



# STEWARDSHIP AUDIT

## Area 1 -Energy

*Energy usage represents the largest negative environmental impact and the second highest fixed cost for religious institutions. As energy costs continue to increase, energy conservation practices offer an opportunity to make wise environmental decisions that are also good for your budget. The following questions are designed to help your institution understand your energy usage and identify areas for improvement.*

<b><i>In completing the Stewardship Energy Audit, please record the 5-6 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	<b>Need to replace non-energy star appliances.</b>
2	<b>Need weather stripping on Eastern lobby doors.</b>
3	<b>Need double panel windows in classrooms, social hall, library &amp; Chinese school.</b>
4	<b>Need to turn down water heater.</b>
5	<b>Could consolidate 3 refrigerators, need to examine practicality of this.</b>
6	<b>Need PSC to adopt a purchasing policy to purchase energy star appliances in future.</b>
7	<b>Install Wi-Fi controlled thermostats:</b> We could explore Wi-Fi enabled thermostats and adjust times/temps more frequently over the Internet in response to changing weather conditions and schedules change due to 1-time events. This would eliminate the need for people "overriding" the thermostat programming which is probably frequent.

## Area 2 - Food

*Scientists have agreed that food choices are among the most important environmental choices made by the average US/Canadian citizen. From vegetarian meals to Fair Trade coffee to organic produce, there are many ways to purchase food that both delights the palate and is good for your conscience. The following questions are designed to help your institution understand your food consumption and identify areas for improvement.*

<b><i>In completing the Stewardship Food Audit, please record the 5-6 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	<b>Starting our own Farmer's Market as mentioned in the EJ Audit.</b>
2	<b>Encourage community to go to local farmer's markets</b>
3	<b>Provide Suggested Vendors/Menus/Providers List for recommended places to buy local, organic ingredients, services or foods in our area.</b>

4	Develop and promote the CSA more by attempting to get the hosts of the kiddush each week to purchase from them for a portion of their menu. Keep encouraging more families to sign up to participate in the CSA program.
5	Improve size and labeling of compost and trash cans in the Social Hall and Kitchen.
6	Enforce the compostable policy and educate caterers and Bar/Bat Mitzvah parents about it (Already did this via article by Judith?) Also discourage individual water bottles/drinks being served.

### Area 3 - Water

*Water is central to all religions, symbolizing renewal and cleansing. Life cannot exist without water. However, water shortages, drought and water contamination are very real issues facing communities throughout the world. The decisions we make each and every day determine if our water resources will remain plentiful and clean for generations to come. The following questions are designed to help your institution understand your water management and identify areas for improvement*

<b><i>In completing the Stewardship Water Audit, please record the 2-3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	Work with "Save the Bay" to clean creeks and lagoons.
2	Institute water bottle policy on updated kitchen policy.
3	Switch toilets to low flow, waterless urinals and switch faucets to being restricted
4	Dishwasher is not really used. Could be because of compostable tableware being used often. The dishwasher could be replaced with an Energy Star unit and handle more pots and pans.

### Area 4 - Waste

*In nature, what is considered waste by one animal or plant helps another to survive. By handling our waste more responsibly, we create less harm and support environmental health. The following questions are designed to help you understand your waste management practices and identify areas for improvement.*

<b><i>In completing the Stewardship Waste Audit, please record the 2-3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	Some recycling containers need replacement. Better, clearer labeling of composting and recycle bins in kitchen and in social hall.
2	PSC should adopt and publish a zero-waste formal policy for Oneg, Kiddush, Bnei Mitzvah. PSC will thereby provide compostable dinnerware.
3	Educate Congregation on Zero-Waste.
4	Reduce paper usage: preferably use electronic communication, preferably print/copy double-sided

## Area 5 - Toxics Reduction

*Most chemicals used in consumer products have not been thoroughly tested for their effects on human health. Other chemicals – such as those found in many common cleaning products – have been shown to create negative health impacts on people. Thankfully, there are many ‘green’ options that can take the place of these products without sacrificing quality or effectiveness. The following questions will help you understand your toxics management and identify areas for improvement.*

<b>In completing the Stewardship Toxins Audit, please record the 2-3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</b>	
1	Explore the use of green-certified ( <i>Green Seal, Ecologo or Design for the Environment</i> ) cleaning products.
2	
3	

## Area 6 - Grounds Maintenance (Landscaping)

*The grounds surrounding your building are one of the first things that members see when visiting your congregation. What message does your landscape convey? Is the community welcomed with pesticide warning flags on the lawn, or invited to experience nature with gardens and native plants? Every decision you make on the grounds sets an example for the community, and has an immediate effect on the surrounding soil, water and air. The following questions are designed to help your institution understand your grounds maintenance practices and identify areas for improvement.*

<b>In completing the Stewardship Grounds Maintenance Audit, please record the 2-3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</b>	
1	Project: organize a charity farmers market: many congregants have fruit trees at home: they would bring fruit to sell in a mini farmers market, and we can donate the proceeds to charities.
2	Reclaim a couple spots on the parking lot to extend the Peace garden and great a community herb / <i>spice garden</i> .
3	

