

Environmental Website Resources – offered by the Green Team

11/10/11

Local	
1. MidAmerica Regional Council; One-stop website to learn who, what, where to recycle materials in KC.	http://www.recyclespot.org
2. Johnson County, Kansas Environmental Department, James Joerke, Director, Facilities Management James.Joerke@jocogov.org	http://ced.jocogov.org
3. Johnson County Weatherization Program Tim Dorsey, Weatherization Coordinator 913-715-6617 Tim.Dorsey@jocogov.org The Weatherization Program provides assistance to low-income residents of Johnson County in making their homes more comfortable, safe and energy efficient.	http://hsa.jocogov.housing/weatherization.html
4. Bridging the Gap Excellent resource for a variety of environmental programs and resources.	www.bridgingthegap.org
5. Efficiency Kansas, Liz Brosius, Outreach & Education Manager 785-271-3264 l.brosius@kcc.ks.gov Efficiency Kansas is a practical, low-cost loan program that helps Kansans make cost-effective, energy efficiency improvements to your home, rental unit, or small business. Efficiency Kansas provides you with a customized plan for effective energy-efficiency upgrades that are designed to make your home more comfortable, ensure indoor air quality, and reduce your energy costs all year long. The program also gives you access to low-cost financing through our partner lenders and utilities, so you won't have to break the bank to put your plan into action.	http://www.encykansas.com
6. Kansas City Power & Light KCP&L has several simple, energy-efficiency	http://www.kcpl.com

<p>programs designed to help you improve the comfort and energy efficiency in your home while lowering your monthly energy bill.</p> <p>Energy Analyzer Learn how you're using energy -- and about ways to conserve energy and save money with this interactive program.</p> <p>Home Performance w/ ENERGY STAR Home Performance certified contractors can help you cost-effectively improve your home's energy efficiency by recommending comprehensive improvements</p> <p>ENERGY STAR New Homes Energy-efficient features that deliver better performance, greater comfort, and lower utility bills</p> <p>Energy Optimizer Customers can qualify to receive a FREE Honeywell programmable thermostat -- a \$300 value -- installed in your home to start saving energy and money today!</p> <p>CFL Lightbulbs Compact fluorescent light bulbs save energy, the environment and money.</p> <p>Cool Homes A rebate program to help customers offset the cost of upgrading to high-efficiency A/C systems.</p> <p>ThermoCalc Find out how much you can save on your electric bill by simply answering a few questions about your thermostat usage. ThermoCalc will suggest cost-saving thermostat settings for your daytime, evening and overnight comfort.</p> <p>Home Energy Rating System Professional analysis and recommendations for improving your home's comfort and economy.</p>	
<p>7. Energy Star Congregations program of the Environmental Protection Agency. The website offers a free guidebook, technical support, information on awards eligibility and more.</p>	<p>www.energystar.gov/congregations</p>
<p>8. An interfaith environmental advocacy organization based in Kansas City that partners with, encourage, and assist faith groups to preach, teach, model, and advocate for sustainable living and ecological justice</p>	<p>http://sustainablesanctuary.org/</p>

<p>for all creation.</p>	
<p>9. Earth Charter Initiative is a program of the United Nations Environmental Program, and grew from the UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit) held in Rio De Janeiro in 1992. Copies of the Charter and materials for children, youth, and local community programs are available from the website.</p>	<p>www.earthcharter.org.</p>
<p>10. Earth Ministry is based in Seattle, WA. They have several useful resources, including a speakers network, resource lending library, and the Greening Congregations program. Their website lists educational materials produced by several organizations, including youth materials and their own <i>Greening Congregations Handbook</i>. The handbook is a complete "toolbox" of spiritual essays, how-tos for setting up a program, and ideas and resources.</p>	<p>www.earthministry.org.</p>
<p>11. The EarthCare Program is based upon the Path to EarthCare, a seven-step process that helps each church community to discover what Spirit calls them to do to care for our Earth home. It guides the ways by which the Path is achieved. Documents for starting EarthCare activities in churches and centers, connections for mentoring, resources list, EarthCare logo for local use, personalized support for EarthCare work in centers or Regions, etc. Email contact at earthcare@unity.org. For each step there are a few examples of possible activities and other valuable resource, which can be found in the document "Additional EarthCare Actions."</p>	<p>www.unity.org/earthcare.</p>
<p>10 Interfaith Global Warming Campaign has extensive information and links to other websites,</p>	<p>www.protectingcreation.org</p>
<p>11 Interfaith Power and Light initiative between faith communities and utility companies encourages energy efficiency, congregational covenants, and rebate programs for individuals, churches, and businesses. Programs are currently in 18 states, with the hope to establish programs in all 50 states.</p>	<p>www.theregenerationproject.org.</p>
<p>12 National Council of Churches of Christ—Eco-justice Working Group has a comprehensive on-line store of educational materials on environmental spirituality, including suggested sermon topics, Environmental Justice Congregational Covenants, and an Energy Stewardship Guide. They have website links to the environmental programs of several Christian denominations.</p>	<p>www.ncecojustice.org.</p>
<p>13 Season for Creation, founded by Norman C. Habel, the editor of the Earth Bible, a series of theological reflections on our Christian call to care for creation.</p>	<p>www.seasonforcreation.com</p>

