



Greening Sacred Spaces CERTIFICATION

The Greening Sacred Spaces Certification program recognizes faith communities who demonstrate commitment in the care of the environment through action.

Why Certification?

Receive recognition for the greening efforts that your faith community undertakes, no matter how big or small.

Celebrate and motivate! Our Certification program is a measurable way to motivate for action.

Whether you are just getting started or are ready for the next level of greening, the Greening Sacred Spaces Certification program is an excellent way to engage your faith community in stewardship and showcase what you have accomplished together.

Be inspired by what is possible!



St. Mark's Anglican Church in Brantford, Deep Green Certified.



How it works:

Use the Certification checklist to assess your congregation's greening journey, in categories of action and achievement levels that fit a wide variety of faith traditions and worship spaces.

Grouped into categories such as Spirituality and Worship, Community, and Energy, each level has a corresponding list of possible actions to review and check off if completed. Once your faith community has completed a minimum of 10 greening actions in a status, you are eligible for certification at that level.

Decide which level your faith community wishes to apply for: Light Green, Medium Green or Deep Green.

Example: All Angels started a Green Team last year and are eager to display what they have done so far. Reviewing the checklist, they find that they have completed 11 Light Green actions: 3 in Spirituality and Worship, 5 in Community, and 3 in Water. They apply for Light Green this year. They have already done 4 actions on the Medium Green list. They will use the checklist to direct their Green Team activities for the coming year and hope to apply for Medium Green next fall.

Who can participate?

Certification is open to faith communities registered with our free online network. Faith communities must first create a profile on the Greening Sacred Spaces website and log in to access the application link. Our inclusive checklist is applicable to faith communities with traditional properties as well as to groups who meet for worship in homes, community centres, or rented spaces. We include actions you take as a congregation within your community and at home. Expert involvement from our Green Auditor ensures that our checklist is current and relevant to faith community participant



Application process for “How Green is Your Church?” Participants:

1. **Review** the printable GSS Certification Checklist included in the “How Green is Your Church Package” (electronic copies can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/howgreen2019>) with your Green Team or committee to prepare your application. *For Medium and Deep Green applications: select and prepare a photo of your Green Team or Greening work for upload. (1 MB max).*
2. **Register** your faith community for the free online Faith & the Common Good:Greening Sacred Spaces network at http://www.faithcommongood.org/faith_community_sign_up and create a profile for your congregation.



3. **Make sure you are logged in** to your account (top right corner of the Faith and the Common Good:Greening Sacred Spaces home page www.faithcommongood.org).
4. **Visit** www.faithcommongood.org/certification. After reviewing the details, click the button for “How Green is Your Church?” applicants.
5. **Complete** the appropriate online form(s) for Light, Medium, and/or Deep Green Certification.

Note: The regular application fee of \$75 (to offset the costs of administering the program) has been waived for “How Green is Your Church?” program participants. Apply in 2019 and save!

For further information about the Certification program or technical issues, please email certification@faithcommongood.org or call David at 1-866-231-1877 x 103.

Successful applicants receive a beautiful certificate suitable for framing, indicating their level of achievement (Light, Medium, or Deep Green) and online recognition in the Greening Sacred Spaces national network. Medium and Deep Green recipients receive additional resources and follow-up from GSS certification experts.