

Presbytery Earth Care Program

A program of Presbyterians for Earth Care

How to Use the Presbytery Earth Care Team (PECT) Toolkit

The PECT Toolkit contains two sections

1. How to Start and Sustain a Presbytery Earth Care Team
2. Directory of Resources

In the first section, How to Start and Sustain a Presbytery Earth Care Team, read through the five suggested goals in the PECT Toolkit. Think of these goals as a guide, not something that needs to be followed verbatim. The items in parentheses are suggestions that PEC collected from existing Presbytery Earth Care Teams.

Complete each goal before going on to the next. For example, you will need to form a core team to make some preliminary decisions before you are ready to invite others to your first meeting.

Choose from the suggestions in parentheses or come up with a more creative idea as a group. These are only recommended actions that have worked for others. You don't have to do them all or use any of them.

Try not to skip the administrative tasks starting with your first meeting. Describing your purpose, developing a mission statement, setting a goal(s), and deciding on a name will help you communicate with others and recruit them to join your team.

Scheduling activities and events should be fun and energizing. Be careful not to plan more than your team can coordinate and promote. Start off small and build momentum.

Conducting an annual evaluation of your efforts can identify what was successful and should be repeated, and what failed and should be dropped or redesigned. An evaluation doesn't need to be formal. Simply asking your team what they thought went well and what didn't is sufficient to start a conversation about the next year.

It feels good to be recognized for your accomplishments, but if no one knows about them it won't happen. The response you get when sharing what your team has done with your presbytery committee will give you a clue if it is worth publicizing to a broader audience.

Stay upbeat and positive and show some excitement. No one wants to be part of a team that brings them down. Remember that your work is making the very good planet that God created for us more livable for your generation and generations to come. That is a goal worth working toward.

Be sure to share responsibilities among the team members so that one person is not doing it all. PEC wants you to keep your Presbytery Earth Care Team going and not suffer from burnout. Be sure to let PEC know what you need and we will do our best to help. Email the PEC Coordinator at pec@presbyearthcare.org