



Environmental Stewardship



**RESEARCH
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6 / 16 / 2016

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In partnership with:

Six-Agency
Environmental
Stewardship Team
2016 Panel, Volume #1

Executive Summary

What do Presbyterians currently think are the top environmental problems?

- Members and teaching elders agree: Climate change is currently one of our top environmental problems. Many also believe the destruction of natural areas and wildlife habitats from human encroachment, and uneven distribution of water resources are top environmental problems. In fact, these three environmental problems have become more important to panelists over the past 25 years.
- Environmental problems that were once major concerns for panelists (air pollution, destruction of the ozone layer) have become dated or coopted by new terminology as our scientific understanding of environmental hazards has changed.

What things do Presbyterians do to protect and preserve the environment?

- Many panelists help protect and preserve the environment in relatively simple ways (e.g., recycling and moderating their thermostat). Fewer do more inconvenient environmental activities like composting, biking/carpooling, etc.
- Compared to the general U.S. population, Presbyterians are much more willing to make financial sacrifices in order to protect the environment.
- Presbyterian congregations exhibit a significant increase in environmental awareness; in the past seven years, there has been a rise in congregations composting food waste and installing features that reduce runoff.

Do Presbyterians consider the theological associations/implications of environmental stewardship? If so, how?

- Members increasingly agree that environmental issues are appropriate social concerns for the church, and that the PC(USA) should become more involved in environmental issues. (Large proportions of teaching elders have consistently agreed with these statements.)
- Virtually all panelists agree that God has given humans the responsibility to care for the earth. Large majorities of members and teaching elders also agree that economic issues addressed by the PC(USA) have environmental implications.
- Most teaching elders and members are aware of the environmental work of at least one of the six PC(USA) agencies.

Environmental Stewardship

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Overview of the Study

Care for creation has been an ongoing priority for the PC(USA) for many years. Environmental issues were again a part of the discussion at General Assembly 221 in Detroit. This ongoing concern led the executives of the six PC(USA) agencies to form an environmental stewardship working group. This working group has created a “white paper” which outlines the environmental theology and policies of the PC(USA), as well as describes what each agency is doing (and can do) to protect and honor the environment.

This “white paper,” titled *Collaborative Agenda for Environmental Stewardship*, has been adopted by each of the six agencies’ boards, and has been sent to the 222nd General Assembly meeting (in 2016, in Portland), for the commissioners’ endorsement.

This Presbyterian Panel survey on the environment was conducted by PC(USA) Research Services at the request of this working group, to supplement other aspects of their proposal for the 2016 General Assembly.

Methodology

This is a quantitative study supported with qualitative responses. That is, the survey includes mostly closed-ended questions which are assigned numeric response values, but also includes a few open-ended questions to which respondents provide answers in their own words. See Appendix A for exact question wording and detailed survey results, and Appendix B for responses to the open-ended questions.

Study Design and Implementation

Joelle Kopacz, in collaboration with other Research Services staff and the clients, designed the study as the Principal Investigator. Perry Chang implemented the study as the Co-Investigator.

A total of 6,059 panelists (sampled and volunteer) were invited to participate in this survey. Surveys were offered in English, Spanish, and Korean, and were distributed via both web-based and paper questionnaires. (The Spanish and Korean versions were only available as a web-based survey.) The paper questionnaire was mailed on February 12, 2016 to 4,451 individuals who were sampled to become panelists. A reminder postcard was mailed to all paper questionnaire non-respondents who had filled out at least one Panel survey before (n=646) on April 29, 2016. The web survey was distributed on January 29, 2016 via email invitation to 1,608 panel volunteers and sampled panelists who have requested web-based surveys. All web non-respondents were sent email reminders on February 11 and February 17, 2016. Returns for both versions of the survey were accepted through June 2, 2016.

Sample Definition

This survey is the fourth full Presbyterian Panel survey to be completed by the 2015-2017 panelists. It consists of two nationally representative samples of groups affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): members and teaching elders. This particular study consists of 63% sampled and 37% volunteer respondents. For additional information on the Presbyterian Panel and its sampling and distribution, please see Appendix C.

