

# Living into the Covenant

A list of practical ways to live into the Green Camp Covenant:

1. *When making decisions about how to use the lands, consider the sacred nature of the land as part of God's creation.*
  - Make as little change to natural lands as possible—work around trees and open areas and make any new additions fit into the available space, not the other way around
  - Do not put down any permanent cover, such as pavement or concrete
  - When developing programs, build nature discussions in with references to the Bible stories
2. *To conserve energy in as many ways as possible.*
  - Use low-voltage lights
  - When replacing appliances, purchase the most energy-efficient possible
  - Plan activities and meals to utilize available daylight as much as possible
3. *To practice conservation in our use of water.*
  - Install low-flow toilets
  - Install low-flow shower heads and taps
  - Fix any leaks immediately to conserve water
  - When cooking vegetables, reuse the water (broth) for a soup base
4. *To practice conservation of our soil resources, protect groundcovers and keep them as natural as possible.*
  - Do not clear off groundcover and convert to gravel or pavement
  - Identify paths, if possible, so one area gets heavier use and the rest is left alone
  - Prevent erosion on roads around buildings
5. *To recycle our waste in as many ways as possible, seeking to achieve sustainability.*
  - Recycle all materials possible (paper, cans, etc.)
  - There is no such place as “away” when you discard things—see if any of the material can be recycled
  - Serve food to campers rather than let them serve themselves; their eyes are often bigger than their stomachs, which leads to waste
  - Incorporate leftovers into future meals
6. *To reduce organic waste by composting, adding soil back to the earth.*
  - Make a compost pile or see if scraps would be of interest to someone else
7. *To purchase environmentally sustainable products as recognition that our lifestyles and consumer decisions have profound environmental and justice impacts on God's creation.*
  - Look for green certification or labelling when buying products
  - Buy as little pre-packaged food or materials as possible
  - Buy only what you need and use it all
8. *To continue to educate those who use our camp and education centres about the sacred and to teach them how to live in recognition of this sacredness.*
  - Use every opportunity to work with schools and church groups
  - Make posters for those renting to see
  - Write a newsletter
9. *To embody these strategies and commitments at home and beyond the camp or education centre environment.*
  - Walk the talk when at home or the office—it is the same world as the camp is in and needs as much or more attention

*The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada.*

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