

## **Annual Report, 2011-2012: Green Sanctuary Committee**

Our purpose is to serve as a catalyst in our congregation's journey toward sustainability and effective involvement with environmental issues.

Projects: We continued work on 17 ongoing projects and completed 5 new projects. These are included in the Summary by Month (see below). For the complete project list, see [www.etmsolar.com/gsuu/gS/GS.Projects.pdf](http://www.etmsolar.com/gsuu/gS/GS.Projects.pdf) or the Green Sanctuary Bulletin Board.

Ongoing: Green Matters column in Beacon; Green Sanctuary web pages; Work with Property Committee on energy efficiency and keeping up the grounds;

### Summary by Month:

**August:** Participated in the 350.org Tar Sands Action in Washington, DC. Three of us chose to risk arrest along with many other UUs around the country.

**September:** EcoForum on Binghamton's Climate Action Plan by Amelia LoDolce (one of the 350.org "Moving Planet" worldwide events)

**October:** Participated in the activist interviews organized by RE; "Why Did We Get Arrested" EcoDiscussion

**November:** Participated in the "Surround the White House" Tar Sands Action in Washington, DC; Spoke at DEC public hearings (Forum); "Nature's Way" EcoForum by Tim Wolcott

**December:** Spoke at public hearing on whether the City of Binghamton should ban fracking.

**January:** Participated in the Albany anti-fracking rally; Vestal fracking ban EcoForum by Adam Flint; Offered two Jumpin' January workshops: Tee Bags and Web of Life; "Money as Debt" EcoForum by Jerome Slote

**February:** Administered the UUCB Climate Change Survey; updated the UUCB Carbon Footprint chart to include 2011 results; Home energy efficiency workshop by Adam Flint

**March:** We led "Five Selected Shorts" on sustainability topics. This was part of the Peace, Justice and Sustainability Film Series organized by Social Justice.

**April:** Requested geothermal estimate for UUCB heating; Earth Day Service (sermon by Douglas) with GS table and an EcoForum led by Wes Ernsberger and Jim Taft to discuss the UUCB Climate Change Survey results.

**May:** Tim Wolcott led an event as part of 350.org's "Connect the Dots" day; Climate change update EcoForum by Dick Rehberg; Showed the children how we do composting at UUCB and explained why we do it (joint project with RE).

Communications Leader: Gerri Wiley

Project Leaders: Carol Miyake, Trebbe Johnson, Wes Ernsberger, Lee Shepherd, Gerri Wiley, Lillian Theophanis, Scott Clarke, Donna Every, Millie Crandall, Jerome Slote, and Adam Flint.

Active Participants: Dick Rehberg, Beverly Singer, Rema Loeb, Lois Einhorn, Tim Wolcott, John Patterson, Walt Melzer, John Hamlin, Ed Ware, Jim Bryden, Gay Canough, and Jim Taft.

Wes Ernsberger, Acting Chair