

UCF Green Sanctuary Committee
Green Sanctuary Suggested Action Items
Edited 1-20-03

The following ideas listed in bullet form were the result of two brainstorming sessions (November 22 and December 7, 2002) held by members of the Green Sanctuary Committee. They were then arranged into the six action areas identified by the UUA Seventh Principle Project's Green Sanctuary Program. Certification as a Green Sanctuary congregation requires a minimum of 17 actions taken across the six action areas within a program year. These ideas are being submitted to the Programs Council and the Board of Trustees for consideration as applicable to program committees and to choices made by the congregation. These ideas will be prioritized by the Green Sanctuary Committee, and several of them will be acted upon by the committee. However, many of the actions require the support of other committees and the congregation. Any additional suggestions may be directed to the Green Sanctuary Committee Chair, Rod Sauter (sauters2@earthlink.net).

AREA I: ENERGY CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES

- Purchasing for new building: using green building concepts
- Herman Miller – furniture/carpeting/paints (*eco- and human-friendly source*)
- Field trip to Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Green building in Roslyn
- Heat conservation
- Eco-efficiency concepts
- Carpool circles to services, etc.
- Landscaping church site with native flora (*many native tree species have already been substituted for non-natives in the original landscaping plan*)
- Bat houses
- Bluebird boxes
- Labyrinth at church site
- Contributions of native plantings and animals
- Create wildlife sanctuary at new property; native backyard habitat programs
- Creation of onsite composting/recycle center (in coordination with youth)
- Preparing for the end of petroleum

AREA II: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

- Kitchen: reusable dinner ware
- Reusable mugs for coffee
- Green resources book
- E-cycling (collection program for electronic equipment)
- "Mad as a Hatter" program through NIH; mercury safety/thermometer trade-in
- Co-op America Green Pages
- Buying co-op/green network purchases
- "We're part of the movement that is creating the market for green products/services."
- Participation in Tremendous Maryland program
- Recycling campaign (e.g., aluminum recycling, community recycling program)
- Reduce consumerism
- Responsible purchasing for faith communities (Center for a New American Dream)
- No-cash yard sale (i.e., items swapped instead of paid for)

- Dinnerware donation to church
- Donations of items such as plants for fund raising or as plant sharing
- Greener church office habits: use of environmentally friendly supplies (e.g., recycled and/or tree-free products)
- Greener church kitchen habits
- Alternative gift giving
- Recycle furniture, clothing, machinery

AREA III: CHURCH COMMUNICATION

- Develop a suggested reading list (two suggestions: *Cradle to Cradle*, article in *Atlantic Monthly*: "The Next Industrial Revolution")
- Green column in the *Unison*
- Sunday morning table
- Green discussions
- Green points (i.e., suggestions for stepping lighter upon the earth)
- Green web page on UUCF website including links to green resources and initiatives in the broader community
- Green resources in library
- List of green items for Church Donor Book
- List serve/ mailing list
- Website links to UU Seventh Principal Project Website
- Recognition for green actions and achievements

AREA IV: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

- Environmental curriculum activities
- Environmental stewardship and world religions
- Green speakers
- Simplicity circles (reducing consumerism)
- Earth celebrations
- Alternative holiday ideas workshop; alternatives to gift wrapping and gift giving
- Tie in simplicity circles w/caring circles
- Nature outings and field trips sponsored by the committee (hikes, canoe trips, etc.)
- Religious ed classes involved in tree planting (service learning); *committee may be looking for involvement with twin ponds watershed restoration project*

AREA V: WORSHIP

- Green service Ideas
- Green speakers
- Music with enviro-spiritual messages
- Enviro-spiritual messages and Music
- Promote Living close to the earth and cycles
- Outdoor worship services
- Green worship circles
- Labyrinth
- Celebration: connection of Earth Cycles
- Non-traditional holidays/celebrations related to the earth

- Worship service ideas to reconnect people to the natural system
- Nature notes (e.g., announcements in service as to what is in bloom)
- Nature quotes to share in worship services

AREA VI: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Green investing (e.g., pax world fund)
- Fair traded, organic, shade-grown coffee for coffee hour
- Community outreach and Community service
- Floats in parades
- Businesses for the Bay
- Cooperation/collaboration with green groups in the community: building green coalitions; working with local vendors
- Coordinate volunteer opportunities in community projects
- Businesses for the Bay
- Native plant rescue (MD DNR?)
- Arbor Day (free trees)
- Nature Serve
- Seek funding for environmental projects