



Greening Sacred Spaces Certification Program

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		Light Green			Medium Green			Deep Green		
		Complete 10 of these actions to be awarded 'Light Green' status	Please Check	Comments	Complete 10 of Light Green and 10 of these actions to be awarded 'Medium Green' status	Please Check	Comments	Complete 10 of Light Green, 10 of Medium Green and 10 of these actions to be awarded 'Deep Green' status	Please Check	Comments
Spirituality and Worship	Service	Make regular use of environmental-focused prayers, liturgies, hymns, and/or songs in worship			Focus on environmental stewardship issues in special services based on religious celebrations and community events (e.g. Earth Day)			At least one worship service per year is dedicated to addressing environmental stewardship		
	Service	Podcasting of services on the website for outreach members			Only natural materials are used during worship services (candles, flowers, etc.)					
	Materials	All candles have been replaced with environmentally-friendly candles (beeswax, palm oil, or soy)			Locally grown organic flowers are used during worship			All materials used during worship (candles, flowers, wine, etc.) are locally sourced, and environmentally-friendly products are in use		
	Spirituality	Place symbols of nature in the sacred space and/or in the garden			Provide opportunities to re-connect with nature through prayer, faith reflections, and retreats					
Community	Community Involvement	Promote and facilitate household environmental and energy audits and water conservation			Encourage members to adopt a greener lifestyle, to join community environmental projects, and to practice the 5 R's at home through articles in bulletins and newsletters provided by the faith community			Undertake environmental projects in collaboration with other faith communities or local schools (e.g. naturalization of schoolyards and sacred spaces, spring clean-up, environmental projects, etc.)		
	Community Involvement	The faith community has assisted in local environmental clean-up or restoration projects			The faith community has developed a community garden for flowers and/or vegetables			The faith community makes contact with local, provincial, or federal governments to support sustainable public policies		
	Vehicle Use	Car-pooling, public transit use, and bicycle use is encouraged by the faith community			Bike racks and car-pooling preferential parking spots have been installed on the faith community's property			A volunteer coordinator has been appointed to facilitate car-pooling and to ensure all community members are aware of public transit routes to the facility		
	Vehicle Use				Teleconferencing, emailing, or on-line meetings are being used regularly in order to decrease the need to drive to meetings			Electric vehicle charging stations have been installed on the property or identified nearby		
	Young People	Explore nature-care issues in children's activities within the faith community			Hold or support a holiday or summer camp with an environmental stewardship theme			Provide/support opportunities for younger people to experience how people in their own and other communities are affected by the planetary crisis and how they can work for change		
	Awareness and Education	Resources with a nature and environmental stewardship focus are available in the community's library			Hold studies pertinent to environmental stewardship that link to the faith tradition			A committee and notice board focusing on environmental and sustainability issues has been established		
Operations / Maintenance	Green Facilitator/ Green Champion	A Green Facilitator has been appointed and has begun to develop 'best practices' documentation for all areas of their faith community			The Green Facilitator has gathered together a Green Team who have begun to develop an implementation plan for greening their faith community			The Green Facilitator and Green Team are implementing their greening plan and all groups are following the 'best practices' documentation		
	Cleaning	All vacuuming is carried out with a HEPA filter vacuum			Only biodegradable, non-toxic, phosphate-free cleaning products are purchased and used within the facility			The faith community makes its own cleaning products using natural materials		
	Operations/ Procurement	The faith community has a 'think twice before printing' policy and an active paper reduction and recycling policy			The faith community has a procurement policy for recycled and/or FSC certified paper (office, envelopes, bulletins, bathroom tissue, etc.)			The faith community has a green maintenance plan including using alternatives to salt in the winter and/or seeking lot and yard maintenance providers who use green practices		