Response Rate: Research Services did not have a correct address for 69 of the 6,059 panelists (sampled and volunteer) who were invited to participate in this survey. As a result, there were a total of 5,990 successful deliveries of the survey. In the end, 1,462 panelists completed the survey. The response rate (total surveys completed/total surveys sent) is 24%.

Demographics:

- **Gender:** Sixty percent of the members and 38% of the teaching elders who completed the survey are women. Female teaching elders are slightly over-represented here, as women currently make up 33% of all active teaching elders in the PC(USA), and 27% of PC(USA) teaching elders overall (including those who are retired or otherwise inactive). The gender distribution of members in this sample are representative of the population of PC(USA) members.
- **Age:** The average age of respondents is 58, and their median age is 60. The ages of respondents range from 16 to 94. This group of panelists is slightly younger than previous panel samples (the median age for the last sample of panelists was 63). Because the Office of the General Assembly data only provides membership age in ranges, we cannot make a direct comparison to the average age of Presbyterians as a whole; however, the median age range of Presbyterian members is 56-65.
- **Race:** Over nine in ten respondents (94%) identify themselves as White. The second largest groups of respondents identify as Hispanic (2%) or Black or African American (2%). Very few respondents identify with other racial-ethnic groups (Korean, 1%; Asian but not Korean, 1%; Native American, 1%; Middle Eastern, 0.3%; African immigrant, 0.2%). (Respondents could select more than one race.) Respondents are similar to the overall Presbyterian population, which is 91% White.
- **Role:** For this survey, 654 (45%) of the respondents are members and 807 (55%) are teaching elders. In addition, one respondent did not provide their role designation; therefore, their responses are not included in analyses separated by role.

Sampling Error:

Determining precision of findings/margin of error is complicated by the fact that this study is comprised partially of a convenience sample. The “Demographics” section above notes where panelists are over-represented or under-represented, when compared to known estimates of population demographics based on congregational data collected in the Session Annual Statistical Report by the Office of the General Assembly in 2014.

If this study had researched the beliefs and activities of a random sample of members, the margin of error for members’ responses (using a 95% confidence interval) would be 3.0%. That is, if 54% of members in the sample responded to a question in a certain way, there are 19 out of 20 chances that the actual percentage of members of PC(USA) churches in general who would respond that way would fall between 51% and 57% (this is the confidence interval). If the study had researched random samples of teaching elders, the margin of error for their responses would be 3.3% (giving this sample a slightly larger confidence interval).

Data Analysis

Survey results have been analyzed for demographic differences by respondents' role (member vs. teaching elder). This analysis helps to identify patterns in responses. Results are presented as descriptive statistics.

When differences between groups of respondents are noted in results, significance tests have indicated that these differences are statistically significant at the $p \leq .05$ -level, meaning that there is a 5% or lower chance that there really isn't a difference in responses between the two groups. Qualitative data are analyzed using content analysis.

