

'Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.'



Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

Earth Day Sunday

April 23, 2006

***Unitarian Universalist
Fellowship of Visalia***



Reduce Your Carbon Footprint

**A new partnership with
Carbonfund.org provides UUs
with a simple and effective way
to address global warming**



Global Warming



Global warming is changing our global climate because of the build-up of carbon dioxide emissions from the burning of fossil fuels.



What Causes Global Warming?

- We do!
 - Electricity use - generates carbon dioxide (CO₂) from power plants
 - Vehicles
 - Airplanes
 - Home heating & fireplaces
 - Our food - methane from livestock
 - Consumption - clothes, food, paper & wood products, electronics - everything is made using energy which contributes to climate change.



A Moral Crisis



- Global warming is an urgent moral crisis that demands unprecedented changes in how we live our lives.
- Yet, most of us cannot immediately give up our cars & some air travel, or, remodel our homes with alternative energy options for heat and electricity.



What Can We Do?

As we work for energy efficiency at home and the workplace, and try move our society as rapidly as possible towards sustainable solutions, what can we begin to do right now?



We Can Reduce our Carbon Footprint to Zero

1. Determine how much carbon is produced in our daily activities.
2. You can then offset that carbon with dollars that can be used to support the development of renewable energy sources.
3. Help build positive change!



We Can Be Part of the Solution!

Aside from working to change our lifestyles, we can all be part of the solution to reduce CO₂.



Buy Green Power



- California rescinded energy deregulation, so we cannot buy green power locally.
- But, we can buy **carbon offsets!**
- Sometimes called:
 - “Renewable Energy Certificates”
 - “Green Tags”
- These offset our energy use from fossil fuels.



What are Carbon Offsets?

Carbon offsets represent the reduction of CO₂ in one location to offset the CO₂ produced in another, like your home or car.



Example

For instance, a clean, zero CO₂ wind farm in Kansas can offset the carbon dioxide produced by a natural gas or coal-fired power plant near your home.



Reduced Cost = Faster Expansion of Renewables

Carbon offsets help reduce the cost of clean, renewable energy, which further helps develop the technology.



Easy, Effective, and Inexpensive

Carbon offsets are a very affordable and effective means for you as an individual - and for organizations such as our UU congregations - to reduce the threat of climate change.



How Much to Offset?

- The average American is directly responsible for about 10 tons of CO₂ annually from their home, car and air travel.
- Adding typical consumer consumption, it all adds up to 18 to 24 tons for our entire impact.
- If you wish, you can calculate *your* specific individual footprint.



Your Cost

Replacing 18 tons of CO₂ per year amounts to about \$4.58 - \$8.25 *per month* to offset your climate footprint.

This money supports renewable energy and efficiency projects.



Direct Providers

- www.renewablechoice.com
- www.nativenenergy.com
- www.newwindenergy.com
- www.sterlingplanet.com
- www.3phases.com
- Cooperatives
 - www.greentagsusa.org
 - www.terrapass.com



'Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.'

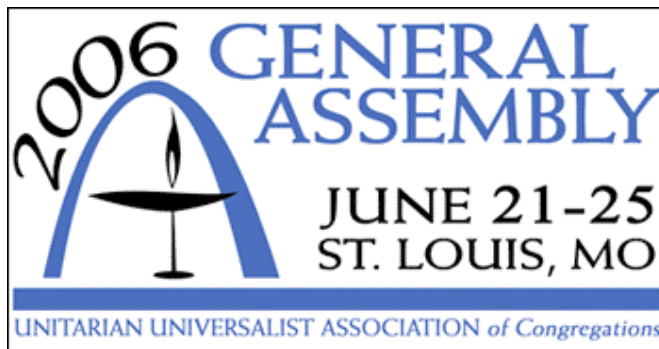


Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth

UU Ministry for Earth invites congregations to offset all or some portion of their annual carbon footprint as a powerful eco-justice action and religious witness for Earth through their partnership with [Carbonfund.org](https://www.carbonfund.org).



