

10 Tips for Your Green Team

Connect Your Earth Care to Your Faith

Greening is an act of justice, faithfulness, and love.

Be Creative

Tap into the Divine, an endless source of creativity. Many solutions are available, so let your imagination run free to implement what works best for your unique community!

Think Globally, Act Locally (For Starters)

Public policy advocacy can be difficult, but is vital. Do not engage too early. When members are ready to participate in advocacy, invite them to do so. But keep space for loving disagreement.

Find Allies

There are people around you, inside and outside your House of Worship, who care deeply about these issues. Seek them out!

Don't Scold

No one is blameless, so there is no good reason for finger-pointing.

Be Tenacious

Faith communities can move at a glacial pace. Be patient, stick with it, and ask for help when you need it.

Infiltrate Your Faith Community

Green is not just a subcommittee. It's a way of being that touches the entire faith community. Weave environmental consciousness into all faith community activities.

Educate, Challenge, Love

Keep goals in mind, but do not rush them. Work with love, patience, and a teacher's spirit.

It's About Justice For Our Neighbors

Green issues, to have relevance, need a neighbor's face. Engage your faith community at the local, human level. The effects of environmental degradation fall most heavily on disadvantaged neighbors and communities. When we connect environmental justice with social justice, both flourish, and we all thrive.

Celebrate, Celebrate, Celebrate!

Don't forget to have fun! Let people rejoice together in the good work that your faith community is doing. Joy generates momentum for future projects and makes slower periods less challenging.



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Green Teams

What is a Green Team?

Green Teams are groups of 3 or more people from a House of Worship who provide cooperative leadership to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.

Green Teams:

- Meet regularly
- Set goals for their House of Worship
- Connect spiritual traditions with Earth care and justice for our neighbors
- Plan activities and educate to encourage eco-friendly behaviors
- Connect with the community at large to expand impact
- Advocate for Earth care policies
- Measure benchmarks
- Celebrate accomplishments

Why does my House of Worship need a Green Team?

A Green Team keeps consciousness about Earth care and justice for our neighbors at the forefront in your House of Worship. A group of people working together to build a healthier and more sustainable community will accomplish far more than anyone trying to do this alone. If your House of Worship would like to start or deepen the efforts of an existing Green Team, Faith in Place staff are here to help!

What is a Green Team Coach?

Faith in Place can provide you with a designated staff member to mentor your Green Team. Coaches can help you create goals and connect you to programs and opportunities for Earth care in your area – all at no financial cost! They will reach out at least twice a month and can attend your meetings and events as their availability allows. Faith in Place can also assist in providing educational and financial resources, when available, to support the mission and vision of your Green Team. To connect with a coach, please contact the Outreach Director in your area (listed on reverse).

The Annual Green Team Summit

Each Fall, Faith in Place hosts a gathering for people of all faiths across Illinois to come together and support each other in caring for the Earth. A day full of workshops and educational opportunities will empower you to take your Green Team to the next level!

For more information, please visit
<https://www.faithinplace.org/green-teams>

