

Stewardship of Creation
Resource Packet
2009

*Blessed Are You, Lord,
God of All Creation!*
(Celebrate Earth Day with the Pledge of St. Francis)

The Departments of
Facilities and Properties
Stewardship and Pastoral Services



Blessed Are You, Lord, God of All Creation.

Stewardship of Creation Resource

Celebrate Earth Day with the Pledge of St. Francis to Protect Creation and the Poor
April 22, 2009

Ideas for using this packet:

- † Distribute materials to Pastoral Councils, Stewardship , Social Concerns and Building and Grounds Committees. *Using the opening letter, the St. Francis Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor sheet, letter from Diocesan Director of Facilities and Properties, Saintly Voices Prayer Service, and resource and action items, create a simple plan for your parish.*
- † Promote the St. Francis Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor in homilies, bulletins or create a packet for household using: *Table Tent Prayers and Mirror Magnets, the Pledge of St. Francis Stewardship of Creation Resource List, Action Items for Households and the link to the power point.*

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Funded by The Bishop's Appeal

“Stewardship of Creation ...It is About More Than Polar Bears, Dumpster Diving, and Tree Hugging”

Dear Colleagues in Christ,

Brother Steve happened to spend Ash Wednesday 2009 with about 600 other conservationists from 74 Wisconsin conservation organizations. He stopped himself a few times during the day of networking, breakout sessions, and legislative office visits to ask, “Was this an appropriate way to mark the beginning of Lent?”

Brother Steve met a number of persons for the first time. No, he was not from the Citizens Utility Board of Wisconsin, Fox Valley Sierra Club, or Northwoods Land Trust, Inc., but was proud to explain that he served in the social justice ministry for the Diocese of Green Bay and St. Norbert Abbey. He reminded people that conservation and stewardship are grounded in scripture and Catholic social teaching; consider Pope John Paul II’s 1990 *Peace with God the Creator, Peace with all of Creation* World Day of Peace Message, the United States Catholic Conference’s 1991 statement *Renewing the Earth*, the June 2007 Congressional testimony on behalf of a proactive U.S. response to global climate change by John Carr, Executive Director of the Office of Justice, Peace, and Human Development of the United States Catholic Conference, and the work of the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, to name a few. When Brother Steve told several about the Green Bible published by HarperCollins, Jim suggested that conservationists buy copies for their pastors.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops wrote in 1998, “We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God’s creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored,” *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*.

Future generations are entitled to experience the same quality of natural life that past and present people have enjoyed. Furthermore, we acknowledge that the created world does not belong to us, but to God. We are his stewards. In order for us to honor the Creator, we are to honor God’s creation. We recognize that care of God’s creation is interwoven in many of our Catholic social action priorities: as pro-life advocates, we seek to insure the best natural surrounding for our children and grandchildren; as advocates for the poor, we seek to insure that low income people are not forced to live aside dumpsites and have access to clean drinking water; as opponents of war, we seek to remove the threat of nuclear poison from combatants’ arsenals; in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in the developing world, we oppose exploitation of foreign rain forests while supporting fair trade and shade grown products.

The diocesan offices of Social Concerns, Stewardship, and Facilities and Properties are happy to share this resource with all of our constituents. Whether one is praising the Creator amidst the natural beauty surrounding the Holy Name Retreat Center, lobbying for environmental justice at the State Capitol, or swapping out incandescent for compact fluorescent light bulbs, we know that “we are all in this together.”

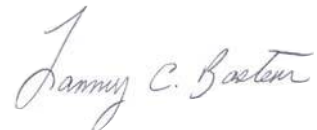
Sincerely in Christ,



Steve Herro, O. Praem.
Social Concerns Director



Mary Ann Otto
Stewardship Director



Tammy Basten
Director of Facilities & Properties

March 2009

Dear Parish and School Facilities & Properties Staff:

As buildings, grounds, and maintenance staff it is our ministry within the church that has a direct impact on the environment. We have the ability to update and change our practices in many areas including water conservation, electricity, paper and housekeeping. As an integral part of the Catholic community, now is the time to respond and demonstrate the commitment to caring for all of God's creation by examining the current practices as it relates to the buildings and grounds which have been entrusted to us all.

