

## Committee Charter for “The Green Sanctuary Committee”

### **Name:**

*The Green Sanctuary Steering Team*

### **General Purpose:**

The Green Sanctuary Program provides a path for congregational study and reflection, and a call to individual and collective actions in response to environmental challenges. The Program invites our congregation to:

1. Build awareness of the significance and complexity of environmental issues;
2. Encourage personal lifestyle changes;
3. Engage in community action on environmental issues;
4. Strengthen the connection between spiritual practice and Earth consciousness; and
5. Work to heal environmental injustices.
6. Transform the culture of the UUFP so that every committee, every decision is informed by green principles.

### **Leadership and Membership:**

The Policy Board appoints Andrea D’ Amico as the chairperson. Her tenure will last until the committee is dissolved upon completion of the Green Sanctuary Program. The chairperson is authorized to recruit the necessary team members and subcommittees needed to fulfill this charter.

### **Specific Duties:**

1. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall be responsible for the assessment of the current facilities of the UUFP and a separate assessment of members for their environmental awareness, current sustainable practices, and interest or willingness to participate in activities related to specific issues using the Green Sanctuary Program manual and procedures.
2. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall create a comprehensive action plan that will:
  - A. Encourage more focus in our **worship and spiritual practices** to ground our work and deepen our relationships with each other and with Earth.
  - B. Encourage more focus in our **Religious Education** programs
    - a. Programs for our children should be designed to prepare them to live sustainably in the world, understanding they are part of nature.
    - b. Lifespan religious exploration for adults to help us understand the complexity of Earth’s systems, how our lifestyle affects those systems and how we can change to live more responsibly.
    - c. RE programs will often involve inter-generational activities that allow the children and adults to learn together, reinforcing each others’ learning.
  - C. Encourage **Earth Justice** that challenges us take action to create a just society, so that

the benefits we receive in our lives do not come at the expense of others.

- D. Have a particular impact on Earth, especially those relating to energy, landscaping, building management, waste management, transportation, food, and water. Our goal is to reduce our overall footprint on the Earth.

### **Outcome Measurements:**

1. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall raise awareness of significance and complexity of environmental issues and green principles.
2. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall successfully complete the Green Sanctuary Program and receive accreditation by UU Ministry for Earth.
3. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall produce a report for the UUFP membership to be included in the Annual Meeting Report.

### **Budget and Spending Authorities:**

The Green Sanctuary Committee is permitted to spend the amount allocated to it by the Policy Board in the revised FY 2009 budget.

### **Reporting Requirements:**

1. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall report to the Policy Board at the scheduled Policy Board meetings on its activities when appropriate.
2. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall report to the membership at the annual meeting.

### **Authorities Reserved to the Board:**

1. The Policy Board approves the Committee's charter and working budget.
2. The Policy Board may remove any person from the Committee or disband it at its discretion.

### **Relationship to Staff and other committees:**

1. The Minister is an ex-officio member of the Committee.
2. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall work with the Director of Religious Education, Music Director, Sunday Services Committee and Minister to integrate programs that will further the goals of the UUFP Green Sanctuary Committee.
3. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall coordinate with all other committees and groups to help them gauge the impact of the programs needed to receive accreditation, anticipate and resolve potential issues.
4. The Green Sanctuary Committee shall advise the Policy Board on the need for new or revised policies or bi-laws in regard to becoming a certified Green Sanctuary.