

Project: Service Inserts

Category: Worship and Celebration

Coordinator: Various

The Green Sanctuary Committee developed a series of inserts in the Order of Service to meet several objectives:

- serve as communication of Green Sanctuary projects to congregation
- ask for feedback from congregation
- publicize upcoming events related to the topic of the month
- provide environmental resources on the month's topic
- remind congregation of the many ways Unitarians live out the Seventh Principal

Each month focused on a different topic:

January 2008 focused on environmental advocacy to align with the opening of the Washington State legislative session. The insert also followed up on Green Sanctuary tabling in December, asking congregants how they had made a Green Christmas.

Feb-March 2008 focused on gardening pesticide free to publicize our environmental advocacy project with Washington Toxics Coalition to reduce pesticide use.

April 2008 focused on transportation to align with Getting Around Green Sunday, encouraging the congregation to take less car trips. The insert included many websites of local transportation resources.

May 2008 focused on food. The insert encouraged personal (eat local) and community (sign up for a CSA) actions, and listed web sites and hours for local farmers' markets and other food resources.

UUC is Going Green!

Stay tuned throughout 2008 to Green Sanctuary insert newsletters – we need you!

Our focus in March is - Gardening Pesticide Free

Throughout 2008 we will be inviting you to join us in greening the church's practices and our own. To keep the task manageable, we plan to work our way through a series of focus areas.

Honor our 7th UU Principle today by posting a **Pesticide Free Zone** sign and declaring your support for gardening pesticide free. When you post your sign prominently in your yard, you help educate others. Toxic pesticides contaminate our water, air and soil affecting neighbors too. They're even more harmful to kids.

Why not use pesticides? Of 30 commonly use lawn pesticides:

- 19 are linked with cancer, 21 with reproductive effects, 26 with liver or kidney damage
- 15 are neuro toxic; 23 may leech into drinking water sources
- 1/3 cause endocrine disruption (affects brain chemistry, metabolism, sleep, mood, energy, etc.)
- All are sensitizers/irritants to humans; pesticides are linked to ADHD
- They can be tracked indoors, reside in carpets and inhaled 24/7

Personal Actions:

- Pick up a Pesticide Free Zone (PFZ) sign at our table today; take the PFZ pledge
- Post your Pesticide Free sign prominently in your yard
- Attend a free sustainable gardening class at UUC
- Contact Tilth's Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline professionals for free advice at 633-0224.
- Go to www.beyondpesticides.org, and WA Toxics Coalition, www.watoxics.org, for more info

Community Actions:

- Come to UUC landscape work parties so we can maintain our grounds pesticide free
- Tell 3 people about why you avoid pesticides and share sustainable gardening tips

The Green Advocacy Challenge: WHAT DID YOU DO?

Please let us know today how you participated in our Environmental Advocacy Challenge of last month by providing your input below. Then drop it in the Green Sanctuary basket as you leave the sanctuary or drop it off at the Green Sanctuary table in Nathan Johnson Hall before leaving church. Thank you!

How did you support environmental legislation?

- I wrote a letter to a legislator.
- I called a legislator and expressed my support for *Healthy WA* proposals.
- I attended a green panel or workshop? If yes, which one? _____
- I educated myself about the proposals for a *Healthy WA* legislation.
- I talked about the legislation with friends and neighbors and encouraged them to write in. [more >](#)

Green Sanctuary **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Saturday, Mar. 8, 9 am- noon: Church grounds work party. We'll weed and prune starting in the Memorial Garden. Come with questions and learn sustainable garden practices while beautifying the Church. Contact Nancy Bowen-Pope, ingldn99@hotmail.com

Sustainable Garden Workshops, Knatvoid, with Linda Chalker-Scott, WSU Extension Horticulturist.

- Mon., Mar. 10, 7 pm, Selecting Healthy Plants** – know what to look for at nurseries and plant sales. bigger is not always better.
- Mon., Mar. 17, 7 pm, Installing Your Plants** – find out the latest research on healthy planting techniques.
- Mon., Mar. 24, 7 pm, Mulching** – learn the best materials and methods to use for water retention and weed suppression. Contact Linda at lindacs@wsu.edu

Wed. Mar. 12, 7 pm: Green Sanctuary Committee Meeting
Everyone is welcome

Every Sat., 9am- 3 pm Mountains to Sound Greenway. Restoration projects and trail maintenance in parks along the I 90 corridor. www.mtsgreenway.org to sign up.

Most Sat., some Sun., Green Seattle Partnership. Work in Seattle Parks to remove invasive plants and replant natives. www.greenseattle.org/events for more info. and to sign up

April Green Sanctuary focus: Transportation

Find out more about Green Sanctuary at UUC: www.uuchurch.org/activities/social-justice/310

The Green Sanctuary REPORT BACK – Green Holidays

Congratulations UUC members! We got terrific feedback on our Holiday Challenge of making your holiday ideas earth-friendly. Here is some of your input: Many gave experiences instead of "stuff" and a number of you purchased local and fair-trade products. Yes! A good number used cloth or reusable packaging and bundled their trees for yard waste.

Other comments from the congregation we wanted to share: Passing along our green tips to others, giving donations instead of gifts, using recycled wrapping and saving it for next year, giving gift certificates to experiences.

Anything else you'd like to tell us?
