



In your own yard: install bay-friendly plans and minimize or eliminate fertilizer and pesticides from your lawn

Support a water project that aids people in third-world countries  
(<http://www.water.cc/dosomething>)

Contribute to a watershed restoration project by joining Trees for Sacred Places  
([http://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/tree\\_planting\\_program](http://www.interfaithchesapeake.org/tree_planting_program))

Install watershed friendly projects such as rain gardens on your congregation's grounds

Do a stream clean-up

Plant a tree

Do a Bible study on caring for creation

Retrofit your kitchen and bathroom

When brushing your teeth, turn off the faucet

Take a short shower instead of a bath

Only wash your clothes when you have a full load

Only wash your dishes when you have a full load

Repair any water leaks in your home

Minimize water use on outdoor landscape

Use rain barrels for watering outdoor landscape

Get more ideas from [IPC's Menu for Action](#)

Learn more from our [Awake and Arise Booklet](#) and to contact IPC



Use locally-grown and/or healthy food items at your congregation's events

Use tap water and reusable cups instead of bottled water. Invest in a filter if needed

Eat more fruits and vegetables, less meat (ie. Meatless Mondays, increasing fruit/veggie portions)

Send any leftover food home with congregants, to a food pantry, or into the compost

Don't over buy food

Use leftovers and what you have in your fridge before buying more food

Properly store food to prevent food waste

Compost food scraps in your yard

Start a community garden

Plant an orchard

Use cloth bags when food shopping

Volunteer to help glean at a local farm to support the hungry

Take a trip to a local farmer's market/buy locally grown food

Buy organic food or food grown naturally

Grow food in your church yard, home yard, or school yard

Join a food co-op

Be thankful for the food you have

Learn more from our [Awake and Arise Booklet](#) and to contact JHU's Center for a Livable Future



Order “Care for Creation” light switch reminders for your church facility from Interfaith Power and Light

Schedule a Home Energy Workshop at your church

Take out older incandescent light bulbs and put in energy-efficient compact fluorescent or LED light bulbs

Make sure insulation in your home is properly installed – seal of drafts coming from windows and door frames

Support Clean Energy through your energy bills

Reduce the energy use in your church facility

Turn off electronics when not in use

Turn off lights when you leave a room

Install motion sensors into existing outdoor lights to save energy

Get Energy Star home appliances

Keep your thermostat in the “68-78” range

Use windows and ceiling fans for cool air instead of fans and AC

Line-dry your clothes

Invite members to go solar at home

Explore solar for your congregational facility

Carpool to church, school, meetings, etc.

Take public transportation

Unless going overseas, consider taking the train for your vacation instead of a plane

Try a local vacation instead of a farther one

Learn more from our [Awake and Arise Booklet](#) and to contact IPL



Alternative Gift Fairs (resource from <https://www.newdream.org/>)

Invent lifecycle events in your congregation to use the SoKind registry for non-material, used, and donation-based gifts

Re-evaluate your work/life balance. How are you using time? How could you invest in more meaningful activities?

Host David Hart, Director of New Economy Maryland, as a speaker to educate congregations on options for actions

Recommit your community to Sabbath

Localize by investing in your economic and social life in your own community. Practice “plentitude” by focusing on things that bring joy, like family, friends, the natural world, and Christ rather than what we own or purchase.

Have a congregant join the New Economy Fellows program

Buy used furniture, supplies, clothes, etc.

Make home-made/eco-friendly products

DIY furniture

Use recyclable/biodegradable or metal/porcelain utensils and plates for events

Create an online group that allows neighbors/congregants to borrow items from each other

Clothing and yard sale swaps

Learn more from our [Awake and Arise Booklet](#) and to contact David Hart from New Economy Maryland



Switch to a community development bank for your congregation's checking

Research what your congregation owns and be transparent with your members. Identify your investment values and priorities

Explore opportunities to divest and reinvest your congregation's investment

Learn about any initiatives in your denomination to divest from fossil fuels, and explore how your church can support those efforts locally

Learn more from our [Awake and Arise Booklet](#) and to contact Fran Teplitz from Green America