

Unitarian Universalist Church of Davis
GREEN SANCTUARY COMMITTEE CHARGE

Adopted by the Board of Trustees on February 13, 2012

Purpose

The purpose of our Green Sanctuary effort is to help us move as individuals and as a Church toward a more sustainable future—one that is respectful of Earth—and in harmony with our seventh principle of “respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.”

We concentrate on theological, spiritual and ethical aspects of human activities that affect the health and sustainability of living Earth. We seek to empower people by giving them the knowledge they need to make good decisions, the courage of community to adopt new more healthful, meaningful, and thoughtful ways of doing things, and the opportunity to incorporate our UU values into everyday life. We include joy, celebrate our UU faith, and find deeper meaning in our lives. And we expect to have great fun during the whole process. Lastly, we spread the news of our good work to others and invite them to join in our work for environmental and social justice. Our aim is to make Earth healthy again—our lives, the lives of our children, and the lives of all living things depend our good work! As a Green Sanctuary, our work will continue until Earth herself is once again a healthy Sanctuary for all.

Goals and Responsibilities

- To teach the congregation about “Green Sanctuary” on a continuing basis and to coordinate chosen projects.
- To enrich our worship and celebrations through inclusion of a joyful theology of earth justice, morality, and spiritual connection. (Worship and Celebration)
- To encourage the integration of environmental issues into worship and religious education programs for children and adults. (Religious Education)
- To help our Church to find ways to live our faith that are best for Earth as well as our community. (Religious Education)
- To build awareness of societal environmental issues among congregants and motivate them to take action to rectify environmental injustices. (Environmental Justice)
- To promote Church-wide understanding of environmental justice issues. (Environmental Justice)
- To develop and implement Church projects that rectify environmental injustices and to work with other churches and/or groups on environmental justice. (Environmental Justice)
- To work with established Church committees as well as new ones to integrate environmental practices throughout the Church that model good sustainable living practices. (Sustainable Living)
- To motivate, support, and encourage congregants in their personal and social actions for a healthy and sustainable environment. (Sustainable Living)
- To leave the world a better place for the generations to come. (Sustainable Living)

Number of Members Needed

7-12 members, at least some of whom represent other committees or interests in the Church and who will both act liaisons and catalysts to implement the goals and responsibilities of the Committee.

Membership Selection Process

Recruitment of a basic Committee and then ongoing recruitment by Committee members as needed.

Qualities and Skills Needed by Members

Members of the Committee need to be representative of the congregation as much as possible in terms of interests and

- To have a commitment to the purpose and the goals of the group.
- To be willing and able to attend monthly meetings of the Committee,
- To do a fair share of the work of the Committee, and
- To be able to work with other committees and bring people along as they learn about the work of the Committee and its projects.

Qualities and Skills Needed by the Chair or Co-Chairs

- Organization and attention to detail.
- Ability to lead meetings effectively and efficiently.

Qualities and Skills Needed by the Secretary

- Organization and attention to detail.
- Ability to keep good minutes and get them out in a timely fashion to the rest of the Committee.
- Ability to work with the Chair or Co-Chairs on the agenda.

Time Commitment

Frequency of Meetings: monthly for 1-1/2 to 2 hours. Estimated additional time (per month) for Members: 1-3 hours or more. Estimated additional time (per month) for the Chair: 2-4 hours or more. Note: Committee members are expected to attend regular Church activities and be involved with other aspects of the Church.

Terms of Office

The Committee will select the Chair or Co-Chairs and a Secretary annually. An officer may serve up to 3 years in a row. It is recommended that Committee members who have served up to 3 consecutive years consider a break of 1 or more years before rejoining the Committee.