



With Earth Day around the corner on April 22nd and the Shmita year (traditional 7 year biblical cycle to give the Earth a Shabbat) beginning in the Fall, there are many opportunities to renew your commitment to boldly stepping into the work that reconnects - connecting to each other, our fellow beings, and the overall health of our ecosystems.



One way to honor of Earth Day this year would be to attend all or part of the [Jewish Climate Action Network](#) conference this Sunday from noon to 8pm to find out how the Jewish world is responding to climate change. Or, on a more personal level, you may consider taking a moment and review this [Earth Day Tips list](#) of ways that your personal choices can make a positive impact on our environment. Remember, "It is not your responsibility to finish the work of perfecting the world, but you are not free to desist from it either" (Rabbi Tarfon, Pirke Avot 2:21).

Are you already passionate about the environment and want to make sure that we as a Jewish community align our actions with our values of sustainability from generation to generation?

We need you to join the Green Team!

Green Team

What is the Green Team?

The Green Team is a group of teens and adults interested in leading our community in implementing sustainability projects. Ideally, this group will be composed of volunteer leaders from TBE as well as Levey Day School and Congregation Shaarey Tphiloh, with support and guidance from TBE staff. Initially, volunteers will be asked to make a 3 month commitment to help establish the group.

What does the Green Team do?

Thanks to Rabbi Braun's clear and committed vision to sustainability at TBE, as a synagogue we have made substantial and steady progress toward reducing our carbon footprint and finding ways to reduce and recycle our waste. Supported by a generous \$25,000 donation from an anonymous donor to make our building more energy efficient in 2017 and the proceeds from the sale of a plot of land in 2020, we have replaced windows, replaced outdated HVAC systems, installed better HVAC controls, retrofitted LED lights, planted gardens, made our Kiddush 99% compostable, and generally integrated a consciousness about environmental impact to everything we do.

To continue to develop this work even further, staff are working on a "bentschmarking" assessment process, facilitated by the [Jewish Climate Action Network](#) to help determine what we're doing well and where we can do better.

That's where you come in!

The Green Team will **review** the results of our benchmarking survey, **prioritize** potential projects, and then help **oversee** the timely implementation of these projects. The Green Team will also work to support the advocacy of sustainable practices into TBE member homes, workplaces, and the greater community.

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