Areas of Investigation

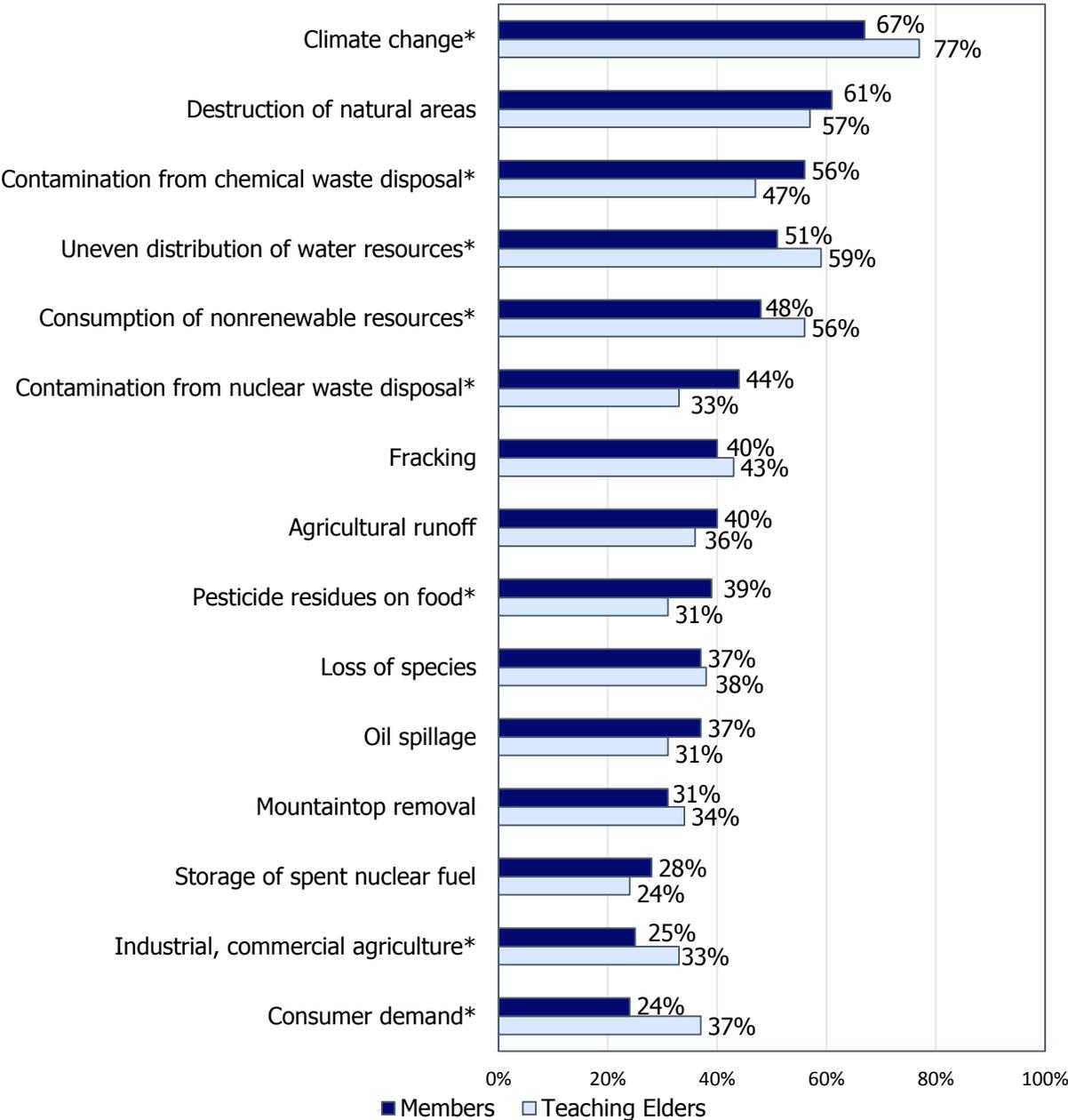
This study assesses the following questions:

1. What do Presbyterians currently think are the top environmental problems?
2. What things do Presbyterians do to protect and preserve the environment?
3. Do Presbyterians consider the theological associations/implications of environmental stewardship? If so, how?

Environmental Problems

How serious do Presbyterians find various environmental problems? To answer this question, panelists were given a list of 15 different environmental problems, and asked to rate each as either “one of the most serious” problems, “no more serious than others,” “one of the least serious” problems, or “don’t know.” Figure 1 shows the percentage of members and teaching elders who think each problems is “one of the most serious.”

Figure 1: Panelists' Rankings of the Most Serious Environmental Problems



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

Have Presbyterians consistently rated certain environmental problems as serious? Presbyterian Panel data from 1991, 1997, and 2009 can help answer this question, as these Panel surveys addressed 12 of the 15 environmental problems listed in Figure 1. Table 1 compares panelists' ratings over time of the most serious environmental problems. (Table 1 lists the percentage of members and teaching elders that found each environmental problem serious at four periods from 1991 and 2016. The total change column reveals the environmental problem's total increase or decrease in significance from 1991 to 2016. Environmental problems are listed in order of largest increase in significance to largest decrease in significance during this time period.)

