

EarthCare Resource Guides

Creation Care in Personal & Family Life

(This is the first in a series of online resource guides published by EarthCare.

Other guides will follow: Keep checking back.

For a print copy of the resource guide, contact [EarthCare](#))

[Ideas & Tips for Home](#)

Resource Lists:

[General Family Resources](#)

[Devotional & Inspirational Reading](#)

[Household Management](#)

[Food](#)

[Holidays & Special Occasions](#)

[Organizations / Websites](#)

Ideas & Tips for Home

- Recycling To make recycling convenient, place labeled recycle cans near existing trash cans. Sort materials or carry them to curb on trash collection days.
- Composting Recycle kitchen scraps, leaves, and grass clippings by creating a composter in your backyard or in a trash can. To make a composter read *Let It Rot* by Stu Campbell (see listing under "Household Management" below).
- Shopping Plan trips so that you accomplish several errands during the same trip. Instead of paper or plastic, take your own cloth bags to carry purchases. Before buying, find out if there is a similar product with recycled, post-consumer content. Buy in bulk to reduce packaging material. Check to see if the container is recyclable.
- Energy conservation Replace regular incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent bulbs. Set your thermostat no higher than 68 degrees in winter and no lower than 75 degrees in summer. Consider installing a programmable thermostat. Lower the temperature setting on your water heater to 110 degrees.
- Water conservation Take showers not baths. Replace regular shower heads with low flow shower heads that can be turned off while you lather up. Replace older toilets with those that flush on 1.5 gallons of water or less. If it isn't possible to replace, then place a brick or water-filled plastic jug in the tank to reduce the amount of water used in each flush. Capture and save "gray" water for watering plants.

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

General Family Resources

101 Ways to Help Save the Earth (National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Working Group & The Greenhouse Crisis Foundation, 1991). Available: National Council of Churches (800) 762-0968 (catalog no. EJ9420). Gives action ideas for home, garden, market, and office. Includes 52 weeks of environmentally-related activities for congregations.

365 Outdoor Activities You Can Do With Your Child, by Steve and Ruth Bennet (Adams Media Corporation, 1993). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com.

Caring for Creation in Your Own Backyard: Over 100 Things Christian Families Can Do to Help the Earth, by Loren & Mary Ruth Wilkinson (Servant, 1992, now published by Regent College in Vancouver, British Columbia). Available: (800) 334-3279.

Earthkeeping: Making It a Family Habit, by Sydney L. Donahoe (Zondervan, 1990). Available: www.bn.com -- out of print section. Offers practical ideas for the home and church.

Families Caring at Home, In the Community, For the Earth, by James McGinnis, Mary Joan & Jerry Park (Institute for Peace and Justice, 1996). Available: (314) 533-4445. Includes activities and program ideas for helping families to be more compassionate towards each other and towards the world.

Fifty Ways You Can Help Save the Planet, by Gordon Aeschliman and Tony Campolo (InterVarsity, 1992). Is a good starting resource for ideas to make a difference in creation.

Household Ecoteam Workbook: A Six-Month Program to Bring Your Household into Environmental Balance (Global Action Plan for the Earth, 1995) Available: (914) 679-4830 www.globalactionplan.org.

Just Family Nights: 60 Activities to Keep Your Family Together in a World Falling Apart, ed. by Susan Vogt (Brethren Press, 1994) Available: (800) 441-3712 or Amazon.com. Offers families fun, educational activities that foster healthy values and family unity. Addresses environmental stewardship, justice, and social action.

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

Devotional & Inspirational Reading

Let's Say Grace: Mealtimes Prayers for Family Occasions Throughout the Year, by Robert M. Hanna (Ave Maria Press, 1995). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com.

New Life to the Earth: Scripture Readings on Caring for God's Creation (American Bible Society, 1992).

Our Only Home: Planet Earth (American Baptist Convention USA Literature Services Dept., 1991) Available: ABC (800) ABC-3USA ext 2464 or National Council of Churches (800) 762-0968 (catalog no. EJ8205).

Standing Ground: A Personal Story of Faith and Environmentalism, by John Leax (Zondervan, 1991).

Thorns in the Garden Planet: Meditations on the Creator's Care, by Vera C. Shaw (Thomas Nelson, 1993).

While Creation Waits: A Christian Response to the Environmental Challenge, by Dale & Sandy Larsen (Harold Shaw, 1992).

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

Household Management

Simpler Living

Living More With Less, by Doris Janzen Longacre (Herald Press, 1980). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com. Thoughts and practical suggestions on living a compassionate and just lifestyle.

'Tis a Gift to be Simple: Embracing the Freedom of Living with Less, by Barbara DeGrote-Sorenson, et al. (Augsburg Fortress, 1992). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com. Story of one couple's decision to pattern their lives after the Bible, simplifying their lives. Includes a 6-week scripture reflection on simplicity.

Housekeeping

Clean & Green: The Complete Guide to Nontoxic and Environmentally Safe Housekeeping. by Annie Berthold-Bond (Ceres Press, 1990). Available: Amazon.com. Includes recipes for nontoxic cleaners and recommendations for commercial products.

Clean House, Clean Planet : Clean Your House for Pennies a Day, the Safe, Nontoxic Way, by Karen Noonan Logan. (Pocket Books, 1997). Available: Amazon.com.

Complete Trash: The Best Way to Get Rid of Practically Everything around the House, by Norm Crampton (M. Evans and Company, 1989). Available: Amazon.com.

