

EMT

Environmental Ministry Team

Congregational Church of Needham



The EMT leads efforts to help members strive to be stewards of God's creation by informing, transforming and living the "green" way. The team offers educational opportunities, and promotes ideas that encourage people to live on God's earth in harmony with all creatures. The team also works on the implementation of "Green Congregation" action steps (<http://www.macucc.org/greengregations>), as defined by the Mass Conference, in our church community and building.

The Congregational Church of Needham was awarded "Green Congregation" status from Massachusetts Conference Environmental Ministries

EMT meets every month: Please join us in this mission!!

Small sampling of what EMT has accomplished so far:

Church Building Management Committee accomplished the following with EMT partnership.

- **Lighting:** 2009- NSTAR survey: Almost all of the light bulbs with low energy bulbs.
- **Insulation:** NSTAR heat/insulation audit: NSTAR installed approximately seven truckloads of insulation, (75% of cost was subsidized).
- **2010: Heating system improvements** in old part of building, to be more efficient. **Huge Heating system renovation 2015:** EMT partnered with Church Building Management committee - new boilers/switch to natural gas- estimate decrease in 33,000 lbs. carbon footprint with cost savings

Additional EMT accomplishments:

- **International Day of Climate Action:** We participated in an interfaith project to focus attention on Climate Change and **350** A church team sealed windows in our building, to reduce the loss of heat.
- **10% Challenge:** EMT sponsored the congregation's participation in the 10% Challenge designed by Green Needham Collaborative. Over 40 households participated.



- **EMT placed water reducing aerators in all bathrooms.**
- **EMT placed Kitchen and outdoor composters**
- **EMT provided a church bike rack**
- **EMT sponsors “Walk-or-Bike-to-Church”** in the months of May and October. A bike rack was installed in 2011.
- **EMT presents Climate Change Cafés** twice a year: Topics have included, Biking/caring for your bike, Reducing unnecessary mail/catalogues, planting/care of native plants and trees, how to reduce water usage, “green cleaning”
- **EMT suggests Lenten Carbon Fasts:** Suggestions provided to help participants lower their carbon footprint at home, church and work.
- **EMT sponsors Consciousness-raising projects: Educational Movies etc.**