Different environmental crises and scientific discoveries have likely shifted panelists' environmental concerns over this relatively short period of time.

Table 1: Most Significant Environmental Problems According to Panelists, 1991 – 2016

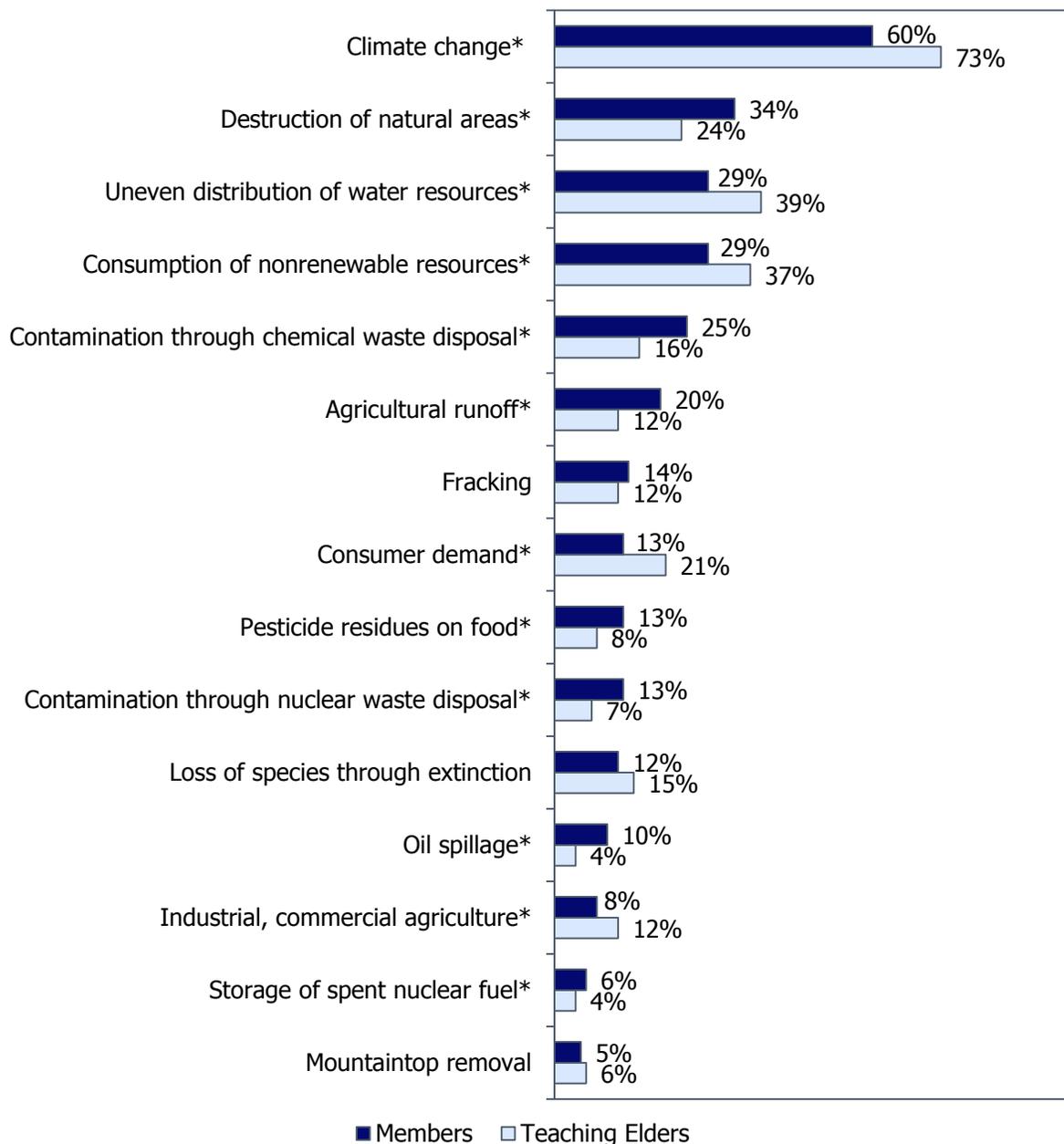
		1991	1997	2009	2016	Total Change
Climate change/global warming	M	36%	34%	43%	67%	+31%
	TE	44%	47%	64%	77%	+33%
Destruction of natural areas	M	38%	58%	50%	61%	+23%
	TE	34%	58%	50%	57%	+23%
Mountaintop removal/strip mining	M	10%	20%	19%	31%	+21%
	TE	11%	19%	27%	34%	+23%
Uneven distribution of water resources	M	—	—	38%	51%	+13%
	TE	—	—	56%	59%	+3%
Consumption of nonrenewable resources	M	37%	44%	59%	48%	+11%
	TE	43%	49%	70%	56%	+13%
Loss of species through extinction	M	27%	33%	23%	37%	+10%
	TE	29%	34%	31%	38%	+9%
Pesticide residues on food eaten by humans	M	30%	39%	—	39%	+9%
	TE	23%	29%	—	31%	+8%
Environmental contamination from chemical waste disposal	M	58%	61%	48%	56%	-2%
	TE	54%	52%	47%	47%	-7%
Consumer demand	M	—	28%	27%	24%	-4%
	TE	—	53%	45%	37%	-16%
Environmental contamination from nuclear waste disposal	M	51%	54%	32%	44%	-7%
	TE	52%	44%	30%	33%	-19%
Agricultural runoff	M	—	51%	31%	40%	-11%
	TE	—	52%	36%	36%	-16%
Oil spillage	M	49%	49%	—	37%	-12%
	TE	41%	33%	—	31%	-10%

