

St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church, Toronto



Mission and Background: St. Cuthbert's is a caring Christian community that seeks to love God and serve our neighbours. We are located in the heart of Leaside and have been worshipping and serving our community since we were established in 1890 --128 years of bringing faith to life!

Our facilities offer over 19,600 square feet of space that is well maintained, well-appointed and well used by our parishioners, tenants and local groups including Beavers, Cubs, Venturers, Scouts and Girl Guides.



We have made a conscientious effort to reduce waste, promote recycling and composting, improve energy efficiency, eliminate reliance on toxic products and exercise earth-friendly protocols. In 2010 we completed an in-house environmental audit by examining our building operations and best practices. We maintain a documented record of our improvements and initiatives.

In 2015, at our annual Vestry, we passed a motion to support the Diocese's Advocacy at the provincial and federal government level for effective policy on climate change. In 2016, we agreed to form an Environmental Study Group, in order to:

1. Deepen our understanding about climate change and provide information to our parish community.
2. Continue to build on the initiatives of greening our church building and property, so that we prioritize energy conservation and efficiency measures in all our building projects.

Physical Plant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cleaning products are either re-cycled, in bio-degradable containers or are a mixture of both, for example: paper towels, hand gel, toilet paper, tissues, garbage bags ● Earth friendly light bulbs installed where possible as old inventory used up ● Toxic waste/light bulbs disposed of in appropriate dump sites ● Power off lights when not in use ● Auxiliary Hot Water tank only turned on for large, special events ● Thermostat programmed to reflect the hours the building is in use ● Weather stripping installed to keep the cold out and heat in
Administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bio-degradable payroll bags ● Re-cycle paper to use as note paper ● Blue bins available throughout the building ● Power off Fax or other machines when not in use ● Photocopier toner containers are returned to the supplier for recycling ● LINK e-mailed to as many as possible. Recycled paper used for printed copy ● What's On e-mailed, limited copies printed
External	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bike racks for those who cycle ● Lights on timers, motion detectors ● Grass shavings left in the grass ● Green-friendly products, no chemicals used in garden ● Organic Ice Melt
Social Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limited use of plastic / disposable cups, plates, etc. Use recyclable plastics ● Fairs: Recycle and Reuse. Unpurchased items donated to Oasis ● Annual involvement in Community Clean-up
Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Questioned about disposal of garbage of products (asbestos removal project, roof repairs, etc.) ● Technology updates: questioned about disposal of old equipment

Our Green Actions: Environmental Stewardship



Efforts at St. Cuthbert's that demonstrate our commitment to our role as stewards of this earth and preserving it for the future include:

2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Toronto Hydro initiative completed for kitchen lights, exit lights and floods ● Installation of 2 high efficiency boilers
2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Introduced Green Bin measures, increase the use of blue bins and decreased Garbage Bins
2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Installed rain barrel
2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Repairs and reconfiguration of eavestroughs and downspouts to prevent water damage to bricks and cycle water to the ground
2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● LED lights installed in parking lot, Sanctuary and Stage ● Successfully met requirements of City of Toronto, Solid Waste Management Services audit ● Met with Greening Sacred Spaces, Toronto Representative
2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stained Glass Window Initiative (125th Anniversary Project). Protective layer will limit the heat loss from the Sanctuary ● 1st Creation Care Weekend, featuring Community Clean-up ● Environmental Study Group established. ● 1st Environmental Film Fest (2016-2017)

2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1st ECO FAIR - Celebrations include the designation of our Heritage Oak Tree ● Diocesan ECO grant finances LED lighting installed in Fellowship Room, alter space. Grant funds reserved for crypt lighting ● Additional rain barrels installed
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Toronto Hydro Small Business project grant will fund LED conversion of Lamb Hall. ● 2nd Environmental Film Fest - Watch for details! ● 2nd ECO FAIR – Watch for details!

Benchmarking

St. Cuthbert’s, Leaside is delighted to be participating in this 3-year Energy Benchmark Study which will monitor and track our electricity and gas consumption and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions. As a parish we believe that together we can make a tangible commitment to our baptismal promise to safeguard the integrity of God’s creation.

With initiatives such as high efficiency boilers, stained glass window protection, LED conversion when and where possible, this study will quantify the anticipated decrease in our energy use per square foot year to year.



As a result, we hope our continued efforts:

Will result in further decreases, will provide statistical data to support new environmental initiatives and we expect this will garner a deeper appreciation for the need for consistent efforts – small and large – to protect our environment.

Note: St. Cuthbert’s, Leaside has been actively focused on Creation Care and Environmental Stewardship for many years. We have aligned our commitment to the environment into the health,

safety and future of St. Cuthbert's with the operational needs of the building and many of our green initiatives were in place before we were invited to join the study.

The interim report for the year ending 2017 shows that with 2015 as our Baseline, we have seen a decrease in the energy use per square foot since then. The results of the interim report has demonstrated that our efforts have made a difference and that we must continue to work together. No action is too small, for example, turning of the lights when rooms are not in use or turning down the thermostat. These may be small gestures but they make a difference and everyone can assume responsibility for their actions.

We will continue to share the results of future reports to continue to encourage parishioners and tenants and to inspire new initiatives.

Memorable Moments: Recognition of our Great White Oak Tree as an Ontario Heritage Tree at our 2017 Environment Fair with a plaque presented by Ontario Premier, Kathleen Wynne and representatives from Forests Ontario and the TD Bank Group.



Our commitment to safeguard and respect one of God's creations demonstrates the result of assuming our responsibility to future generations and underscores the poignant words of Joyce Kilmer's poem, *Trees: Only God can make a tree.* (4)

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