Least Toxic Home Pest Control. by Dan Stein (Hulogosi, 1991). Available: Amazon.com. Helps you solve most common household pest problems with an minimum amount of insecticides.

Finances

The Complete Tightwad Gazette : Promoting Thrift As a Viable Alternative Lifestyle, by Amy Dacyczn (Random House, 1999). Available: Amazon.com. Tips on living a frugal lifestyle.

Your Money or Your Life: Transforming Your Relationship with Money and Achieving Financial Independence by Joe Dominguez and Vicki Robin (Viking Penguin, 1992). Available: Simple Living Network (800) 318-5725 www.simpleliving.net. A companion study guide for Christians is also available.

Gardening

Encyclopedia of Organic Gardening, by J.I. Rodale (Rodale Press, 1992). Available: Amazon.com. Practical gardening information.

Let It Rot: The Gardner's Guide to Composting by Stu Campbell (Storey Publishing, 1990). Available: Amazon.com. A practical guide for beginning composters. Includes "how to" information.

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

Food

Breaking Bread: The Spiritual Significance of Food, by Sara Covin Juengst (Westminster John Knox Press, 1992) Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com. Juengst examines Biblical customs connected with food and presents six theological themes related to food and feasting.

Food, Faith and Sustainability: Environmental, Spiritual, Community and Social Justice Implications of the Gift of Daily Bread, (Earth Ministry, 1999). Available: Earth Ministry (206) 632-2426 www.earthministry.org. Helps participants learn about spirituality of good food, the ways in which eating connects us to the land and each other, and the economic, environmental and cultural implications of food choices. For individual or group study.

Country Life Vegetarian Cookbook (Family Health Publications, 1990). Available: Family Health Publications, 8777 E. Musgrove Hwy, Sunfield MI 48890. Vegetarian cookbook with recipes from the kitchens of the Country Life vegetarian restaurants.

More-with-Less Cookbook. By Doris Janzen Longacre (Herald Press, 1976). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com. Recipes from Mennonite kitchens.

Rodale's Basic Natural Foods Cookbook (Fireside, 1989). Available: Amazon.com. Cookbook of easy-to-follow recipes using natural ingredients. Includes practical cooking tips and techniques.

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

Holidays & Special Occasions

Holidays

The New Green Christmas: How to Make This and Every Holiday an Environmental Celebration (Kids' Stuff Too), The Evergreen Alliance (Halo Books, 1991). Available: Amazon.com. An environmental handbook for the Christmas holidays. Contains ideas and crafts for adults and children.

Simplify & Celebrate: Embracing the Soul of Christmas, by Alternatives for Simple Living (Northstone, 1997). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org or Amazon.com. Ideas, activities, & reflections for reclaiming the joy and peace of the Christmas season.

To Celebrate: Reshaping Holidays & Rites of Passage (Alternatives, 1987). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org. For people who are not satisfied with the models of celebration offered by a consumer society, this resource contains ideas for celebrations of joy, spontaneity, justice, and concern for nature.

Other Seasons & Events

The Alternative Wedding Book: Create a Beautiful Wedding that Reflects Your Values and Doesn't Cost the Earth (Northstone Publishing, 1997). Available: Alternatives for Simple Living www.simpleliving.org.

Creation Season Liturgy (The Episcopal Church). Available: National Council of Churches (800) 762-0968. Enables churches to plan a liturgy series beginning on St. Francis of Assisi Day and concluding the Sunday before advent.

To Dance with God: Family Ritual and Community Celebration, by Gertrude Mueller Nelson (Paulist Press, 1986). Available: (201) 825-7300 or Amazon.com. Offers suggestions for how families and Christian communities can celebrate the liturgical year. Creation themes appear throughout the book.

[Back to top of resource guide.](#)

Organizations / Websites

Alternatives for Simple Living <http://www.simpleliving.org> (800) 821-6153

Christian Environmental Association (Target Earth) <http://www.targetearth.org>

Christian Environmental Studies Center of Montreat College <http://cesc.montreat.edu>

Earth Ministry <http://www.earthministry.org> (206) 632-2426

EarthCare, Inc. <http://www.earthcareonline.org> email: mail@earthcareonline.org
P.O. Box 23291, Chattanooga TN 37422 (423) 697-2560 Chattanooga, TN / (706) 278-3979 Dalton, GA

Evangelical Environmental Network <http://www.creationcare.org> (800) 650-6600

North American Conference on Christianity and Ecology (NACCE) <http://www.nacce.org>

Web of Creation <http://www.webofcreation.org>

EarthCare Resource Guide	October 2000
<p>This guide is a publication of EarthCare, Inc., PO Box 23291, Chattanooga, TN 37422 http://www.earthcareonline.org email: mail@earthcareonline.org (423) 697-2560 Chattanooga, TN -or- (706) 278-3979 Dalton, GA</p> <p>To obtain resources listed, please check with your church or public library, local Christian college library, or Christian bookstore. Items that are not available on the shelf in your local library normally may be borrowed through the library's interlibrary loan services. Items not in stock at a Christian bookstore may normally be purchased via special order.</p> <p>Publications not showing availability are out of print. They may still be available through the out-of-print services of Amazon.com or Barnes&Noble (bn.com) or may be located using independent services such as bookfinder.com.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">jfaulkner/ahicks.00oct06.personallife.doc.yellow</p>	