

Action Steps to Become Recognized as a Green Congregation



- 1 Preach an environmental stewardship sermon annually
- 2 Book/bible study on stewardship of creation www.webofcreation.org/
- 3 Form a church "green team"
- 4 Show environmental films (e.g. - Inconvenient Truth) www.wecansolveit.org
- 5 Add 'Green' elements to Sunday school and youth group curriculums www.ctenergyeducation.com www.irejn.org
- 6 Include 'Green' column in church newsletter
- 7 Invite environmentally focused speakers (sources, IREJN, CT Conf Eco Team) www.irejn.org
- 8 Assist members in reducing 'junk' mail, catalogs, credit offers, etc. www.catalogchoice.org
- 9 Examine energy use by the church and make a plan to reduce (e.g. seminar) www.irejn.org
- 10 Keep radiators/heating ducts/refrig coils clean
- 11 Make environmental/conservation resources available to members
- 12 Recycle paper/bottles/cans
- 13 Put office machines on power strips and unplug rarely used appliances
- 14 Reduce hot water temp to 120 degrees
- 15 Use low impact paper products
- 16 Flexible item : _____



- 1 Install and use programmable thermostats
- 2 Replace incandescent bulbs with CFL's www.techniart.com
- 3 Insulate/weather-strip church pipes/walls/ceilings/doors/water heaters
- 4 Shift church communications from paper to electronic media
- 5 Shift to reusable dishes/utensils in church
- 6 Install low energy LED exit and emergency lighting/signs www.techniart.com
- 7 Ban styrofoam from church use
- 8 Install energy efficient fluorescent lights/ballasts
- 9 Institute "Walk/bike/carpool to church" days
- 10 Shift to organic lawn/landscape care
- 11 Shift to environmentally sensitive cleaning products
- 12 Develop a car pool system for church activities
- 13 Use blinds to help regulate temperature
- 14 Obtain an energy efficiency audit from CL & P www.ctsavesenergy.org/programs
- 15 Purchase 'Clean' electric energy for your church www.cl-p.com/community/environmental/clean.asp
- 16 Flexible item : _____



- 1 Establish a community garden at the church
- 2 Replace old furnaces/heaters/air conditioners
- 3 Buy 'Energy Star' appliances
- 4 Install 'low flow' water fixtures or tankless water heaters
- 5 Install solar hot water heaters
- 6 Replace inefficient windows/doors
- 7 Utilize xeriscaping for lawns/landscaping
- 8 Advocate for local/state/national energy efficiency policies www.onethingct.com
- 9 Assist/encourage church members to adopt 'green' steps in their homes and businesses www.safeclimate.net/calculator www.ctsavesenergy.com
- 10 Join with other "sustainability" groups to facilitate community action/advocacy www.cleanwater.org
- 11 Share your creative ideas/results with others in the UCC **Conntact** conf. newsletter
- 12 Plant trees to capture carbon and reduce carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- 13 Conduct adult ed program to examine all aspects of transportation
- 14 Review church investments for environmental impact
- 15 Install photo-voltaic panels for electricity
- 16 Flexible item : _____

Notes: Complete any 12 of the steps in a column to receive recognition at that level (1, 2 or 3 green globes)
 For a flexible item, you can describe an activity not listed or substitute an item from a list to the right of the list you are completing
 Flexible items can also include a UCC environmental activity/program - see the website for additional suggestions
 For more information and resources, go to our website: www.ctucc.org/greenchurch