

First Parish Church of Stow and Acton Environmental Policy

In keeping with the Seventh Principle of Unitarian Universalism and the 2006 UUA Statement of Conscience on the Threat of Global Warming/Climate Change, First Parish Church of Stow and Acton will seek out, adopt, and implement environmentally responsible practices that respect and protect the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

We choose to embrace a more sustainable lifestyle, consciously lightening our footprint on the earth and setting an example for others to follow.

Therefore, church members and staff, including the Board of Trustees and all committees, will strive to adopt and follow green policies and practices relating to all aspects of church life and operation.

To demonstrate our commitment to this effort the First Parish Board of Trustees agrees to the following these specific policies:

- Rethinking Purchasing: First Parish will continually strive to increase the amount of environmentally preferable products and services purchased for church use. First Parish will analyze price, quality and availability in addition to the environmental benefits;
- Reduce/Reuse: First Parish will continually strive to become more efficient in the use of energy, water and other resources for all church activities, and will reuse materials as feasible;
- <u>Recycling Collection:</u> First Parish will recycle items through our waste management contract.
- <u>Campus Improvement:</u> First Parish will use environmental factors as one of the criteria in evaluating all campus improvement activities.