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Energy	Energy Tracking	Utility expenditures and energy consumption are tracked and documented			Utility expenditures, consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions are tracked and documented. This information is made available to the congregation			Utility data is analyzed regularly to pinpoint activities that cause high consumption. Patterns are identified and plans are in place to reduce consumption		
	Energy Audit	A walk-through audit has been completed by a member of the faith community and an implementation plan to resolve identified issues is in place			An energy audit has been completed by a trained professional auditor and the faith community has an implementation plan to resolve some of the identified issues			An energy audit has been completed by a trained professional auditor and the faith community has acted or is acting on the issues identified		
	Lighting	Signage at all light switches reminds people to turn off lights when not in use			Energy efficient lighting (CFLs and LEDs) have been installed where possible. Dimmers, timers, and motion sensors are installed where possible			A lighting survey has been undertaken and plans for replacing inefficient fixtures has been put into action		
	Heating	Programmable thermostats are in use and winter set-back temperatures are in place			Heating system has a regular maintenance schedule, furnace filters are cleaned or replaced, and ducts are clean, where applicable			A high-efficiency heating system or a solar hot water system for the purpose of space heating has been installed		
	Cooling	Programmable thermostats are in use and summer set-back temperatures are in place			Cooling system has a regular maintenance schedule, filters are cleaned or replaced, and ducts are clean, where applicable			A high-efficiency cooling system has been installed		
	Heating/ Cooling	Ceiling fans are in regular use in order to circulate heat during the winter and cool the space during the summer								
	Building Envelope	Have used caulk and spray foam to air-seal the building. Weather stripping on windows and doors has been upgraded			Insulation has been added to walls and roof in order to reach minimum code requirements			Insulation has been added to walls and roof in order to surpass minimum code. Exterior windows and doors have been replaced with Energy Star models		
	Equipment	Equipment is shut down or in stand-by mode when not in use. All equipment is on power bars that can be easily turned off when required						All new or replacement equipment is Energy Star certified		
	Renewable Energy	The faith community has investigated the possibility of installing a renewable energy system of any kind in their facility			A plan is in place for the faith community to install a renewable energy system in their facility			The implementation plan is underway for installing a renewable energy system		
Water	Hot water	Basic efficiency steps have been taken such as insulating hot water tanks and pipes and installing low-flow aerators on all faucets			Systems that limit total hot water usage such as a hot water heat recovery system or a pre-mixing of hot and cold water system has been installed			The faith community has installed a high-efficiency hot water heater, such as an on-demand unit or a solar domestic hot water heating system		
	Interior	Basic efficiency steps have been taken such as low-flow aerators on all faucets, posting signs advising people to limit water usage, and regular checks to ensure no leaky faucets or toilets			When necessary, low-flush toilets and urinals are installed where possible throughout the facility			A grey water system has been installed that allows the facility to reuse water for a second time or a large cistern has been installed to capture rain water for interior building uses		
	Exterior	Exterior watering of the grounds only occurs in the morning and is shut off when it is raining or rain is expected			Rain barrels have been installed to collect roof run-off water for the purpose of watering the grounds			The faith community's grounds have been specifically landscaped with plants that do not require much watering (xeriscaping)		
Waste	Recycling	Blue bins can be found in every area with the possibility of waste. Signs are posted near the bins advising people as to what can and can't be recycled			Recycling facilities are available at the faith community for dropping off items such as ink cartridges, cell phones, CFL bulbs, etc.			Items such as eye glasses, stamps, and clothes are donated to the faith community for re-use or re-distribution		
	Composting	The faith community composts regularly through their municipal composting program			The faith community has a 'back yard' composting system for yard waste and kitchen waste					
	Waste							A waste reduction strategy has been planned and implemented. The faith community continues to track total waste to determine if targets are being met		

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Kitchen/Events	Food/Drinks	Locally sourced food and drinks are used when possible			Vegetarian, vegan, organic, and in-season food options are provided and served when possible			Your community garden regularly provides fresh vegetables to events held at the facility or to local food programs		
	Food/Drinks				The faith community promotes fair trade through a purchasing policy and by offering fairly traded products for sale			The faith community supports local food initiatives through actions such as hosting a local farmers market or other types of food-related events		
	Dishes/Cutlery	Fully recyclable or compostable dishes and cutlery are in regular use and not disposed of in the garbage			A policy of using washable dishes and cutlery, etc. during events and break times is in place			Single-use dishes and cutlery have been completely eliminated from use		

Environmental Justice **	Divestment	The faith community has studied its faith tradition's recent statements on fossil fuel divestment			Members have been provided with educational materials about fossil fuel divestment and green investment opportunities (e.g. ZooShare, Solar Share) and encouraged to look at their own investments			The faith community board/trustees have reviewed their investments and agreed to divest from any fossil fuel investments OR to invest in renewable energy (smaller faith communities without investments may complete the second action by investing a symbolic amount)		
	Environmental Justice (General)	The faith community has formed an environmental justice discussion group and climate justice themes have been incorporated into services and prayer			The faith community hosts environmental justice events – screenings, workshops, study sessions – and/or offers space for community groups to meet on these issues			The faith community has met with your MP/MPP to call for action on climate change and support for environmental justice		
	Reconciliation/ Indigenous Peoples	The faith community has researched the traditional territory on which it is located/the treaty it is covered by and incorporates a statement of land acknowledgement into its events			The faith community has hosted a workshop, event, or discussion group on local Indigenous environmental struggles			The faith community has met with your MP/MPP to share your concerns about pollution of air and water in indigenous communities and ask what they are doing to protect the right of Indigenous people to a clean and healthy environment		

\*\*The Centre for Earth Ethics defines Environmental Justice as fighting for the equitable distribution of technology and resources with a preference to those who need them the most, and promoting the protection of the earth, its eco-systems, and giving all access to clean water, clean air, and surroundings free of toxic chemicals.

Final Total:

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