Notes: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders;
Total change=change in percentage from 1991-2016.

Members and teaching elders agree that climate change is one of the top three environmental problems. Panelists were asked to choose the top three environmental problems from the same list of fifteen. The high marks for climate change are unsurprising, based on the scientific and media attention this problem has been garnering.

Large minorities in both groups also feel that the destruction of natural areas and wildlife habitats from human encroachment, uneven distribution of water resources, and the consumption of oil, gas, and other nonrenewable resources are most important issues. These rankings closely mirror those from Figure 1.

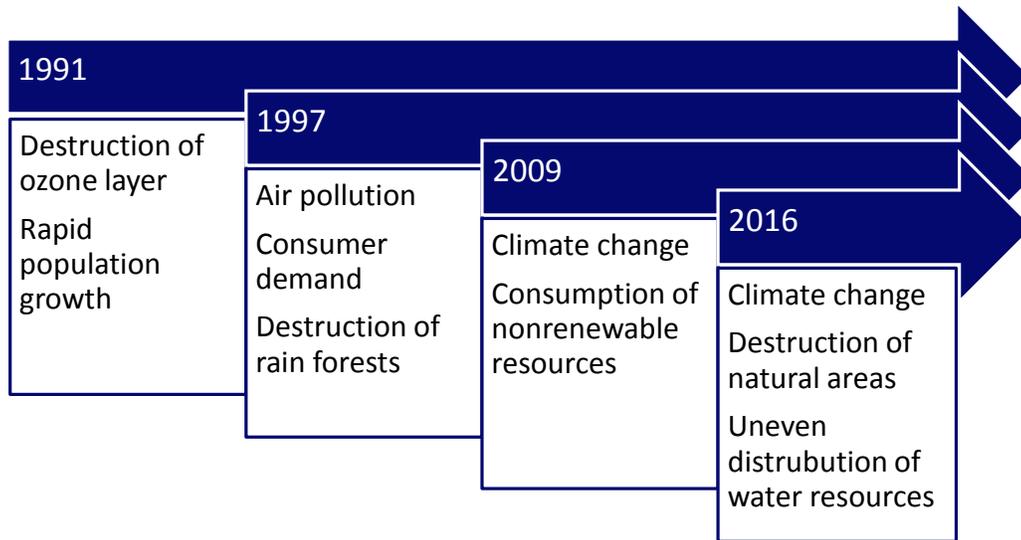
Figure 2: Top Three Most Important Environmental Problems



**Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.*

How do these rankings of top environmental problems compare to Presbyterian opinions from previous years? Figure 3 shows panelists' top-ranked environmental problems in the past 25 years.

