



Interfaith Action
SW Michigan Peace & Justice Collaborative

Green Faith Action Framework

Personal Actions:

1. Create a green home: Arrange for a home energy audit - insulate, consider energy efficient appliances when you purchase, use LED light bulbs. Compost. Abstain from eating meat two days a week. Use less water. Reuse and recycle. Reduce your consumption.
2. Create a green yard: Go natural outside - use organic gardening products. Reduce your lawn. Plant 2 trees or shrubs a year. Plant pollinator attracting plants.
3. Create a green community: Eat local, support local farmers. Drive less and when purchasing a vehicle consider a more fuel efficient vehicle. Help your congregation and your community go green. Participate in clean up work days.
4. Create a green world: Educate yourself about climate change and vote your faith to elect officials who address climate change. Say no to single use plastics. Pray for the protection of our common home, the earth - and pray for those whose lives are disrupted by the tragedy of climate change.

Faith Community Actions:

1. Replace light bulbs with LED or other energy saving bulbs
2. Recycle everything possible including:
 - a. alkaline batteries
 - b. paper, newspaper, cardboard, phone books
 - c. use both sides of paper when printing or copying
 - d. glass
 - e. aluminum cans, pie plates, and other food containers
 - f. plastic (check which numbers a place will take) including frozen food trays
 - g. junk mail
3. Make sure the furnace is tuned and air filters are replaced as needed.
4. Turn the hot water heater down.
5. Consider replacing old toilets with water conserving new toilets.

6. Have an energy audit done at your place of worship.
7. Use eco-friendly cleaning products.
8. Use recyclable paper or china for dinners & refreshments instead of plastic products.
9. Ban the use of rice or balloon releases at weddings and other celebrations.
10. Use low maintenance landscaping, including ground covers instead of grass where possible to reduce the need for lawn mowing.
11. Recycle ink cartridges.
12. Participate in a Green activity-- i.e. cleaning up a park, beach, or roadway.
13. Ask your faith leader to preach or teach at least once annually on the environment.
14. Make sure any new appliances are designated as energy efficient.

Policy Actions:

1. Support the MI Healthy Climate plan for statewide decarbonization by 2050 protecting residents, the environment and creating jobs. Support a MI plan for 28% reduction of greenhouse gases by 2025.
2. Promote use of recycling and renewable energy sources.
3. Plan for changing water levels and their impact on flooding and water availability.
4. Reduce and filter polluted water runoff.
5. Protect public and sacred lands and uphold indigenous people at the center of biodiversity protection.
6. Reinstate regulations that reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
7. Make environmental justice a central mission of the federal government and put green house gas-neutral and net zero emissions commitments.
8. Lead by example in the Paris Climate Accord by taking national action to limit warming to the 1.5 degree C target and put in place policy mechanisms to achieve this in a sustainable manner.
9. Invest in renewable and nature-friendly energy so as to achieve net-zero emissions as soon as possible.