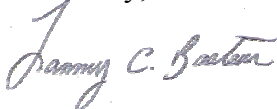
There are many resources to assist you and your parish or school in this initiative including reference to the website www.catholicsandclimatechange.org. Please seriously consider being part of the solution by taking personal responsibility to connect social justice and environmental stewardship in tackling the environmental crisis in our world. It will take the sacrifice and dedication of each of us to take an active part in creating a more sustainable environment and ultimately relieve the suffering that the current condition of the environment has caused to those in poverty.

Some areas that the Diocesan campus has focused on and implemented include the utilization of Green Cleaning Products, retrofit of incandescent lights with compact fluorescent lights, installation of occupancy switches in offices, no longer purchasing bottled water, plastic, and styrofoam products for the kitchen, and allowing areas of campus grounds to go natural prairie where appropriate.

There are endless opportunities out there to move toward a more sustainable world. Let us pray that together we can utilize materials to commit to "The St. Francis Pledge" to protect creation and the poor.

Distant peoples stand in awe of your marvels; east and west you make resound with joy. You visit the earth and water it, make it abundantly fertile. God's stream is filled with water; with it you supply the world with grain. Thus do you prepare the earth; you drench plowed furrows, and level their ridges. With showers you keep the ground soft, blessing its young sprouts. You adorn the year with your bounty; your paths drip with fruitful rain. The untilled meadows also drip; the hills are robed with joy. Psalm 65:9-13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy C. Basten".

Tammy C. Basten
Facilities & Properties Director
Diocese of Green Bay

*This Earth Day April 22, 2009 join the Catholic Community around the country
in*

The St. Francis Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor

The St. Francis Pledge is a solemn commitment by Catholic individuals, groups and institutions to honor God's creation and to serve the poor by doing the following:

PRAY and reflect on the duty to care for God's creation and protect the poor and

vulnerable; _____

LEARN about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change; _____

ASSESS how each of us – as individuals and as organizations — is contributing to climate change; _____

ACT to change our choices and behaviors contributing to climate change and _____

ADVOCATE for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions,
especially as they impact the poor and vulnerable. _____

For more information log on to:

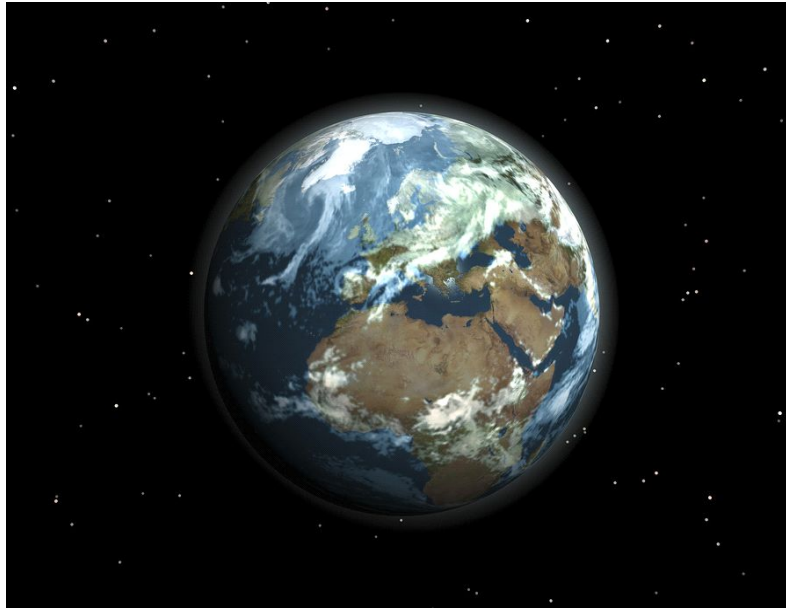
http://www.catholicsandclimatechange.org/coalition_activities/covenant.html.

