

KEY ACTIONS

BIODIVERSITY THE WEB OF LIFE

We are completely dependent on a myriad of life forms, many too small to see with the naked eye. We are pleased to see beautiful views, and may not remember the astonishing complexity of life that goes into sustaining them. Here are some suggestions to live more ecologically.

- consider managing churchyards and burial places for wildlife and people
- promote ecological management on all church-owned lands
- support and encourage schools to create gardens and wildlife areas
- consider the environmental implications of all decisions
- turn your garden, patio, flower box, into a wildlife haven
- grow some of your own food, as much as you can

BE BOLD! support biodiversity in your local community and wider afield.

BE REALLY BOLD! biodiversity is the bottom line which guarantees our survival on Planet Earth – so let's reduce our impacts all round.

CAMPAIGNING

Churches are well placed to raise issues and can be the eyes and ears of their communities. Lobbying and campaigning for justice can be a powerful way of giving a voice to the voiceless both locally and further afield.

TRANSPORT TREAD GENTLY ON THE EARTH

We all love our personal transport but an average car emits 5 - 6 tons of carbon dioxide each year. Even a little journey therefore produces kilograms of CO². Air travel produces large amounts of CO². Is it time to ask, "Is this journey really necessary?"

- where possible use public transport more, or go by bike or walk
- car share for getting to work and for meetings
- for some meetings use video or phone conferencing
- travel less by air and offset your carbon emissions (see resources)

BE BOLD for your next car consider a hybrid energy version or one with a small efficient engine.

BE REALLY BOLD give up your car and use a car pool, or rent when you need personal transport.

ENERGY EMBRACING THE LOW-CARBON FUTURE

We are all challenged to reduce our energy footprint and to work towards becoming low carbon communities. Here are some simple and practical ways to begin to do this:

- be mindful of saving energy
- ensure your property/ church is well insulated to minimise heat-loss
- turn off standby lights at night on appliances
- reduce energy consumption by using low energy light bulbs wherever possible
- consider choosing a renewable (green) energy tariff from your utility

BE BOLD consider producing your own alternative energy – for instance solar, bio-mass, wind, ground-source heat etc.

BE REALLY BOLD for any new accommodation embrace eco-efficiency and reduce build & materials life-cycle carbon emissions.

WATER CONSERVE WATER RESOURCES

In the UK water seems to be plentiful. In fact this is not the case and some parts of the country are becoming much drier with serious consequences. For instance, in maintaining supplies water is often abstracted from rivers, which then damages wildlife. Here are some practical ways of reducing demand:

- install water meters
- put water 'hippos' in old cisterns
- stop taps dripping
- shut off the tap whilst cleaning your teeth
- when running the hot tap, collect the water you would otherwise waste
- don't overfill the kettle
- have showers in preference to baths
- harvest rainwater for gardening

BE BOLD consider a grey water system for your home.

BE REALLY BOLD install a dry compost loo.

WASTE NO PLACE TO THROW ANYTHING AWAY

The UK recycles less waste than most of its European partners. Waste is a very serious problem with landfill sites running out and illegal exportation of waste. Here is the well known 'waste hierarchy' as a guide to practical action:

- 1 **reduce** the amount of waste produced
 - 2 **re-use** waste material wherever practical
 - 3 **recycle** plastic /paper & magazines/ glass/ cardboard/ clothes/ metal for collection, or take to the local recycling depot
- compost kitchen vegetable waste for the garden
 - compost garden waste or give it to your Local Authority

BE BOLD become frugal and thrifty and buy less.

BE REALLY BOLD opt for the big lifestyle change to enhance GDH (Gross Domestic Happiness) rather than GDP (Gross Domestic Product).