Carbonfund.org at UUA 2006 GA



- Carbonfund.org will provide education and carbon offset opportunities for the UUA 2006 General Assembly.
- The primary goal is to make the entire event carbon neutral on a voluntary basis.
- Each participant is encouraged at registration to contribute a tax deductible \$6 to offset their carbon footprint at the event.
- The contribution will go towards supporting projects in renewable energy and energy efficiency.



Carbonfund.org reduces CO₂ for just \$5.50 per ton.

And this is tax-deductible.



What is Carbonfund.org?

- Carbonfund.org is a Maryland-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded by Unitarian Universalists.
- As a nonprofit, overhead costs are lower and so it is able to purchase and retire carbon for less cost than others.
- Its carbon-offset programs are supported by groups such as the National Wildlife Federation, Working Assets, and the Unitarian Universalist Association.



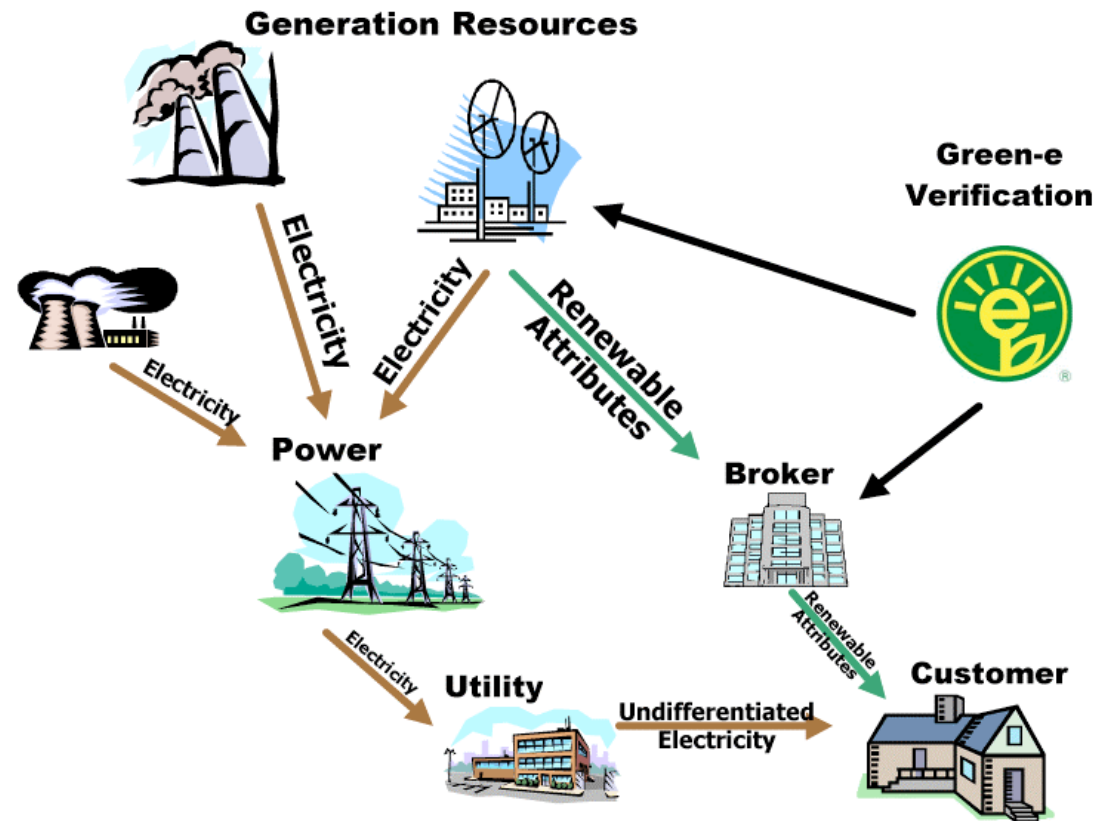
Certification

Carbonfund.org supports only high quality alternative energy projects certified by groups such as Green-e and Environmental Resources Trust.