“At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, nor about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God's creation and one human family.”
USCCB - *Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence, and the Common Good*

Blessed Are You, Lord, God of All Creation!

A Video Slide Presentation

We have created a reflective video presentation to be used with Windows Media Player. You can download it at <http://www.gbdioc.org/stewardship-a-pastoral-services/stewardship/resource-packets.html>. If you are unable to retrieve it, please e-mail pastserv@gbdioc.org.



Consider using the presentation:

Before Mass, as a prayer with parish staff and faculty, as a prayer service with lay leadership/committee members, during a retreat or as a part of intergenerational sessions.

*Developed by the departments of Stewardship & Pastoral Services
and Facilities and Properties, Diocese of Green Bay*

WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Creation by God

Most photographs provided by:

Sr. Annette Koss and Sr. Mary Jo Kirt

† Franciscan Sisters of the Holy Cross, Bay Settlement, WI

Musicians for *Canticle of the Sun*

Ann Lensmire, Tina Neilson, Angela Krajnek, Joel Stepanek

Sound Technician: Father Daniel Schuster

† St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Manitowoc, WI

The St. Francis Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor

Parish and Household Resources

PRAY—LEARN - ASSESS - ACT- ADVOCATE

The Theology of Stewardship of Creation:

- ♦ Pope John Paul II (1990). "Peace with God the Creator: Peace with All of Creation," Message for World Day of Peace. See http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/john_paul_ii/messages/peace/documents/hf_jp-ii_mes_19891208_xxiii-world-day-for-peace_en.html
- ♦ Sierra Club. *Holy Ground: A Gathering of Voices on Caring for God's Creation*
- ♦ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (2001). *Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence, and the Common Good*. See <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/international/globalclimate.shtml>.
- ♦ United States Catholic Conference (1991). *Renewing the Earth: An Invitation to Reflection and Action on Environment in Light of Catholic Social Teaching*. Available at <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/ejp/bishopsstatement.shtml>

PRAY

Liturgical and PRAYER Resources

- ♦ United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. *Faithful Stewards of God's Creation*. Includes background theological articles, ideas for leaders in faith formation and is especially strong in liturgical resources. Call USCCB Office of Publications, 1-800-235-8722.
- ♦ Web of Creation: Green Congregation Program—Worship Resources. See <http://www.webofcreation.org/Worship/resources.htm>

LEARN

Videos that the Diocese owns are available for your use (request by contacting Stewardship and Pastoral Services, 272-8312/877-500-3580 x8312, email pastserv@gbdioc.org):

- ♦ Action Media. *Effective Stewardship*. #99935 and Action Media. *Effective Stewardship: Lesson Two*. #99938
- ♦ Bingham, Sally. *Lighten Up!* #99917 and CBC Radio Canada. *Man Who Planted Trees*. #5200
- ♦ Fine Cut Productions, LLC. *Renewal: Stories from America's Religious-Environmental Movement*. #99936
- ♦ Guggenheim, Davis. *An Inconvenient Truth*. #99913 or Hassol, Susan Joy. *Too Hot Not To Handle*. #99916
- ♦ Jones, James Earl. *Keeping the Earth Religious and Scientific Perspectives on the Environment*. #5199
- ♦ Leonard, Annie. *The Story of STUFF*. #99926
- ♦ United States Catholic Conference. *Hope for a Renewed Earth*. #99928

Resources from Catholic Organizations:

- ♦ Catholic Coalition on Climate Change (<http://www.catholicsandclimatechange.org/>)
- ♦ National Catholic Rural Life Conference (<http://ncrlc.com>)
- ♦ USCCB's Environmental Justice Program: Caring for God's Creation (<http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/ejp/>)

Resources for Formational Leaders

- ♦ Web of Creation: Transform through Education <http://www.webofcreation.org/ReligiousEducation/resources.htm>

Suggestions for Study Circles:

- ♦ James, Sarah and Lahti, Torbjorn. *Natural Step for Communities: How Cities and Towns can Change to Sustainable Practices*. Seven week study circle guide available at <http://www.sustainablelacrosse.com/PDF/CircleGuide.pdf>; four week guide available at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/winnebago/cnred/documents/4-sessionStudyGuide.pdf>.
- ♦ JustFaith Ministries. "God's Creation Cries for Justice: Climate Change Impact and Response. See <http://justfaith.org/Attachments/PDFs/JustMattersClimateChangeFlyer.pdf>. Diocesan subsidy available for video materials.
- ♦ Northwest Earth Institute. *Discussion Course on Choices for Sustainable Living*. Publication includes discussion materials; Northwest Earth Institute, www.nwei.org, 503-227-2807.

ASSESS

Not every parish and household has the resources to contract with a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) consultant to measure its carbon footprint© There are several less sophisticated but valuable carbon footprint calculators available on the Web:

- ♦ How Cool is Your Congregation? <http://www.coolcongregations.com/>
- ♦ Conservancy Carbon Calculator <http://www.nature.org/initiatives/climatechange/calculator/?src=f1>
- ♦ Carbon Footprint Calculator <http://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx>

ACT

Models for Communities of Faith:

- ♦ Interfaith Power and Light. *Renewal*. See <http://www.theregenerationproject.org/mfiles/RENEWAL%20info%20sheet.doc>
- ♦ Sierra Club. *Faith in Action: Communities of Hope Bring Hope for the Planet*. See <http://www.sierraclub.org/partnerships/faith/report2008/report2008.pdf>

Practical Checklists and Inventories for ACTION

- ♦ 50 Simple Things. See <http://www.50simplethings.com/>
- ♦ Focus on Energy. <http://www.focusonenergy.com/General/wintertips/default.aspx>

ADVOCATE

Many municipalities and regions now have sustainability committees that help to insure that city planning considers protection of resources for future residents. Here is a list to start; try googling the name of your city and sustainability for a committee in your area:

- ♦ ECOS Fox Valley-- <http://ecos-fv.blogspot.com/>
- ♦ SEEDs for De Pere—<http://depereseeds.com>
- ♦ Sustainable Greater Green Bay-- <http://www.ci.green-bay.wi.us/SGB/>
- ♦ Sustainable Manitowoc—<http://sustainablemanitowoc.blogspot.com>
- ♦ TriCounty Sustainability Corner-- <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/outagamie/Sustainability3.htm>
You may also lobby your state and federal officials on environmental legislation. The Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters is a non-partisan organization that prioritizes Wisconsin environmental legislation, keeps a scorecard on legislator voting, provides action alerts on Wisconsin environmental bills, etc.
- ♦ The Sierra Club, <http://action.sierraclub.org/site/PageServer?pagename=TakeAction>, offers backgrounders and action alerts on federal ecological activities.
- ♦ The Environmental Defense League also provides backgrounders and alerts; see http://www.earthjustice.org/how_to_help/action/index.html

Resource list prepared by Brother Steve Herro, O. Praem.

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Stewards of Creation – Voices of the Saints

Prayer Service

Opening: To be a steward of creation, we first need to stand in awe of God and of the world that was given to us to cultivate and to love. In our busy world we sometimes take for granted the gift that sustains us and mistakenly think that we are the owners. Let us recall the powerful account of God's love for us "In the beginning..." and the grateful voices of "saintly" managers of all that God created.

CALL TO PRAYER

A reading from the Book of Genesis 1:1-31

Reader 1: In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless wasteland, and the darkness covered the abyss, while a mighty wind swept over the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. And God saw how good the light was. God then separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." Thus evening came, and morning followed-the first day.

All: We shall awaken from our dullness and rise vigorously toward justice. If we fall in love with creation deeper and deeper, we will respond to its endangerment with passion. **Hildegard of Bingen**

Reader 2: Then God said, "Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters, to separate one body of water from another." And so it happened; God made the dome, and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it. God called 'the dome' the sky." Evening came, and morning followed-the second day.

