

Temple Beth El  
Jewish Community Center 3055 Porter Gulch Rd.  
Aptos, Ca. 95062

**Tikkun Olam**  
**Environmental Policy Statement**

The Board of Directors of Temple Beth El recognizes our role in environmental stewardship and have adopted this Environmental Policy on September \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

We live by the Judaic principals of Tikkun Olam and strive to incorporate sustainability into our core Temple practices, both in our organization and within our Temple community.

The Board of Directors hereby adopts the following Environmental Policy, which is intended to:

Conserve energy, water and natural resources;

Purchase products that sustain a healthy environment;

Promote sustainability, environmental education, outreach and awareness with our staff and the Temple Beth El community; and

Promote Zero Waste Policies and Practices: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot.

**Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Rot**

We strive to:

Reduce our current contributions to the landfill by a minimum of 85% through recycling and composting.

Reduce waste by recycling paper, cardboard, wood, metals, bottles, plastics, packaging and cans.

Compost all Green Waste-approved compostable items, including food and landscape waste, by January 1, 2020, to the extent necessary to comply with applicable requirements of AB 1826.

Discourage the use of disposable products by using washable/reusable items.

Reduce waste by requiring caterers and TBE members hiring caterers to minimize the use of disposable items, to use reusable and compostable products, and to recycle.

Reduce waste by donating reusable office items (appliances, electronic equipment, and furniture) to charitable organizations.

Reuse envelopes and packaging, where practicable.

Promote the use of natural lighting and solar energy at the time of renovations and new construction, where feasible.

Turn off lighting and appliances in unoccupied rooms.

Conserve water through the installation of water reducing plumbing products, including ultra-low flow and/or dual flush toilets (by 2025), by planting native drought tolerant plants and by using water-conserving irrigation systems.

Utilize future opportunities to use reclaimed and/or recycled water.

### **Toxics Reduction**

We strive to:

Reduce the use of toxic materials, including the elimination of chemical pesticides, to protect employee health and the environment by:

Purchase and use low to non-toxic janitorial cleaning products.

Purchase and use Green Seal Certified, Safer Choice and other natural, “environmentally-friendly” products that will minimize or eliminate negative impacts on the environment.

Purchase and use no or low VOC paints and Temple furnishings, including carpeting, and classroom supplies, e.g., whiteboard markers.

Recycle universal wastes (electronics, batteries, fluorescent light tubes, used motor oil), and dispose of other hazardous wastes through County-approved or County-recommended procedures.

Purchase and use rechargeable batteries.

Implement storm water pollution prevention and source control measures to reduce or eliminate pollutants from entering the storm water leaving Temple facilities.

### **Other Environmentally Preferable Purchasing**

We strive to:

Implement LEED green building standards at the time of new construction and remodeling projects.

Switch to recycled content products, materials and supplies when available and not cost prohibitive.

Purchase and use remanufactured and/or refillable printer and copier toner cartridges.

Buy office paper with 100% recycled content, or with at least 30% post-consumer material), and buy 100 % recycled bathroom and kitchen paper, or with at least 30% post-consumer material.

Use products with minimal non-recyclable packaging materials (and minimal or no plastic, polystyrene or aerosol packaging).

Purchase new office furniture and supplies with recycled content at time of replacement.

Use refillable bottles and coffee mugs, canvas bags and reusable to-go containers.

Install LED lighting and purchase Energy Star appliances and electronics, at time of new construction or remodel projects, or otherwise at the Board's discretion.

### **Conserve and Limit the Use of Fossil Fuels**

We strive to:

Encourage the use of public transit ridership and transit infrastructure improvements.

Promote biking and ride sharing to Temple Beth El by TBE members and guests.

Enhance electric vehicle education, including the benefits of Electric Vehicle infrastructure, to TBE members.

Offer video conferencing and telecommuting options to members and staff

### **Member and Employee Education**

We strive to educate our members and employees about resource conservation and pollution prevention:

Encourage and promote zero waste at TBE events and gatherings, e.g., picnics and meetings.

Train employees on proper recycling and composting, resource conservation and zero waste practices, and low- toxic product purchasing and usage.

Provide incentives for environmentally preferable practices – e.g., employee recognition for best zero waste and recycling practices.

Provide education about best environmental practices to all members, including Temple students and Simcha families.

**Tikkun Olam**

We recognize our role in environmental stewardship

Through the course of our work, we shall endeavor to promote these policies to other companies, organizations and individuals.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the TBE Board of Directors on September \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

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Board President

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Board Secretary