Faithful Green Leaders Volunteer Mentorship Program

Build, Inspire, and Transform Your Community

Green Teams Make a Difference
Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake’s (IPC’s) mission is to ignite the power of faith communities in the Chesapeake Bay region to honor all of Creation by working together to protect and restore our shared watershed. Over the years, we have learned that congregations that have active green teams in-place demonstrate a greater ability to carry out environmental stewardship activities. Therefore, by helping more congregations establish green teams, IPC can accelerate and enhance the outcomes we seek congregations to generate. When faith leaders and congregations take action, the surrounding community watches, and learns. There are 5,000 places of worship in Maryland alone. Imagine what we could accomplish if they were all involved in Creation care!

The Faithful Green Leaders Program
IPC launched the Faithful Green Leaders Program in 2019. Through the program, we provide learning opportunities to help partner congregations acquire the knowledge, skills, tools, and support they need to lead their communities in raising awareness and restoring the waters of the Chesapeake region. We have trained close to 100 teams and continue to provide the teams with additional resources for restoration projects and environmental justice tools.
What We Hope to Give...
Becoming a green team mentor is a rewarding way for action-oriented people to help expand Creation care efforts in the Chesapeake region. Helping green teams implement successful projects means more trees planted, more acres of environmentally-friendly surfaces installed, and ultimately, a cleaner and healthier Chesapeake Bay. Participation in this program also offers opportunities to foster relationships with people from other congregations. We must remember that this is a shared watershed, and that any serious effort to restore it requires collaboration among us all.

What We Hope You Can Give in Return...
Green teams often face many challenges in the first 12 months of their existence. It can be very difficult to translate the initial passion for greater environmental stewardship into tangible activities, especially given the varying levels of experience that team members start out with. That’s why we are coming to you, the experts of the movement, who are putting in the work on the ground at your congregations and in your communities. From the time that IPC first got to know you, we have been impressed by your ability to work well with others, your demonstrated leadership skills, and your experience implementing projects and getting things done. We know that your wealth of knowledge and skill will be an invaluable resource for green teams looking to play their part in restoring our shared watershed.

Mentors Will...
Work with two to four congregation teams over 12 months and assist them with:

- Securing funding
- Looking for online resources
- Strengthening their team
- Communicating with their congregation
- Connecting with other congregations

- Brainstorming project ideas
- Creating/reviewing an action plan