

# **Revised Environmental Policy**

## Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater

Whereas, the Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater are committed to the principle of respect for the interdependent web of life of which we are all a part;

Whereas, there are many ways in which we can act on our commitment to this principle;

Whereas, we have a moral obligation to what we can do to live our individual and congregational lives consistent with our principles;

Now therefore, we, the members of the Unitarian Universalists of Clearwater, adopt the following policy as the policy of this congregation:

- 1. We avoid the use of single use items whenever possible particularly Styrofoam, hard plastic and aluminum foil.**
- 2. Whenever feasible and cost effective we purchase recycled paper products.**
- 3. We recycle all possible items accepted by the City of Clearwater for recycling.**
- 4. We will explore the cost, effectiveness and use of non-toxic chemicals for cleaning and other purposes.**
- 5. We encourage the frugal use of water resources.**
- 6. We will conserve electricity by setting thermostats at 82 degrees when not in use and 70 degrees (to comfort) when in use between May 1<sup>st</sup> and October 15th and 65 degrees when not in use and 70 degrees (to comfort) when in use between 10/16 and 4/30 and readjust them when leaving the area. We will turn off lights, appliances and electronics when not in use.**
- 7. We will provide vegetarian food choices at all UUC functions where food is served.**
- 8. WE will serve Fair Trade coffee (when available) at all UUC functions where coffee is served.**

2.

The Board of Trustees shall appoint a “Green Team” with the responsibility to:

1. Monitor the implementation of this policy.
2. Conduct an audit of the use of resources at UUC during the next year (June 1, 2009 to the date of the Annual Meeting in 2010).
3. Explore the steps necessary to apply for Green Sanctuary status with the UUA.
4. Educate the UUC community about environmental concerns.
5. Conduct such activities as a “Light Bulb Sunday” with the approval of the Board.
6. Report on the specific actions taken regarding this policy and make recommendations to the Board prior to the next Annual Meeting. Such report and recommendations shall be presented to the congregation at the next Annual Meeting.

This policy will be posted in prominent locations in our facilities to assure that all members, renters and guests will be made aware of our commitment to living by our principles.