

Earth Ministries Pledge

As a member of Binkley Baptist Church I/we am/are aware of and fully understand the importance for our relationship with the body of Christ and the planet Earth on which we live of the following statement in our church covenant: "As part of the body of Christ throughout the world, we promise to express our faithfulness to Christ in love for one another and for the whole of God's creation." Therefore I/we swear or affirm that I/we will faithfully undertake to fully perform at least one (of course you are free to pledge to do more than one, and you will receive more stars in your crown(s)) of the following pledges for at least one year as part of my/our responsibility to care for our Earth. I/we will report my/our efforts back to Binkley Baptist Church's Earth Ministries Committee after six months and again after one year so that my/our contributions to the protection of the Earth can be tabulated, shared with, and celebrated by the congregation as a whole.

1. I/we pledge to recycle.
2. I/we already recycle but pledge to recycle everything that we dispose of that is recyclable which we have not in the past recycled.
3. I/we pledge that, if I/we purchase a car in the coming year, I/we will buy one that has a high mpg rating.
4. I/we pledge to remove at least one light bulb from our home and not use it for a year.
5. I/we pledge to unplug at least one electronic component every night.
6. I/we pledge to maintain my/our thermostat at 73 degrees or above in the summer and no higher than 69 degrees in the winter.
7. I/we pledge to replace at least one trip by car per week. Instead, I/we will walk, ride my/our bike(s), and/or use public transportation.
8. I/we pledge to not use my/our car(s) more than 6 days per week.
9. I/we pledge to walk, bike, or take public transportation to church at least one time every other month.
10. I/we pledge to change my/our license plate to one of the following: Blue Ridge Parkway, First in Forestry, Friends of the Appalachian Trail, Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains, Animal Lovers, Litter Prevention, NC Coastal Federation, NC State Parks, NC Zoological Society, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Save the Sea Turtle, or Share the Road.
11. I/we pledge to replace at least one product that may be anti-environmental in that it is harmful to clean water or air, plants, or animals or that is tested on animals with a "green" product. The product I/we are ceasing to use is _____, and we are replacing it with _____.
12. I/we pledge to replace at least one usage of my/our oven/stove per week with microwave cooking.
13. I/we pledge not to use bottled water.
14. I/we pledge not to waste food.
15. I/we pledge to carpool to church at least once every two months.
16. I/we pledge to carpool to work at least once per week.

17. I/we pledge to educate myself/ourselves with respect to human activities that are harmful to any aspect of the environment and to take some action towards remedying that activity by joining a group, stopping my personal involvement in that activity, sharing my newfound knowledge with others, donating funds to groups that work to end or ameliorate that activity, writing my local, state, and national representatives and asking them to introduce legislation against that activity, or by _____.
- _____ Please supply the name of your cause or group: _____.
18. I/we pledge to compost.
19. I/we pledge to replace a substantial portion of my/our food purchases with food that is grown or produced locally.
20. I/we pledge to never drive in excess of 60 mph.
21. I/we pledge to use only the amount of water I need when I/we boil water or make coffee, etc.
22. I/we pledge to only use cold water in my/our clothes washer.
23. I/we pledge not to use heat dry in my/our dishwasher.
24. I/we pledge to hang clothes on the line to dry rather than using the dryer at least once per month.
25. I/we pledge to reduce my/our meat consumption.
26. I/we pledge to turn off all lights each time I/we leave a room.
27. I/we pledge to plant at least two trees or pay for the planting of at least two trees locally.
28. I/we pledge not to use plastic bags.
29. I/we pledge to volunteer at least once every other month for an environmental protection or animal rescue organization.
30. I/we pledge to use only energy efficient light bulbs.
40. I/we pledge not to run the dishwasher or washing machine unless there is a full load.
41. I/we pledge to always use the stairs instead of the elevator.
42. I/we pledge not to run water when brushing teeth or shaving.
43. I/we pledge to avoid the use of Styrofoam cartons or containers (example: such as for the purchase of eggs, etc.).
44. I/we pledge to consistently be aware of my/our connection to the earth and the things in it.

I/we (name(s): _____) pledge # _____.