
- ✓ *Music, decoration and liturgy focus on caring for creation*
- ✓ *Ecological message in prayers, litanies, and readings*
- ✓ *Bulletins, newsletters, and announcements*
- ✓ *Outdoor worship*

EDUCATION

- ✓ *Greening Tips in the Sunday bulletin or church newsletter*
- ✓ *Green themes for Sunday School, Vacation Bible school and other children's events*
- ✓ *Study groups centering on sustainability issues*
- ✓ *Special creation-awareness events: info fairs, book readings, guest speakers*
- ✓ *Create a Greening Congregation page on church website*

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

- ✓ *Transportation efficiency, such as a carless Sunday*
- ✓ *Food sustainability: vegetarian option at church dinners, bread from local bakery, shade grown, fair-trade coffee; becoming a CSA drop off site*
- ✓ *Kitchen: reusable coffee mugs, post-consumer paper products, recycling and composting*
- ✓ *Environmentally friendly cleaning supplies*
- ✓ *Reuse inserts for weekly bulletin*
- ✓ *Energy conservation*
- ✓ *Water and conservation care*
- ✓ *Landscaping and grounds care: create a wildlife habitat on grounds*
- ✓ *Green building and remodeling*

INDIVIDUAL STEWARDSHIP

- ✓ *Walk, bike or bus instead of driving*
- ✓ *Set furnace and water heater on a timer to save energy*
- ✓ *Use cloth bags when shopping*
- ✓ *Check that electrical equipment is switched off rather than on standby when not in use*
- ✓ *Buy rechargeable batteries and compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)*
- ✓ *Stop unwanted junk mail to save trees, cut down on carbon emissions, and to reduce waste*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND FAITHFUL ADVOCACY

- ✓ *Nature hikes and other field trips*
- ✓ *Hands-on conservation projects: habitat restoration, community clean ups, electronic recycling events, etc*
- ✓ *Advocacy for creation: contacting elected officials through emails, letter writing, calls, attending a lobby day or an in-district meeting; hosting an event*
- ✓ *Show a film on environmental issues*
- ✓ *Eco-justice efforts*