

Parkdale United Church - Guidelines on Environmental Responsibility

Rationale: As part of our Christian values, we are called on to steward the Earth and all its resources, or as stated in the United Church of Canada New Creed,

*... We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, ...*

In practical terms this involves reducing our ecological footprint to the extent possible and practicable and taking whatever steps are necessary to avoid adding to the burdens we now place on the environment.

To that end, all Parkdale committees and organizations, as well as any outside organization using the facilities of Parkdale United, are asked, where feasible and practical, to observe the following guidelines:

- 1) At events involving the consumption of food, avoid the use of non-compostable supplies, such as Styrofoam and plastic.
- 2) Separate refuse into streams that allow for recycling or composting. For compostable food waste:
 - a) Individuals involved with events are asked to take such items home and recycle them through the residential compost-waste pickup program; or
 - b) Store in the compostable bins and place on Parkdale ave, close to Abbey House for pick up under the City of Ottawa's regular recycling / compost program.
- 3) Purchase goods and supplies from environmentally responsible suppliers. When purchasing paper products, give preference to items that contain recycled fibre or that have been produced through an ecologically sensitive process.
- 4) Routinely encourage, to the degree feasible, the three Rs of recycling - Reduce, Reuse and Recycle - by members of their organizations.
- 5) With respect to items that could constitute an environmental hazard (e.g. compact fluorescent light bulbs, batteries, printer cartridges, etc.) dispose of these responsibly by returning them to recycle depots or vendors and not through routine (e.g. household) disposal methods.
- 6) Take advantage of any appropriate opportunities, as they present themselves, to help educate their members and/or participants regarding the scriptural basis for these types of actions.

**Parkdale United Church - Guidelines on Environmental Responsibility Scriptural
References - Selected Verses from the New International Version**

1. [Psalm 24:1](#) : The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.
2. [Colossians 3:23](#) : Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.
3. [1 Corinthians 4:2](#) : Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.
4. [Titus 1:7-9](#): Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—not overbearing, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain. ⁸ Rather, he must be hospitable, one who loves what is good, who is self-controlled, upright, holy and disciplined. ⁹ He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.
5. [Acts 20:35](#): In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'
6. [Leviticus 19:9-10](#) : When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.¹⁰ Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.
7. [1 Timothy 6:6-10](#) : But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and^[a] we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.
8. [Deuteronomy 10:14](#): To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it.
9. [Job 41:11](#): Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me.
10. [Exodus 19:5](#): Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine.
11. [Revelation 22:13](#): I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.