<p>Also in the series is <i>Seven Songs of Creation</i>, a collection of liturgies for celebrating and healing Earth. The website has numerous worship resources available for free download. The Working Group has a comprehensive on-line store of educational materials on environmental spirituality, including suggested sermon topics, Environmental Justice Congregational Covenants, and an UCIE Energy Stewardship Guide. They have website links to the environmental programs of several Christian denominations.</p>	
<p>14. Unitarian-Universalist - Green Sanctuary Program website has numerous on-line resources, including energy pledges and success stories. They have two books: <i>Green Sanctuary</i> provides a framework and tools for starting a project, and <i>Nurturing the Spirit-Nature Connection</i> is a curriculum resource for children.</p>	<p>www.uuministryforearth.org</p>
<p>15. World Council of Churches / Climate change program. www.unep.org United Nations Environment Programme – Interfaith Partnership for the Environment.</p>	<p>dhallman@uccan.org</p>
<p>16. The Climate Project consists of 1,000 dedicated volunteers from throughout the United States trained to educate the public about climate change and potential solutions.</p>	<p>www.theclimateproject.org</p>
<p>17. Earthwatch Institute engages people worldwide in scientific field research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment. In their program, laymen join scientific expeditions for two weeks to assist with research in biology, sociology, and history.</p>	<p>www.earthwatch.org</p>
<p>18. Empowerment Institute: Low Carbon Diet. Reduce your carbon footprint with a fun, easy-to-use, community-based program. Materials include a book, online household calculator, and materials for children.</p>	<p>www.empowermentinstitute.net/lcd</p>
<p>19. Northwest Earth Institute has eight discussion courses for adults (healthy children, global warming, deep ecology, voluntary simplicity, sense of place,</p>	<p>www.nwei.org</p>

<p>sustainable living, globalization, and sustainable food systems). The books are available by organizing a discussion group and contacting a group coordinator; go to their website for more information.</p>	
<p>21. World Centric is a non-profit organization working to reduce economic injustice and environmental degradation through education, community networks, and sustainable enterprises Unity Churches International.</p>	<p>www.worldcentric.org</p>
<p>22. Sierra Club. The largest informational and action oriented environmental organization in the United States.</p>	<p>http://www.sierraclub.org</p>
<p>23. <i>Plan B 3.0</i> by Lester Brown and published by the Earth Policy Institute. A report on the conditions of water, oil, atmosphere, soil, and food on the earth and the outline of a plan to restore the earth to a carrying capacity that would work for everyone. Available online in downloadable format (pdf) at no cost.</p>	<p>http://www.earth-policy.org/Books/PB3/Contents.</p>
<p>24. <i>Greening Congregations Handbook: stories, ideas, and resources for cultivating creation awareness and care in your congregation.</i> Available from Earth Ministry. It includes resource lists by denominations (also interdenominational), plus an appendix of curricular aids, annotated bibliography of books, and a song bibliography.</p>	<p>www.earthministry.org</p>
<p>Deals with Climate Change. Bill McKibben is the founder and primary communicator. 350 parts per million is what many scientists, climate experts, and progressive national governments are now saying is the safe upper limit for CO₂ in our atmosphere.</p> <p>Accelerating arctic warming and other early climate impacts have led scientists to conclude that we are already above the safe zone at our current 392ppm, and that unless we are able to rapidly return to below 350 ppm this century, we risk reaching tipping points and irreversible impacts such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and major methane releases from increased permafrost melt.</p>	<p>http://www.350.org</p>



A positive path for spiritual living.