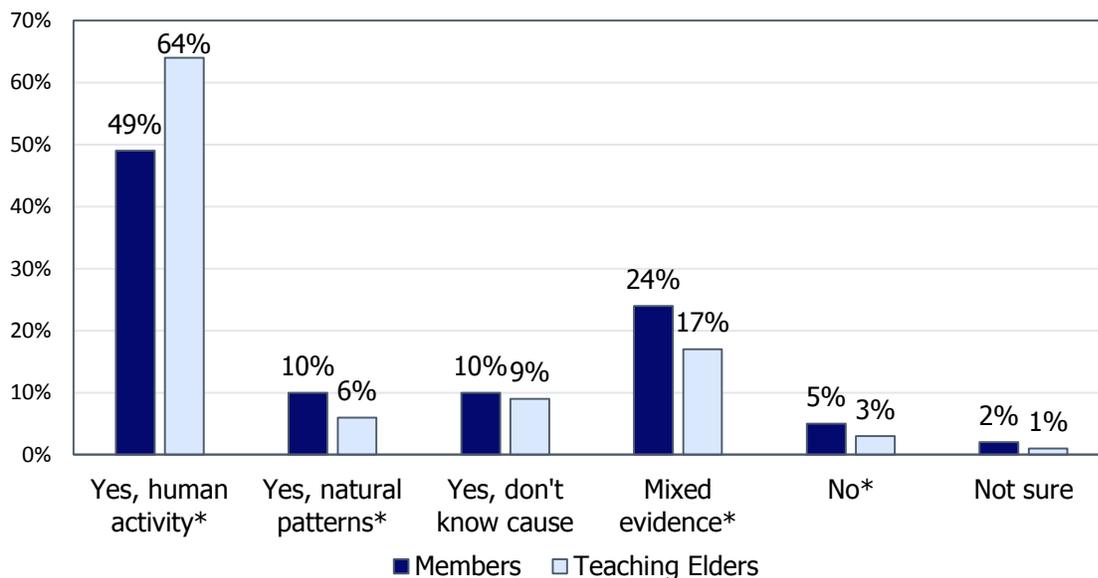
Figure 3: Top Environmental Problems as Ranked by Panelists, 1991-2016



Here again we see that new scientific knowledge has changed environmental discussions through the years, as concerns over the ozone layer and air pollution have given way to a broader concern for climate change.

While members and teaching elders agree that climate change is a top environmental concern, some disagree about the facts of climate change. When asked if there is solid evidence that the climate is changing, teaching elders are more likely than members to attribute climate change to human activity, and less likely to attribute it to natural patterns, believe that the evidence is mixed, or disagree that there is solid evidence about this issue. (See Figure 4.)

