

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q. How do I convince my presbytery to form a Presbytery Earth Care Team (PECT)?

A. Presbytery Earth Care Teams actually follow a bottom up model, where a passionate individual puts together a core group to plan the team and set the agenda for the first meeting. The PECT model does not promote asking the leadership of your presbytery to form a Presbytery Earth Care Team.

Q. Why should my Presbytery Earth Care Team be an official part of the presbytery?

A. There are several advantages for a Presbytery Earth Care Team to be part of a presbytery. With official standing within an existing committee, a PECT could have support and assistance with written (digital) communications to all presbytery churches, use of a ZOOM call account, time and tabling at presbytery meetings, and access to funding. Each presbytery is different, so some or all of these services may or may not be available to your team. There are successful Earth Care Teams that operate at the presbytery level that act independently of the presbytery, so being a part is not essential for your Earth Care Team.

Q. How do I find out how to start an Earth Care Team at my *church*?

A. Presbyterians for Earth Care recognizes that there is a need for a guide for starting a congregational earth care team and has developed one. This Guide is not intended to compete with Earth Care Congregations but is the first step in becoming an Earth Care Congregation. The Guide and other helpful resources can be found on the PEC website

<https://presbyearthcare.org/church-earth-care-teams/>

Q. Isn't Earth Care Congregations a program of Presbyterians for Earth Care?

A. Presbyterians for Earth Care promotes Earth Care Congregations, but it is administered by the Presbyterian Hunger Program of PC(USA).

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations/>

Contact Jessica Maudlin for more information. jessica.maudlin@pcusa.org

Q. What is the difference between Presbyterians for Earth Care and the Presbyterian Hunger Program?

A. Presbyterians for Earth Care is a non-profit organization that was formed in 1995 to help the PC(USA) carry out the 1990 policy, Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice. As a non-profit, PEC can do things that the denomination cannot such as submit overtures for approval at General Assembly. The Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP), on the other hand, functions within the PC(USA) structure and conducts environmental education based on PCUSA policies of environmental justice. PHP also certifies Earth Care Congregations.