PURCHASING CONSUME SUSTAINABLY AND RESPONSIBLY

As consumers our choices matter. We have the power to pollute and destroy, but also the power to influence the big decisions made by business and scientific entrepreneurs whose prosperity depends upon responding positively to our choices and preferences. Their decisions are vital to the well-being of our planet, and we can affect those decisions by the responsible choices we make as purchasers and consumers. Here are some suggested guidelines:

- follow the LOAF principles where possible and appropriate–
 - Locally produced
 - Organically grown
 - Animal friendly
 - Fairly traded
- where possible support the LM3 principle (Local Multiplier) – local expenditure in local business puts money in local pockets, which is then spent locally and so on
- where possible look for sustainable products e.g. recycled paper, recycled loo rolls, wood & wood products from certificated sustainable forests, environmentally friendly paints and other building products, environmentally friendly washing detergents, softeners etc., and avoid fossil fuel-based products
- we should always be mindful of fair trade and the exploitation of labour

BE BOLD change your savings, investments, mortgage and pension to an ethical provider.

BE REALLY BOLD let's ask ourselves, "is this purchase really necessary?"

Lincolnshire Churches
Environmental Framework
for Action

Lincolnshire Churches
Environmental Framework
for Action



sustain and renew the life of the earth
PROSPECTUS FOR ACTION



INTRODUCTION

The case for global warming and environmental disaster is now widely accepted, and even if we are unduly pessimistic, the prospectus for action detailed in the Environmental Framework will have a claim on us as Christians. This is because effective stewardship of resources entails the minimising of waste, commitment to justice and respect for God's gifts in Creation.

The actions enjoined upon us here are spiritual imperatives as well as making plain practical sense. At the heart of it all is the willingness to reorder our priorities, re-assess our values and change our behaviour accordingly. These are things Christians should take in their stride. After all, we make much of repentance and renewal when we celebrate our faith in the Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion, so our celebration of the sacrament of Creation should bear the same marks of conversion and commitment to new ways of living.

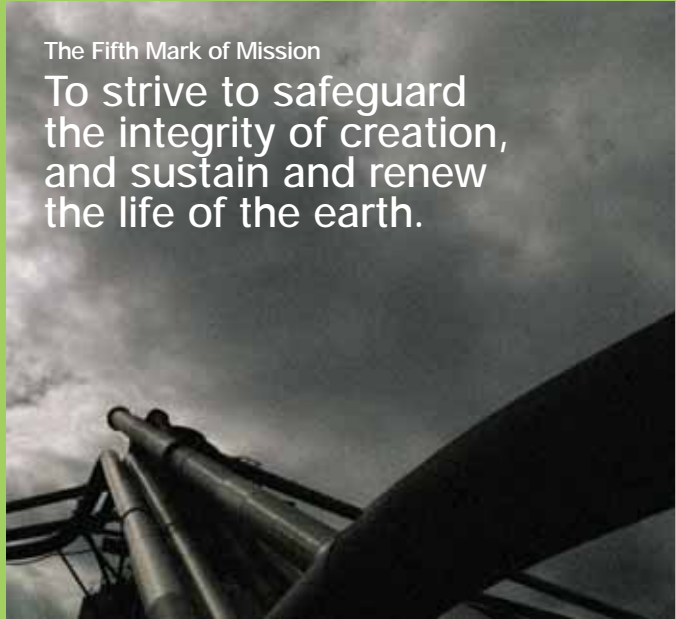
These are indeed practical suggestions, and most of us can implement most of them. We are greatly mistaken if we do nothing because we think our little can make little difference. When all of us do what we can to implement this agenda for change, we can significantly impact on the current culture of waste, degradation and unsustainable consumption.

Ours is the world God came to serve and to save in Jesus Christ, and ours is the responsibility for ensuring that God's love for our world is reflected in careful and considerate stewardship.

+ *John Lincoln*

The earth dries up and withers,
the world languishes and withers
the heavens languish together
with the earth.
The earth lies polluted
under its inhabitants:
for they have transgressed the laws,
violated the statutes
broken the everlasting covenant.

Isaiah 24 verses 4-5 (NRSV)



The Fifth Mark of Mission
To strive to safeguard
the integrity of creation,
and sustain and renew
the life of the earth.