Green-e Certification

www.green-e.org



Some carbonfund.org projects

- Wind Power
 - Rosebud Sioux Wind Turbine - South Dakota
 - Elk River Wind - Kansas
 - Weatherford Wind Energy Center - Oklahoma

- Solar
 - Bishop Ranch Solar Project - California
 - The project produces 80 MW of power annually at the Bishop Ranch Veterinary Center. It is the first commercial business in San Ramon to be a self-generator of electricity. The energy generated by these solar panels will prevent the production of 236,000 pounds of carbon dioxide annually.



Biomass Digester

- Biomass Digester -
Inland Empire Utility Agency – California
 - This project takes cow manure, breaks it down and converts it into methane, which is then used to generate electricity. That electricity is then used to power a desalination plant to provide clean water for thousands of people in the area.



Energy Efficiency Projects

- Chicago Climate Exchange Credits
 - These credits are the result of industrial energy efficiency improvements by their members that have reduced their emissions from a 1998-2001 baseline.
 - By purchasing and retiring these credits Carbonfund is reducing these companies ability to emit or sell them.



Reforestation Projects

- **Gallatin National Forest – Montana**
 - Carbonfund is supporting the planting of pine, spruce and other indigenous conifers suitable for the region.
- **Ozark National Forest - Arkansas**
 - Carbonfund is supporting tree plantings of primarily red oak trees in areas of the forest that have been damaged by the red oak borer.
- **Sequoia National Forest - California**
 - The forest suffered significant damage in the McNally fire of 2002, which burned over 150,000 acres.
- **Six Rivers National Forest - California**
 - Carbonfund.org is supporting tree planting of douglas-fir and ponderosa pine in an area of old timber growth that was burned by the Sims Fire in 2004.



Your Choice

- You can choose the type of projects you would like to support:
 - Wind Energy
 - Energy Efficiency
 - Reforestation
- Or support the entire range of projects



Your Offsets Benefit UU Ministry for Earth

When UUs choose to offset their energy consumption through this partnership, 7% of your donation will be used to support the [UU Ministry for Earth](#).



UU Ministry for Earth

- Sponsors the Green Sanctuary program
- Advocates for sustainable UUA practices
- Develops and distributes resources for worship and education related to the UU Seventh Principle: “respect for the interdependent web of all creation of which we are a part.”
- Receives no UUA funding - so our support is really important!



How to participate

- Go to: www.carbonfund.org



Calculate Your Carbon Footprint



Carbon Calculator				Assumptions
<small>(Note: per person avg. in parentheses)</small>				Reset
Home / Office		Transportation		
# of People	<input type="text" value="1"/>		Miles/yr	Miles/gal
Electricity	<input type="text" value="4950"/> kWh/yr (4950)	Vehicle 1	<input type="text" value="12500"/>	<input type="text" value="25"/>
Natural gas	<input type="text" value="284"/> therms/yr (284)	Vehicle 2	<input type="text" value="12500"/>	<input type="text" value="25"/>
Heating oil	<input type="text" value="0"/> gal/yr (221)	Air travel	<input type="text" value="10000"/>	
CARBON FOOTPRINT Tons CO2/year		CARBON OFFSET COST Year Month		
Direct	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	DONATE NOW!
Zero Carbon	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

Or Choose a Typical Offset

- **Vehicle \$27.50 per year | (\$4.58 / month)**
The average car on the road is responsible for about 5 tons of CO2 per year.
- **Direct Emissions \$55.00 per year**
This includes the electricity and heat you use in your house, your car and air travel. The average American is directly responsible for about 10 tons of carbon dioxide annually.
- **Zero Carbon \$99.00 per year (\$8.25 / month)**
The average climate impact is 24 tons of CO2 per year, 2.5 times our direct use. Carbonfund's minimum required for Zero Carbon is 18 tons of carbon offset.
- You will receive a special Zero Carbon certificate.



Contribute Online

When filling out the contribution form, make sure to choose 'UUMFE' as the referral you provide.



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Unitarian Universalist
Ministry for Earth

“You can’t be a beacon if
your light don’t shine!”

- Donna Fargo

