

Ten Steps Towards a Carbon Neutral Church

(You don't have to do them in this order!)

Last revised, 24th October 2005

1. Get your Church Council to agree:
 - (a) That Christians should be concerned about climate change.
 - (b) That the church has a 'duty of care' to think globally and act locally on this issue.
 - (c) To nominate a particular person to promote these Ten Steps within the church.
2. Measure your church's 'carbon footprint' (PTO).
3. Call the Energy Savings Trust on (0800) 512012, to ask for their advice on ways in which your church's energy consumption (and its energy bills!) could be reduced.
4. Install low-energy light bulbs. Put a sign beside light switches, asking people to turn them off when not in use.
5. Turn the heating thermostat down by 1°C. Reduce the amount of time that the heating is on each Sunday by 15 minutes.
6. Encourage people to share transport. Work out who travels from where, and put people in touch with each other.
7. Encourage individual church members to measure and reduce their own 'carbon footprint' (PTO). Get them to sign up for Christian Ecology Link's 'Operation Noah' campaign. For more information call (01949) 861516 or visit www.christian-ecology.org.uk/noah.
8. Get the PCC to switch its electricity supplier to a source of green electricity. Visit or phone one of the following:
www.npower.com/greenelectricity, Tel. (0800) 316 3370
www.greenenergy.uk.com, Tel. (0845) 456 9550
www.good-energy.co.uk, Tel. (0845) 456 1640
www.greenelectricity.org, to compare various green electricity suppliers
9. Get your Church Council to agree to off-set the environmental cost of the church's remaining carbon emissions by making a donation through the CarbonNeutral Campaign. Contact Charlie Henderson of the CarbonNeutral Campaign on Charlie@carbonneutralnewcastle.com or at (0191) 277 7149, or visit www.carbonneutralnewcastle.com.
10. Review these Ten Steps (especially No. 2) in a year's time.