Sustainable Development is development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The Brundtlandt Report – Our Common Purpose 1986

The Lincolnshire Churches Environmental Framework for Action sets out a number of key actions but does not attempt to make comprehensive recommendations. It is firmly founded on the pragmatic Christian responsibility to care for creation and embraces the well-known Brundtlandt interpretation of sustainable development.

The actions are meant to apply in the broadest sense to the Churches as organisations with committees and boards, to individual churches, and to individuals for whom there is arguably the most flexibility of choice. The Framework therefore invites commitment both corporately and individually and recommends the actions as a guide to decision making. The Key Actions are divided into six sections – energy, transport, water, waste, purchasing and biodiversity, but of course they are all interconnected. For instance, buying less will mean less waste, less transportation and less energy and water in the process, and reduced impacts on biodiversity.

Some useful information is provided at the end to help follow up the suggestions. Supporting Fact Sheets on the Key Actions can be obtained from the CTAL Office and website (see resources).

RESOURCES

CTAL OFFICE & CHAPLAIN FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Church House, The Old Palace, Lincoln LN2 1PU
T: 01522 504072 E: terry.miller@lincoln.anglican.org

A ROCHA UK

Reverend David Bookless, Director
1 Lancaster Road, Southall, Middlesex UB1 1NP
E: Dave.Bookless@arocha.org W: www.arocha.org

CARBON TRUST

W: www.carbontrust.co.uk

CAFOD

W: www.cafod.org.uk

CARBON CALCULATOR

Calculates your CO2 emissions
W: www.CO2.org

CHRISTIAN AID

W: www.christian-aid.org.uk

CHRISTIAN ECOLOGY LINK (CEL)

Laura Deacon, Information Officer
CEL, 3 Bond Street, Lancaster LA1 3ER
T: 01524 33858 E: info@christian-ecology.org.uk
W: www.christian-ecology.org.uk

CLIMATE CARE

Offsetting your air travel
W: www.climatecare.org

CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

1 Kensington Gore, London SW7 0AR
T: 020 7591 3111 F: 020 7591 3110
E: info@conservationfoundation.co.uk
W: www.conservationfoundation.co.uk

ECO-CONGREGATION

Eco-congregation co-ordinator (England and Wales)
The Arthur Rank Centre, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire CV8 2LZ
T: 024 7685 3061 E: ecocongregation@rase.org.uk
W: www.ecocongregation.org

ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

Calculates your ecological footprint.
W: www.myfootprint.org

ENERGY SAVING TRUST

Set up by the Government after the Earth Summit at Rio in 1992.
W: www.est.org.uk

ENVIROWISE

For waste issues
W: www.envirowise.gov.uk

ETHICAL INVESTMENTS

W: www.eiris.org

FAIRTRADE FOUNDATION

W: www.fairtrade.org.uk

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

W: www.foe.org

GREENPEACE

W: www.greenpeace.org

JOHN RAY INITIATIVE (JRI)

E: jri@glos.ac.uk W: www.jri.org.uk

LINCOLNSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Banovallum House, Manor House Street, Horncastle LN9 5HF
T: 01507 526667 E: info@lincstrust.org.uk
W: www.lincstrust.org.uk

LINKING ENVIRONMENT AND FARMING

W: www.leafuk.org

LOCAL AUTHORITY SUSTAINABILITY OFFICERS/ RECYCLING OFFICERS

Contact your District or Borough Local Authority Offices

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND ENVIRONMENT PROJECT (REEP)

W: www.reep.org

TEARFUND

W: www.tearfund.org

TRADE JUSTICE MOVEMENT

W: www.tradejusticemovement.org.uk

WATERAID

W: www.wateraid.org.uk

WILDLIFE GARDENING

W: www.wildaboutgardens.org

WORLD WIDE FUND FOR NATURE

W: www.wwf.org

“Nobody made a greater
mistake than he who did
nothing because he could
only do a little”

Edmund Burke (1729 - 97)

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