All: One has to be alone, under the sky, before everything falls into place and one finds his own place in the midst of it. **Thomas Merton**

Reader 3: Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin, so that the dry land may appear." And so it happened; the water under the sky gathered into its basin and the dry land appeared. God called the dry land "the earth," and the basin of the water he called "the sea." God saw how good it was. Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth vegetation; every kind of plant that bears seed and every kind of fruit tree on earth that bears fruit with its seeds in it." God saw how good it was. Evening came, and morning followed-the third day.

All: If we learn to love the earth, we will find labyrinths, gardens, fountains, and precious jewels! A whole new world will open itself to us! We will discover what it means to be truly alive. **Teresa of Avila**

Reader 4: Then God said; "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky, to separate day from night. Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth." And so it happened; God made the two great lights, the greater one to govern the day, and the lesser one to govern the night; and he made the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky, to shed light upon the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. God saw how good it was. Evening came and morning followed-the fourth day.

All: We need to find God, but we cannot find him in noise or in excitement. See how nature, the trees, the flowers, the grass grow in deep silence. See how the stars, the moon, and the sun all move in silence. **Mother Teresa**

Reader 5: Then God said, "Let the waters teem with an abundance of living creatures, and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky." An so it happened; God created the great sea monsters and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the waters teem and all kinds of winged birds. God saw how good it was, and God blessed them saying, "Be fertile and multiply on the earth." Evening came, and morning followed-the fifth day.

And God said, "Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures; cattle creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds." And so it happened; God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of creeping things of the earth. God saw how good it was.

All: If I spend enough time with even the tiniest creature-even a caterpillar, I would never have to prepare a sermon. So full of God is every creature.

Meister Eckhart

Reader 6: Then God said: "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals and all the creatures that crawl on the ground."

So God created man in his image; In the divine image he created him; Male and female he created them.

All: The first law of our being is that we are set in a delicate network of interdependence with our fellow human beings and with the rest of God's creation. **Archbishop Desmond Tutu**

Reader 7: God blessed them, saying to them: "Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it. Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and all the living things that move on the earth." God also said: "See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food; and to all the animals in the land, all the birds of the air, and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground, I give all the green plants for food." And so it happened. God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good. Evening came and morning followed-the sixth day.

All: There is an order in the universe which must be respected, and...the human person endowed with capability of choosing freely, has a grave responsibility to preserve this order for the well-being of future generations.

Pope John Paul II

REFLECTION: Let us take a moment to reflect and share our thoughts on the following questions:

1. What was one thing that caught your attention from either the scripture or from the comments by the saints?
2. What would you like your comment about stewardship of creation to be 100 years from now?

CLOSING PRAYER: As God's people we should be filled with the spirit of prayer. Let us join with our ancestors in inviting all creation to join their praise of God's goodness. **Dn 3:74-81**

All: Let the earth bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever. Mountains and hills bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever. Everything growing from the earth, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever.

You springs, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever.

Seas and rivers bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever.

You dolphins and all water creatures, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever.

All you birds of the air, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever. All you beasts, wild and tame, bless the Lord; praise and exalt him above all forever. AMEN

St. Francis Pledge to Protect Creation and the Poor

Household ACTion Items

It is my hope that the inspiration of St. Francis will help us to keep ever alive a sense of "fraternity" with all those good and beautiful things which almighty God has created. And may he remind us of our serious obligation to respect and watch over them with care, in light of that greater and higher fraternity which exists, within the human family. Pope John Paul II . *Peace With God the Creator, Peace With All of Creation*, Message for Celebration of the World Day of Peace, 1990

