

Sustainability Plan for Beit Am

Goals

- Demonstrate relationship of sustainability to Judaism – our cultural practice of Judaism consistent with Tikkun Olam (healing the world)
- Be a model for the Beit Am community and the Corvallis/Albany/Philomath communities
- Reduce consumption in all areas and consume mindfully
- Eliminate use of toxics in facility
- Reduce waste and aspire to zero waste

Demonstrate relationship of sustainability to Judaism

- Have a sustainability weekend with the focus on sustainability and Judaism
- Have regular events focused on sustainability for all ages: projects, workshops, book groups, do a discussion series on sustainability and Judaism
- show the importance of sustainability by having it embedded into employee job descriptions and offering a living wage

Be a model for the Beit Am community and the Corvallis/Albany/Philomath community

- Do more outreach to the general public
- Become involved in interfaith events around sustainability such as we did for the interfaith service on climate change in February 2014.
- Initiate mini sustainability trainings to various committees
- Incorporate sustainability into the new building and have it in the local media.
- Choose suppliers based on their sustainability performance (non toxic, durable, social sustainability)
- Protect natural resources on both properties and minimize water runoff
- No idling of vehicles
- Adopt socially responsible and sustainability principles for BA investments
- Incorporate sustainability into Beit Midrash curriculum and adult education where appropriate

Reduce consumption in all areas

- reduce energy use by:
- move towards zero waste: buy only well made items, no disposables,
- come up with ways for folks to use public transit and biking/walking when coming to BA
- reduce water usage: install low flow toilet upstairs, install reduced flow adapters on faucets, manually turn on irrigation in summer so we only water once every two weeks during the dry season

- reduce energy waste: all light fixtures using LEDS or fluorescent light bulbs, turn of computers at night
- use recycled paper products for paper towels, toilet tissue, copier paper, copy both sides

Eliminate use of toxics in facility

- eliminate pesticide/herbicide/ artificial fertilizer use in landscape
- check with the cleaners of the facility to make sure no toxics are used
- soaps, dishwashing soap are non toxic

Zero waste

- educate and gain support of all the committees to work towards zero waste for services, events and daily operations
- examine the impacts of purchases: is it durable, non toxic in its manufacture, use or disposal?
- Compost food and yard waste