## Area 7 - Transportation

*Transportation represents one of the largest negative environmental impacts we make as individuals. Driving is a habit, and changing our practices requires education and support. Religious institutions are a perfect venue for promoting and supporting sustainable transportation. The following questions are*

*designed to help your institution understand your transportation practices and identify areas for improvement.*

***In completing the Stewardship Transportation Audit, please record the 2-3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:***

1	Become an idle-free zone. It's a good idea! Petition the city of Foster City, or the county or the state for more idle-free zones.
2	Hold a gas-saving education event on options to reduce consumption: high-mileage vehicles, public transportation, car-pooling, trip-linking, trip-avoidance, biking, etc.
3	

# SPIRIT AUDIT

## Area 1 - Worship

*Worship is at the heart of the life of religious communities, and offers an important opportunity to deepen your members' awareness of Creation and its Creator. The following questions are designed to help you think about ways that your house of worship can integrate environmental themes into your services of worship in a manner that is suitable for your particular setting.*

<b><i>In completing the Spirit - Worship Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	Continuing with the second annual Shabbaton/camping trip
2	Having more regular opportunities to pray outside in our courtyard
3	Having quarterly services where the sermon/discussion focuses on Jewish tradition and the environment through the lens of prayer and study
4	Reviving the Tu B'shat Seder, a practice that has stopped in several years

## Area 2 - Religious Education

*Religious education programs provide opportunities to teach adults, teens and children about the wonder and majesty of Creation, our impact on it, and our tradition's teachings about the earth and our responsibility to it and its Owner. The following questions are designed to help you think about ways that your house of worship can integrate environmental themes into your religious education in a manner that is suitable for your particular setting.*

<b><i>In completing the Spirit - Religious Education Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	More regular columns/articles about Judaism and the environment. At least a monthly or every other month column about what we can do to be green friendly and conscious.
2	Involving the youth in the creation of a spice garden in the meditation garden space
3	Community wide program on recycling/composting/waste in order to educate people on how to do it and what happens to our waste.

### Area 3 - Spiritual Practices

*All houses of worship encourage and teach their members to take part in activities - such as prayer, meditation, and retreats – to strengthen their own spiritual lives. The following questions are designed to help you think about ways that your house of worship can integrate more environmental themes into the spiritual practices which your house of worship promotes, in a manner that is suitable for your setting.*

<b><i>In completing the Spirit – Spiritual Practices Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:</i></b>	
1	More frequent outdoor services
2	Creating a community spice garden in our outdoor meditation space to be used for Havdallah (ceremony at the end of Shabbat) that will be maintained by our youth
3	Creating a community farmers market with the produce that people grow in their own homes with proceeds going to charity/foodbank <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Green film series and green speaker’s series – to include fair trade founder Paul Rice, and the film Gasland, Food Inc.</li></ul>

# ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AUDIT

## Area 1 - Education

*Most people of faith are not aware that communities of color and poor communities are often exposed to serious environmental health threats. Education about these realities is an important first step in equipping religious groups to advocate effectively for environmental justice. These questions are designed to help you think about opportunities you may have in this area.*

***In completing the Environmental Justice - Education Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:***

1	Food Stamp Challenge around Thanksgiving of 2013 along with watching the film “Food Stamped” to better understand hunger and food issues in our backyard
2	EZ Market—An opportunity for congregants and locals to do a food share with produce collected from their home gardens. The idea is to ask congregants who have a fruit tree or vegetable garden to donate excess produce for congregants to enjoy at the cost of giving a donation to tzedakah (charity) that will then be donated to a Green organization (Mazon, Hazon, AJWS, etc). Leftover food will be donated to a food bank. The goals are to teach about local growing, food sustainability, community organizing and beyond.
3	The Story of Noah and The Flood: A communal study in living a greener life. What can the flood narrative of the Torah teach us about the choices, opportunities, and challenges we face at home, at shul, and in the broader community. This will be a weekend long study about being Green centered around Noah and the Flood.

## Area 2 - Relationships with Environmental Justice Leaders

*In growing numbers of communities of color and low-income communities, leaders are working for a healthy environment for themselves and their neighbors. Participants in the Certification Program learn to collaborate with and support these leaders, working on the issues the leaders have identified as important. These questions are designed to help you think about opportunities you may have in these areas.*

***In completing the Environmental Justice - Relationships with Environmental Justice Leaders Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:***

1	Working with American Jewish World Service connected to food, food aid, and global hunger
2	Partnering with San Mateo County Health Department in their new initiative on healthy living/eating for faith based institutions
3	Working and partnering with the local JCC to volunteer at their new social justice garden and using it as a framework for starting our own as described above

### Area 3 - Advocacy

*Environmental justice issues get solved through the creation and enforcement of more effective laws and regulations. To earn Certification, houses of worship need to get involved with some form of environmental justice advocacy for the benefit of EJ communities in the US. Congregations must also support efforts to help create healthy environments for vulnerable communities in the developing world. These questions are designed to help you think about opportunities you may have in these areas.*

***In completing the Environmental Justice - Advocacy Audit, please record the 2 -3 top ideas or priorities for action which you identified:***

1	Working with American Jewish World Service on Food Aid Advocacy
2	
3	