1. Consider using only non-disposable dishes, cups, silverware and napkins.
2. Keep a pitcher of cold water in the refrigerator and refill a reusable bottle instead of buying bottled water.
3. Use cloth handkerchiefs instead of tissue and cloth towels instead of paper toweling.
4. Purchase products in glass containers and not non-recyclable plastic containers.
5. Purchase items that are made from recyclable materials.
6. Use "green" products for cleaning and laundry.
7. Set a timer and take five minute showers.
8. Consider buying food, household and cleaning items in bulk to avoid extra packaging materials.
9. Take cloth reusable grocery bags to the store instead of using plastic or paper.
10. Be sure that you are recycling all paper, cardboard, plastic, cans, aluminum, glass, etc.
11. Find ways that your household could conserve fuel by walking, carpooling or combining errands.
12. Keep your automobile tires filled and your car in good running condition.
13. Only run your dishwasher when it is full.
14. Set your personal computer to print on both sides.
15. As they burn out, replace regular light bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs.
16. Consider washing and rinsing laundry in only cold water.
17. Recycle styrofoam peanuts at UPS.

Canticle of Brother Sun

Saint Francis of Assisi

Most High, all-powerful, all-good Lord,
All praise is Yours, all glory, all honour
and all blessings.
To you alone, Most High, do they belong,
And no mortal lips are worthy to
pronounce Your Name.

Praised be You my Lord with all Your creatures,
Especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who is the day through whom You give us light.
And he is beautiful and radiant
with great splendour,
Of You Most High, he bears the likeness.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Sister Moon
and the stars,
In the heavens you have made them bright,
precious and fair.

Praised be You, my Lord, through Brothers Wind
and Air,
And fair and stormy, all weather's moods,
By which You cherish all that You have made.

Praised be You my Lord through Sister Water,
So useful, humble, precious and pure.

Praised be You my Lord through Brother Fire,
Through whom You light the night
And he is beautiful and playful
and robust and strong.

Praised be You my Lord through our Sister,
Mother Earth who sustains and governs us,
Producing varied fruits with coloured flowers
and herbs.

Praise be You my Lord through those
who grant pardon
For love of You and bear sickness and trial.
Blessed are those who endure in peace,
By You Most High, they will be crowned.

Praised be You, my Lord through Sister Death,
From whom no-one living can escape.
Woe to those who die in mortal sin!
Blessed are they she finds doing Your Will.
No second death can do them harm.

Praise and bless my Lord and give Him thanks,
And serve Him with great humility.

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And serve Him with great humility.

Church and School Energy Conservation Ideas

- Always keep the "3 S's" in mind: Do not sacrifice "Students, Security and Safety".
- Recheck all Energy Management Systems "points" to verify that they are still functioning correctly.
- Awards to employees having best conservation ideas.
- Stagger major equipment (HVAC units, etc.) start times.
- Better monitoring of service doors at each school (keeping them closed!)
- Examine Preventative Maintenance relating to filter changing, cleaning coils, etc.
- Place data on light switches indicating dollars wasted by leaving lights, etc., on.
- Vacant space check list.
- Zoning of parking lot lights for better control.
- Review the feasibility of automatic doors in the vestibules.
- Investigate variable speed drives for fans and pumps.
- Consider the use of solar film.
- Use of lap top computers for controlling the Energy Management System.
- Monitoring food service HVAC to verify that CFM being exhausted is at least 85% of CFM delivered to space.
- Use diesel fuel for steam cleaning machines.
- Turn trash compactor power off at night.
- Custodians to shut off power to electric vending machines at night.
- Master metering instead of multiple.
- Water conservation through the use of toilet dams.
- Caulking when necessary and sealing cracks.
- Better after hours space utilization by having HVAC personnel review plans and specs to avoid unnecessary running of central plant for just 1 or 2 classrooms.
- Possible use of ceiling fans.
- Reduce parking lot lighting to 25% after closing.
- Compare utility bills to Energy Management System data.
- Turn personal computers off when not in use, especially overnight.
- Include energy items when setting up employee evaluation forms.
- Program into the Energy Management System holiday hours and special school events.
- Turn off "evening" lights during the day that are at/or near sky lights. This is called "day lighting".
- Control each building's demand using the Energy Management System.
- Use portable lights for evening cleaning instead of having on all lights.
- School self-audits, by setting up a form for custodians to do self-utility checks.
- Have custodians survey each other in order to lend an "independent eye" and perhaps make constructive suggestions.
- Bill remodeling contractors for utilities used during construction of spaces.
- Properly maintain fountains - less water usage.
- Recycle materials from building spaces during demolition.
- Use of timers on bus block heater circuits.
- Dating of lamps so that short life can be documented leading to possible rebates from lamp suppliers.
- Proper sizing of HVAC units for spaces to match load requirements.
- Check classroom thermostats; make sure they are calibrated and installed level.
- Turn marquee/outdoor signs off during night (i.e. midnight - dawn).
- Control of power factor to lower cost.
- Bill for energy used during commercially sponsored events.
- Turn off coffee machines after lunch.
- Put the theme of Energy conservation in school newsletter.
- Turn school display cases off at night.
- Turn emergency lights off during the day. (Still must come on during a power outage.)
- Suggest that teachers use only 1/2 of their lights during planning time.
- Recheck Energy Management Systems start and stop times.
- Consider a ducted air return system.

