



# GREENFAITH-ENERGY SHIELD CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

## CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PLEDGE

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Name of individual or household: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address of congregant signing the CCMP: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell or other phone number of congregant signing the CCMP: \_\_\_\_\_

I/we have decided to enroll in the GreenFaith-Energy Shield program after reviewing the Checklist that describes steps I/we can take to reduce my/our home/apartment's carbon footprint and to more generally help mitigate the effects of climate change.

I understand that by signing the CCMP, I/we have agreed to:

1. Select and commit to working on five out of the 10 categories on the Checklist. I understand that actions I/we already undertaken can be counted toward no more than three of the five categories.
2. Complete at least two of the suggested actions listed in each of the five categories selected;
3. Complete, or be on the path to completing, the ten identified tasks by September 21, 2017;
4. Sign and return my/our completed Checklist to the TI reception desk by September 21, 2017. Please make a copy to keep for yourself.

THANK YOU for doing your part to help protect the earth by enrolling in TI's campaign to earn the GREENFAITH-ENERGY SHIELD credential. Rosh Hashanah begins on September 20 and there is no better birthday gift for the earth than honoring the Torah's commandment to protect and preserve it. Web-based resources and individual consultations for those signing the CCMP will be available after May 1. QUESTIONS? Email Joan Rachlin at [rachlinj@aol.com](mailto:rachlinj@aol.com)

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Signature

Print your name

Date signed

Please return the signed pledge form by email (scan and send to Joan Rachlin at [rachlinj@aol.com](mailto:rachlinj@aol.com)) or by dropping it off at the Temple Israel reception desk. We will be welcoming new "Pledgers" through the end of August. If you are able and willing to complete the checklist by the end of August please sign the pledge and join us in this important campaign to earn the Energy shield. Thank you. Please note that this campaign is aspirational, motivational, and educational and no penalties or judgments will attach for those who do not complete the ten actions.

## CHECKLIST FOR TI CONGREGANTS

Thank you for considering participation in Temple Israel's effort to earn the Energy Shield certification! Temple Israel has made a major commitment to lowering the carbon emissions from our building and to more broadly improving sustainability efforts, but in order to receive the Energy Shield, 15% of our congregants must do the same at home.

As we know, "**CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL, IT'S US, IT'S BAD, SCIENTISTS AGREE**, and most importantly, **THERE'S HOPE!** (Anthony Lieserowitz, Yale Climate Communications Project). Collectively we caused the problem, but individually we feel powerless and unaccountable (Dale Jamieson, NYU). Even when we accept the reality, we're afraid of what a solution entails, but you **can make a difference** and it's not hard, expensive, annoying, or risky. Here's your road map to beginning that journey:

Review the Checklist and **select five out of the 10 categories**. Once you have identified five categories, choose at least **two suggested actions from each**. Please use the following Checklist to document your efforts. Actions already undertaken can be **counted toward no more than three** of the five categories.

It can be overwhelming to take those first steps. For each question, consider which actions take priority and the ways in which you/your family can make them come to life? TI Green Team members are available to answer questions, provide guidance, and share web-based resources. Email Joan Rachlin at [rachlinj@aol.com](mailto:rachlinj@aol.com) to set up a consultation with a Green Team member.

One final note: You will see below that the **Three R's—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** (in order of importance) -- are not one of the ten categories because we assume that most of you are already active practitioners of those hallowed principles. Thank you for remaining devoted reducers, reusers, and recyclers!

**Category 1: Change lighting to LEDs** – We recommend your selection of this category because LED bulbs save 7/8 of electricity as compared with standard bulbs. This can lead to a 2/3 reduction in home lighting energy.

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Replace all bulbs in your home or apartment with LEDs – begin by replacing those lights that are on for at least an hour per day			
Recycle CFLs at Home Depot, Lowe's, or at your town's Dept. of Health (in most MA communities)			
Don't wait to replace CFL bulbs until they burn out. The energy saved by replacing them more than makes up for removing and recycling your CFLs.			

**Category 2: Replace your thermostats with "smart" thermostats** – We recommend your selection of this category because smart thermostats produce dramatic reductions in energy usage.

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
If you have a <a href="#">programmable thermostat</a> , program it to minimize overheating or overcooling your house when no one is home.			
<a href="#">MASS SAVE</a> will install smart thermostats for \$50 each (that includes the thermostat <i>and</i> installation) <a href="http://www.masssave.com/en/residential/heating-and-cooling/offers/wireless%20thermostat%20and%20installation%20incentive">http://www.masssave.com/en/residential/heating-and-cooling/offers/wireless%20thermostat%20and%20installation%20incentive</a>			
Establish 10-15 degree setbacks at night or when not at home			
Set thermostat 2-3 degrees lower/higher (depending on season) when at home			

