Green Sanctuary Action Plan
Community Unitarian Universalist Church
2819 W. Sylvester Street, Pasco WA 93301

Action Project Selection Process:

- **Green Sanctuary Committee Meetings (identified 20 potential projects)**
- **Season of Conversation with Congregation (discussed and ranked projects)**
- **May 2010 Church Annual Meeting (Affirmed final projects listed below)**

1. WORSHIP & CELEBRATION (Min. 2 Projects At least two activities for worship, spiritual practice, and/or church community celebration)

1.1 Project Title: *Walking Meditation Service*
Project Description:
Objective: To develop a deeper connection with our local natural environment and with ourselves through guided outdoor meditation walks in our local habitats.
Plan: Walking Meditation Service at McNary Wildlife Refuge or Badger Mountain Spring wildflower hike
Timeline for Completion: The committee will work with the Worship Committee to have a spring and fall meditative walk each calendar year.
Lead: Mike Truex

1.2 Project Title: *Earth Day, Solstice or Equinox Services to highlight our connection to the Earth*
Project Description:
Objective: To create green Sunday Services to bring the UU 7th principal alive within our congregation.

Plan: Work with the Worship Committee in bringing in new guest speakers and designing services around our connection to the earth and the UU 7th principal.

Timeline for Completion: Start in September 2008.
Lead: Mike Truex

2. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROJECTS (**Min. 2 Projects** At least two religious education programs, one for children and one for adults)

2.1 Project Title: *Cinema Circle (Environmental & Spiritual)*
Project Description:
Objective: Adult RE: Watch a movie and then have a group discussion

Plan: Utilize environmental and spiritual movies as a gateway to open discussion on environmental issue.
Timeline for Completion: Hold 2 to 4 Cinema Circle shows each year.
Lead: David Comstock

2. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROJECTS (continues)

2.2 Project Title: *Northwest Earth Institute (NWEI) discussion courses*
Project Description:
Objective: Inspire the congregation to reduce their impact on the environment.

Plan: Adult RE: Use Voluntary Simplicity; or Choices for Sustainable Living to help inspire the congregation to a greener life style.
Timeline for Completion: Purchase and lead one NWEI course per year.
Lead: David Comstock

2.3 Project Title: *Add Youth group activities to RE program*
Project Description:
Objective: To expand the youth group activity promoting environmental awareness and Environmental service.

Plan: Participate in local activities to engage church youth groups in promoting environmental awareness and Environmental service. Activities might include building hiking trails on Badger Mountain, cleaning and preserving Amon Basin watershed or bird watching on Bateman Island.

Timeline for Completion: Hold 2 to 4 outdoor activities each year.
Lead: Gail Taff

3. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (**Min. 2 Projects** At least two activities addressing environmental justice issues, one of which is a long term or on-going project involving the entire congregation and carried out in collaboration with one or more groups in the broader community)

3.1 Project Title: *Fighting Hunger Project*
Project Description:
Objective: To play an active and on-going role in alleviating hunger in the Tri-Cities (Pasco, Richland, and Kennewick).

Plan: Create a competition among the churches involved in the Inter-faith group to gather food for Second Harvest.
Timeline for Completion: Create an annual food drive competition within the Inter-Faith churches within one year and then add one additional church to the competition each year there after.
Lead: Diana Shankle

3. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (continues)

3.2 Project Title: *Re-Usable Bag Project (involve CUUC youth groups)*
Project Description:
Objective: Promote the use of re-usable bags in our congregation and within our community.

Plan: Within congregation, involve the CUUC youth groups in decorating the bags and creating reminders to use the bags for car rearview mirror and home refrigerator. For community partner with City of Richland and local supermarkets for April Earth Day Event to encourage discount sale of re-usable bags and promote use of re-usable bags.
Timeline for Completion: Start within the next two years and build on the community program each year there after.
Lead: Mark Painter and David Comstock

3.3 Project Title: *Sustainable Food Project*
Project Description:
Objective: To be thoughtful in decisions regarding the purchase and use of food in the congregation's daily lives.

Plan: Promote a sustainable approach to the purchase and use of food in our daily lives and particularly at CUUC functions that involve food, e.g., Souper Sundays, potlucks, etc.
Timeline for Completion: Start this in the summer when locally grown crops are plentiful.
Lead: Diana Shankle

4. SUSTAINABLE LIVING (**Min. 4 Projects** At least four activities addressing aspects of sustainable living, including at least one energy conservation action)

4.1 Project Title: *Community Garden*
Project Description:
Objective: Create a community garden near the church.

Plan: Create a community garden near the church as a nourishing connection to nature for the congregation and for our surrounding residential neighbors.
Timeline for Completion: Within the next year find out who owns the abandon lot near church and get approval to start a community garden.
Lead: Shannon Hays-Truex

4. SUSTAINABLE LIVING (continues)

4.2 Project Title: *Church Building Energy Improvements*
Project Description:
Objective: Implement energy saving ideas from the environmental assessment and other ideas from the congregation.

Plan: Put outdoor lights on night/day sensor instead of on all the time; smart power strips for classrooms to reduce standby power use during week.
Timeline for Completion: Complete projects over the next few years as funding allows.
Lead: Frank Anderson and David Comstock

4.3 Project Title: *Paper Reduction & Only Use recycled Paper Products*
Project Description:
Objective: Use less paper and Strive to use only recycled paper (stop cutting down trees for our paper)

Plan: Encourage electronic distribution of the newsletter, minimize paper plates & cup at soup Sundays; use post consumer recycled paper products for copier, napkins, toilet paper.
Timeline for Completion: Complete projects over the next few years as funding allows.
Lead: David Comstock

4.4 Project Title: *Community solar or church solar project*
Project Description:
Objective: Promote and install solar at church and within the community.

Plan: Apply for a grant from the Bonneville Power Administration and partner with local PUDs and model after Ellensburg WA Community Solar project to create a Tri-Cities community solar project.
Timeline for Completion: Work through the grant and partnering process during the next few years.
Lead: David Comstock

5. CUUC Project Choice (**Min. 2 Projects** At least two additional activities from any of the above focus areas)

5.1 Project Title: *Organic fertilizers/ composting and other natural lawn care methods*
Project Description:
Objective: Reduce herbicide and chemical fertilizer use.

Plan: Use organic products at church and promote composting with the congregation
Timeline for Completion: Start in the fall with the organic fertilizer fro the church lawn.
Lead: John Dorian and David Comstock

5. CUUC Project Choice (continues)

5.2 Project Title: *Help Build a Habitat for Humanity House*
Project Description:
Objective: Help create more affordable housing in the Tri-Cities.

Plan: Have congregation groups help build a local Habitat for Humanity house.
Timeline for Completion: Contact Tri-Cities Habitat for Humanity and get CUUC on their volunteer list for upcoming habitat house construction projects.
Lead: David Comstock

5.3 Project Title: *CUUC magazine sharing library*
Project Description:
Objective: Create a magazine sharing library at church.

Plan: Finish cleaning out the back coat area at church and install a magazine rack for a magazine sharing library at church.
Timeline for Completion: Complete the area preparation and install the magazine racks by the end of the summer.
Lead: Mark Painter