- Turn the chiller off in water drinking fountains during certain times of year.
- Have a main office resource library to be shared with schools having a certain need.
- Provide locking time clock thermostats in classrooms.
- Use time delay light switches installed in remote areas (janitor closets, etc.).
- Tighter control of lawn automatic sprinkler systems during inclement weather and winter season. In addition, possibility of having water and sewer company not charge sewer charges for water used for irrigation and cooling tower use.
- Water audits to check for leaking and running toilets, etc.
- Verification that decorative lights have definite on/off schedules.
- Review feasibility of installing photoelectric cells on parking lot lights.
- Review Preventative Maintenance Program to improve HVAC efficiencies.
- Re-examine tree light operating hours.
- Update management training for efficiency in energy control.
- Include in the design of new schools or remodels separate circuits for common areas and offices for better energy control.
- Check economizer set points.
- "Lock out" heat after Winter is over to prevent unwanted heating costs during the summer air conditioning season.
- Keep skylights clean in winter.
- Low E glass on skylights or "smart" glass.
- Shift usage to off-peak rates - cleaning, cooling.
- Check water meters at night to see how much is used - track it down.
- Check electrical meters at night to see how much is used - track it down.
- Occupant sensors - staff areas, conference rooms, and bathrooms.
- Sub-cool buildings during off-peak hours using outside air only. (No A/C).
- Timers on hot water heaters - turn off at night.
- An electronic thermostat for cooling towers (more accurate).
- Separate decorative lights from general lights.
- Turn off decorative lighting at closing.
- Post "KEEP DOORS CLOSED" signs in service corridors, gyms, pools, kitchens.
- Turn off exhaust fans in unoccupied spaces.
- Look at using propane or natural gas for vehicles.
- Do an Energy Audit walk-through at night.
- Install night setback thermostats on supplemental HVAC units.
- Calibrate temperature sensors annually.
- Use emergency generator to get a rebate on demand charges.
- Start exhaust systems to match opening times.
- Use lower wattage halogen or compact fluorescent lamps to replace incandescent.
- "Tweak and Tune" HVAC controls.
- Create an energy logo to encourage participation.
- Install time switches in Administration Office.
- Use lower water usage fixtures.
- Add rain sensors to irrigation systems.
- Properly aim nozzles in irrigation systems.
- Use low water usage plants where appropriate.
- Use mulch to reduce water quantities.
- Provide shade type landscaping for west side of buildings.
- Investigate an Energy Management System if none installed.
- Contact your mechanical, electrical and lighting contractors to solicit energy ideas.

We show our very
Respect for the Creator, by
our stewardship of creation.
Care for the earth is not just an
Earth Day slogan, it is a
requirement of our faith.

USCCB,
*Sharing Catholic Social Teaching:
Challenges and Directions*

At its core,
the environmental crisis
is a moral challenge.