**Category 3: Improve the efficiency of your heating and cooling systems**

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Arrange a <a href="#">MASS SAVE</a> Home Energy Audit and consider pursuing other energy savings actions based on their recommendations; please note that you can request a new audit every two years -- <a href="http://www.masssave.com">www.masssave.com</a>			
Calculate total energy usage for past year by using one of these sites, all of which are available free of charge: <a href="http://www.footprintnetwork.org/resources/footprint-calculator">http://www.footprintnetwork.org/resources/footprint-calculator</a> ; <a href="https://www.terrapass.com/carbon-footprint-calculator">https://www.terrapass.com/carbon-footprint-calculator</a> <a href="http://www.masssave.com/en/residential/home-energy-assessments/about-home-energy-assessments/online-home-energy-assessment">http://www.masssave.com/en/residential/home-energy-assessments/about-home-energy-assessments/online-home-energy-assessment</a>			
Obtain your energy from a Green Energy Supplier (Please check with your town or city, in that some offer 100% renewable energy as an "opt in" program. Mass Energy provides 50% or 100% local renewable power at a marginal extra cost, but the extra charge is tax deductible.)			
Schedule an appointment to have heating/cooling system tuned and regularly change your filters			
Depending on the season and temperature, draw blinds and drapes to block sun in summer and cold in fall/winter/spring			
Clear furniture from heating and cooling registers			
Maintain ductwork by checking for leaks – Signs of possible leakage are uneven room temperatures, rising energy bills, more dust in your living space			



**Category 4: Caulk, insulate, weather strip, etc.** - We recommend your selection of this category because these items produce dramatic reductions in energy usage by sealing air leaks.

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Caulk where needed -- <a href="https://energy.gov/energysaver/caulking">https://energy.gov/energysaver/caulking</a>			
Insulate <a href="https://energy.gov/energysaver/insulation">https://energy.gov/energysaver/insulation</a>			
Weather strip older windows and ill-fitting doors <a href="https://energy.gov/energysaver/weatherstripping">https://energy.gov/energysaver/weatherstripping</a>			
Put heat reflectors between radiators and walls			

### Category 5: Be Appliance Smart

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Unplug unused appliances; use power strips to shut off multiple appliances			
Clean clothes dryer lint trap, dry full loads, or line dry clothing			
Adjust refrigerator to 'normal' setting			
Adjust refrigerator to "normal" setting and move at least 3 inches from the wall			
Purchase ENERGY STAR appliances when replacing older appliances			
Turn off lights when you leave a room or install a dimmer or occupancy sensor			

### Category 6: Save Hot Water

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Lower hot water temperature to 110 or 115 degrees			
Fix any leaks (even cold water) as there is an energy cost to pumping and filtering potable water and then processing wastewater			
Insulate first few feet of heated water out pipe			
Wash clothes in cold water and wash only full loads			
Wash dishwasher on full load; scrape dishes instead of rinsing			

### Category 7: Kitchen and Food Waste

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Reduce your meat consumption by eating one less meat meal per week			
Consider composting by purchasing a backyard composter or by contracting with a company (e.g., Bootstrap, Save that Stuff, etc.)			
Join a Community Supported Agriculture program (CSA)			
Buy locally grown food at farmers markets or other local purveyors; avoid products, especially meat, produced by conventional, commercial farms			
Reduce your food waste by 10%, in part by making better use of leftovers			

## Category 8: Solar

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Familiarize yourself with rebates, incentives, and <a href="#">solar providers</a> <a href="http://www.masscec.com/get-clean-energy/residential/solar">http://www.masscec.com/get-clean-energy/residential/solar</a>			
Newton residents can explore the City's solar initiative - <a href="https://www.greennewton.org/newton-goes-solar/">https://www.greennewton.org/newton-goes-solar/</a> or <a href="http://www.NewtonGoesSolar.org">www.NewtonGoesSolar.org</a>			
Contact a <a href="#">solar provider</a> to see if your roof is suitable for solar panels <a href="http://www.masscec.com/get-clean-energy/residential/solar">http://www.masscec.com/get-clean-energy/residential/solar</a>			
If you live in a rental apartment, talk with other tenants and mobilize support for approaching the landlord about exploring the installation of solar			

## Category 9: Transportation

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Consider replacing a vehicle getting the current average of 21.4 mpg with one that gets more, preferably an electric or hybrid car			
Keep your tires inflated to the recommended air pressure, or consider buying new tires that minimize wasted energy			
Reduce your driving over 70 mph by 25% and reduce aggressive driving (making hard stops and starts, and speeding far above posted speed limits) by 25%			
Reduce your car mileage by approximately 10 miles per week by biking, walking, taking public transit, carpooling, or telecommuting.			
Fly 10% less; if travel is unavoidable, purchase carbon offsets for your trips. There are many places where carbon offsets can be purchased, including <a href="#">The Nature Conservancy</a> <a href="https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/urgentissues/global-warming-climate-change/help/carbon-offset-program-frequently-asked-questions.xml">https://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/urgentissues/global-warming-climate-change/help/carbon-offset-program-frequently-asked-questions.xml</a>			

## Category 10: Lobbying and Advocacy

Suggested Actions	Deadline	Who's Responsible	Completed?
Become involved in a climate change organization, including Temple Israel's Green Team, Mothers Out Front, Jewish Climate Action Network, MA Interfaith Power and Light, <a href="http://350mass.org">350mass.org</a> , etc.			
Participate in legislative lobbying activities on issues affecting climate change			
Attend demonstrations on climate change issues starting with the Climate March in Washington DC on April 29 – Contact Joan Rachlin ( <a href="mailto:rachlinj@aol.com">rachlinj@aol.com</a> ) if you would like to march with the TI contingent.			
Sign petitions			

I hereby state that I have met my commitment to the Climate Mitigation Pledge by choosing five categories and taking two of the suggested actions in each. Signed and dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of 2017.

