

CEDAR LANE GREEN SANCTUARY COVENANT (Dec 15, 2018 update)

We commit to the following:

Congregation Policies

1. Use environmentally sustainable practices within our sacred space and the community at large
2. Create at least twice yearly worship themes and share-the-plates supportive of environmental justice, Green Sanctuary, and the health of our Cedar Lane church domain
3. Stand with the Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions in affirming our ethical and moral commitment to the health of the planet by achieving or exceeding the County's "Climate Emergency" resolution of eliminating at least 80% of greenhouse gas emissions by 2027 and more stringent goals thereafter, and lift up and attend to the many social justice issues that are inextricably tied to changes of this magnitude
4. Incorporate and promote this covenant within our church and our agreements with others who use our sacred space

Indoor Sustainability

5. Use the kitchen's reusable tableware and containers (ceramic plates, bowls, and cups, stainless flatware, etc.) and the dishwasher, for all church events if possible, and only compostable paper products if not
6. Adhere to the posted instructions throughout the church regarding proper practices, such as for recycling plastic, paper, metal, and glass in **blue** containers that are in every room, using the dishwasher, and composting food waste and other compostable materials in **green** containers
7. Avoid using styrofoam, water bottled in plastic, and other single-use items
8. Purchase and use only earth-friendly office, bathroom, and cleaning supplies
9. Organize event set-up and clean-up crews committed to this covenant
10. Use only caterers committed to this covenant

Outdoor Sustainability

11. Use reduced risk pesticides and other chemicals only after non-chemical methods have failed.
12. Recycle leaves and other natural debris onsite to the extent possible, and when necessary use county or other pickup followed by the delivery of composted material back to the grounds
13. Maintain our natural habitat with native species to the extent possible, and plant nonnative, noninvasive species of high aesthetic value only in high-use areas and close to church buildings where their beauty is easily enjoyed
14. Seek options that will help struggling species, such as with our butterfly garden

Education

15. Offer at least monthly educational/informational environmental justice movies and other activities that address environmental ethics, problems, and solutions, and interdependent aspects of justice (gender, race, immigration)
16. Offer continuing educational activities in concert with Lifespan Education to inform, prepare, and encourage our youth and adults to participate in Green Sanctuary, environmental justice events, and learning about nature and being within the interdependent web of all existence