USCCB,
Renewing the Earth, 1

Today, the great gift of God's
Creation is exposed to serious
dangers and lifestyles which can
degrade it . . . We must pledge
ourselves to take care of
creation and to share our
resources in solidarity.

Pope Benedict XVI

In the beginning
God entrusted the earth
and its resources to the
common stewardship of
mankind to take care of
them, master them by labor
and enjoy their fruits. The
goods of creation are
destined for the whole
human race.

Catechism of the Catholic Church #2402

The seventh
commandment enjoins
respect for the integrity of
creation. Animals, like plants and
inanimate beings, are by nature
destined for the common good of past,
present and future humanity . . . It
requires a religious respect for the
integrity of creation

Catechism of the Catholic Church #2415

It is my hope that the inspiration of St. Francis will help us to keep ever
alive a sense of "fraternity" with all those good and beautiful things
which Almighty God has created. And remind us of our serious
obligation to respect and watch over them with care, in light of that
greater and higher fraternity that exists within the human family.

Pope John Paul II *Peace with God the Creator, Peace with All of Creation*

The Lord God
then took the man
and settled him in the
Garden of Eden, to cultivate
and care for it.

Genesis 2:15

Ever since The creation
of the world, his invisible
attributes of eternal power
and divinity have been able to
be understood and perceived in
what he had made.

Romans 1:20

God saw everything
that he had made,
and indeed, it was good

Genesis 1:31

The land is not
to be sold in
perpetuity, for the land
is mine; with me you are
but aliens and tenants.

Leviticus 2:23

And one called to
another and said; Holy, holy, holy
Lord of hosts; the whole earth is
full of his glory.

Isaiah 6:3

The earth is the Lord's
and all that is in it, the
world, and those who
live in it.

Psalms 24:1

The world that God created has been entrusted to us. Our use must be directed by God's plan for creation, not simply our own benefit. Our stewardship of the Earth is a form of participation in God's act of creating and sustaining the world. In our use of creation, we must be guided by concern for generations to come.

USCCB, *Faithful Citizenship*, 15

Good Stewards Today!

Wondrous Creator,
We thank you for this day!
For the sun that brings
warmth and hope to
humankind; for the darkness
that brings rest and renewal.
*Help us to be a good steward
Of your creation.*

Quencher of Thirst,
We thank you for this day!
For the rain that blesses
the earth and quenches our
thirst and for the bodies of
water which provide for
our needs and our play.
*Help us to be a good steward
of your creation*

Giver of Life,
We thank you for this day!
For the earth that brings forth
food to nourish our bodies;
beautiful flowers for our souls.
*Help us to be a good steward
of your creation.*

Master Designer,
We thank you for this day!
For the birds that greet us
with song and for all creatures
which grace our earth.
*Help us to be a good steward
of your creation.*

Father of Humankind,
We thank you for this day!
For each human being made
in your image is a gift to our world.
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Form Your Own Parish Committee

COMMITTEE on CARING for GOD'S CREATION



MISSION:

Inspired by the mandate of Catholic Social Teaching, the COMMITTEE on CARING for GOD'S CREATION encourages the Church of Green Bay to take steps toward fostering the care of creation through education, modeling and advocacy.

PURPOSE:

Guided by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and in collaboration with relevant parish committees such as Social Concerns, Worship, Finance, Catechetical/Youth Ministry as well as Building and Grounds, the COMMITTEE on CARING for GOD'S CREATION sees its purpose as the following:

- 1) To encourage environmental friendly practices in the construction, operation and maintenance of our properties and vehicles.
- 2) To promote the conservation of energy and materials in the operations of our institutions and homes.
- 3) To advocate on local, state and national levels regarding environmental issues.
- 4) To provide a spiritual basis for understanding the need to protect God's creation.

Christians, in particular, realize that their responsibility within creation and their duty towards nature and the Creator are an essential part of their faith.

JP II World Day of Peace 1990

For more information, please contact Br. Steve Herro, Social Concerns Director, Diocese of Green Bay, 920-272-8299/877-500-3580 x8299, email sherro@gbdioc.org