

Caring for God's Creation – The Environment

Churches can do much to help raise awareness of environmental issues.

An Environmental Policy was adopted by the Diocesan Synod in October 2009 to help churches engage with environmental issues and recognise their Christian responsibility to try and make a difference. The Policy was produced by a Working Group comprising both parish members and Diocesan Officers. It represents a Diocesan response both to calls from the national church via the 'Shrinking the Footprint' campaign and to help parishes 'safeguard the integrity of creation and to sustain and renew the life of the earth' (The Fifth Mark of Mission, Archbishops' Council). Parishes were consulted in the drawing up of the policy and best practice identified from other Dioceses.

The policy statement forms the core document of the environmental pack produced by the working group. It is supported by recommendations for change and a Diocesan Environmental Award Scheme designed to encourage parishes to embrace these recommendations and work towards becoming a 'greener' church. Additional resources are available to assist parishes and can also be downloaded from this page.

For more information please contact Gordon Randall, Diocesan Stewardship Adviser at gordon.randall@winchester.anglican.org or phone him 01962 737323

Internal Resources

[Diocesan Environmental Policy](#)

[Recommendations for Change](#)

[Diocesan Environmental Award Scheme](#)

[A Theological Basis for Environmental Action & Hope \(appendix 1\)](#)

[The Ecological Crisis as an Issue of Justice \(appendix 2\)](#)

[Facing the Future: Questions for the Church \(appendix 3\)](#)

[Ecology in Worship \(appendix 4\)](#)

[Resources - books, organisations, study programmes and advice, as well as parish energy audit options \(appendix 5\)](#)

External Resources

- Christian Ecology Link www.christian-ecology.org.uk
- The Conservation Foundation www.conservationfoundation.co.uk
- Speech by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Rowan Williams, 'Renewing the face of the earth: human responsibility and the environment', York Minster, 25 March 2009 [here](#)

- Parish pump website, www.parishpump.co.uk
- Shrinking the Footprint, www.shrinkingthefootprint.cofe.anglican.org