



## 10 Ways Faith Groups care for Biodiversity

[www.faithecolgy.net.au/](http://www.faithecolgy.net.au/)

The Faith and Ecology Network (FEN) is an interfaith network of people connecting faith with ecological awareness and care. FEN calls on faith groups to better care for our local biodiversity. In 2020 FEN has a focus on the **WONDER OF BIODIVERSITY**. Our various faith traditions and the sciences do have something in common. We all share a sense of WONDER at the natural world. The following 10 Ways are a guide to help your faith group engage in activities that encourage care for our common home.

10 ways to become carers of creation: what is at least one action your faith group will take on?

1. **Love where you are** e.g. create community gardens, Bee & Bee highway project
2. **Work with local “care” groups** e.g. local Bushcare or Landcare groups
3. **Build eco citizens in your faith group** e.g. undertake the Five Leaf Eco Award
4. **Learn from science and make deep connections locally** e.g. promote citizen science activities e.g. [Streamwatch](#)
5. **Create a Green calendar** e.g. Clean Up Australia day & National Tree Day
6. **Share the Good News in your bulletins / newsletter** e.g. brand and broadcast
7. **Be an active voice for biodiversity** e.g. help declare a climate emergency
8. **Seek wisdom from the Elders** e.g. build Caring for Country cultural ways
9. **Celebrate Nature in your faith services** e.g. Season of Creation
10. **Just enjoy nature** e.g. create an Environment Walk around your place of Worship, listen to the sound of nature

Some ideas to help you get started on the journey to be a faith community caring for country.

- Get the FEN newsletter to stay in touch via email [faithecolgy@gmail.com](mailto:faithecolgy@gmail.com)

*[Greater Sydney Landcare Network](#) members Brahma Kumaris meet at Leura on their property on the 1st Friday of each month to undertake Landcare activities, then share a vegetarian lunch.*



- Go for a grant or get help from local businesses.
- Learn some more about the benefits of being in [nature](#) -
- Visit [Nature For All](#)

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## 10 Ways Faith Groups care for Biodiversity Tips

| See  | Judge  | Act  |
|--|--|--|
| 1. Love your place, where you Worship                  | Create <a href="#">habitat havens</a> on-site, get your social justice group active, become <a href="#">responsible pet owners</a>   | Start a <a href="#">Landcare group</a> , add some habitat<br>Grow a <a href="#">pollinator</a> garden                      |
| 2. Work with local groups protecting nature            | Work off-site in Bushcare or in the council nursery, join <a href="#">tree planting trips</a>  | Join a <a href="#">Bushcare group</a><br>Get help from your local council  |
| 3. Build eco citizens in your faith group              | Take small steps to change the world<br>Take action, talk, write, inspire, create with others , <a href="#">learn</a> from your tradition                                  | Become a citizen scientist<br>create a <a href="#">Bee &amp; Bee Highway</a><br>Connect with the <a href="#">SDG's</a>     |
| 4 Learn from Science and make deep connections locally | Join up with local groups to investigate nature e.g. WaterWatch, Questa Bird, BirdLife, Australian Museum  | Listen to the Affinity talks on <a href="#">Climate Change</a><br>See the <a href="#">War on Waste</a> and other campaigns |
| 5. Create a Green calendar                             | Have a green calendar of events to join e.g. Clean Up Australia day  | Go planting for <a href="#">National Tree day</a>  |
| 6. Share the Good News and celebrate success           | Share updates in your Bulletin / Newsletter, get young people involved with your story   | Get the certificate <a href="#">Five Leaf Eco Award</a><br>Take the challenge <a href="#">Living the Change</a>            |
| 7. Be an active voice for biodiversity                 | Have a local species to protect, Advocate with the <a href="#">Environmental Defenders office</a> see <a href="#">Wivenhoe Camden</a>                                      | Become a <a href="#">forest protector</a><br>Declare a <a href="#">Green Faith</a> Climate Emergency                       |
| 8. Seek wisdom from the Elders                         | Connect to Country, <a href="#">Acknowledge Country</a> in your services, seek out Aboriginal leaders within your faith tradition  | Hold deep listening sessions <a href="#">Dadirri</a> Visit a cultural centre <a href="#">Murra Mittigar</a>                |
| 9. Celebrate Nature in your faith services             | Seek ideas <a href="#">Five Leaf Eco Award</a><br><a href="#">Bahai'i Temple Bushcare</a> Central Coast<br><a href="#">Quakers</a> meet <a href="#">Kariong Eco Garden</a> | Undertake the <a href="#">Season of Creation</a>   |
| 10. Just enjoy nature                                  | Share the local bushwalking program, create an environment walk around your place of Worship, just listen to nature  | Get creative listen <a href="#">Andrew Skeoch's clips</a> and <a href="#">Earth arts</a>                                   |

Some other ideas to try in your faith group: hold bush kids days, make artwork from sticks, create a website about local area or geo tag along a walk, construct a bee hotel, or bird, bat or mammal box with the local Men's Shed, grow a tree as a special gift. What is your idea?

Please share with us as we grow our Resource list on our website [www.faithecolony.net.au/](http://www.faithecolony.net.au/)



Please share on our FEN Facebook page any new projects your place of worship has undertaken [www.facebook.com/FaithEcologyNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/FaithEcologyNetwork) If you would like further information or you have a tip that you would like to add contact Anne Lanyon [faithecolony@gmail.com](mailto:faithecolony@gmail.com)

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