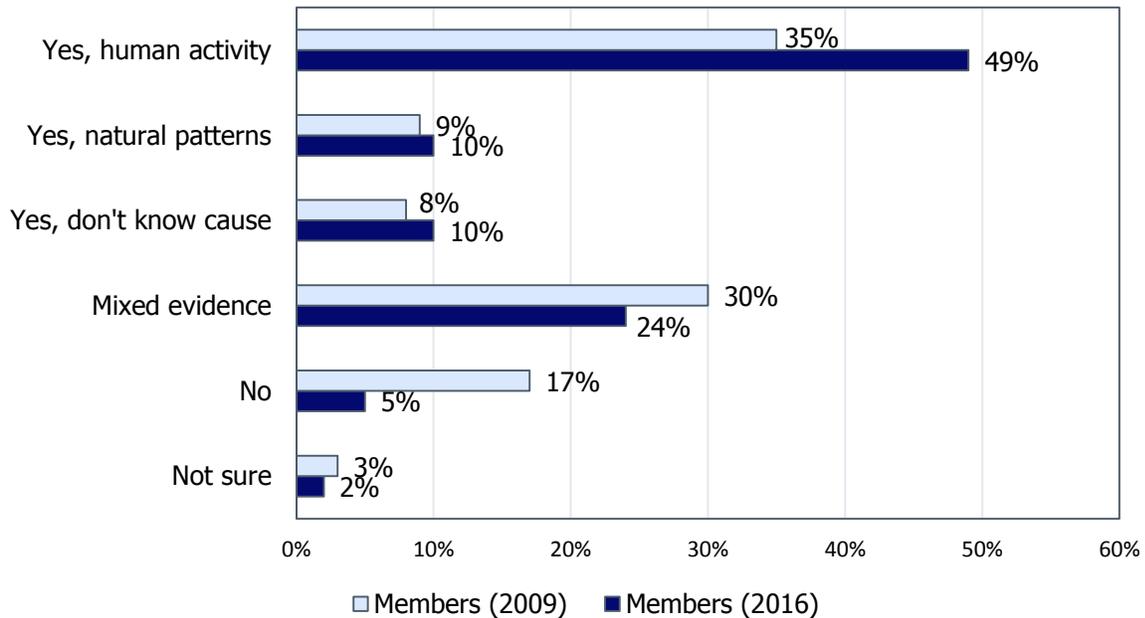
Figure 4: Is There Solid Evidence the Climate is Changing?



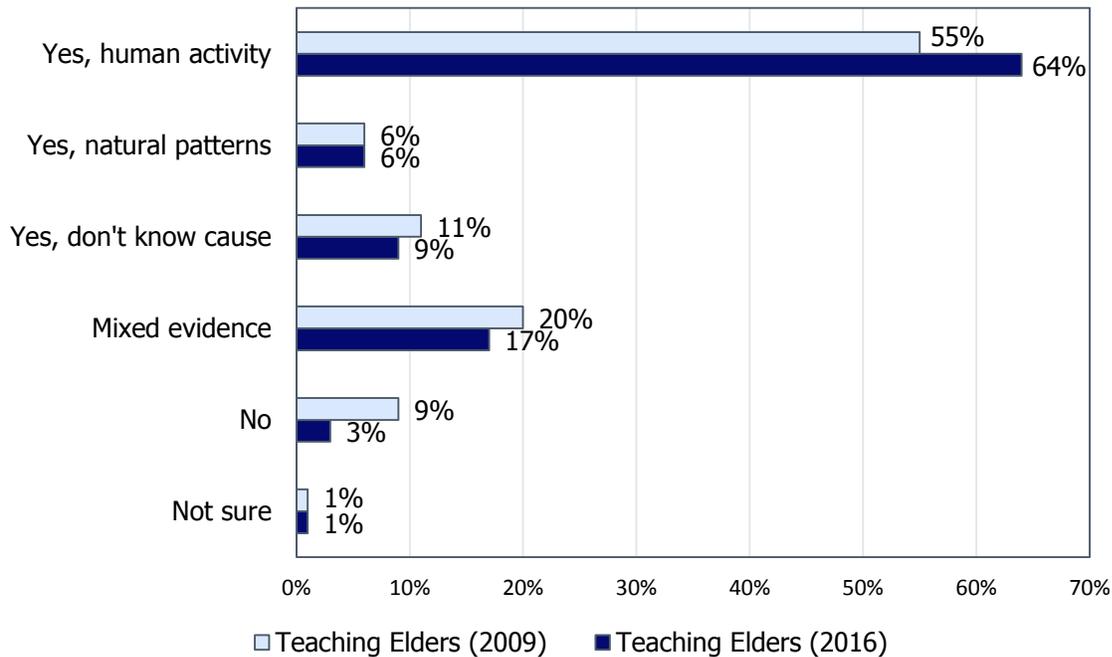
*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

However, when comparing panelists' answers to the same question from the 2009 Panel survey on the environment, it is clear that both members and teaching elders have become increasingly accepting of climate change as a valid concern caused by human activity (see Figures 5 and 6).

**Figure 5: Is There Solid Evidence the Climate is Changing?
(Members, 2009 vs. 2016)**



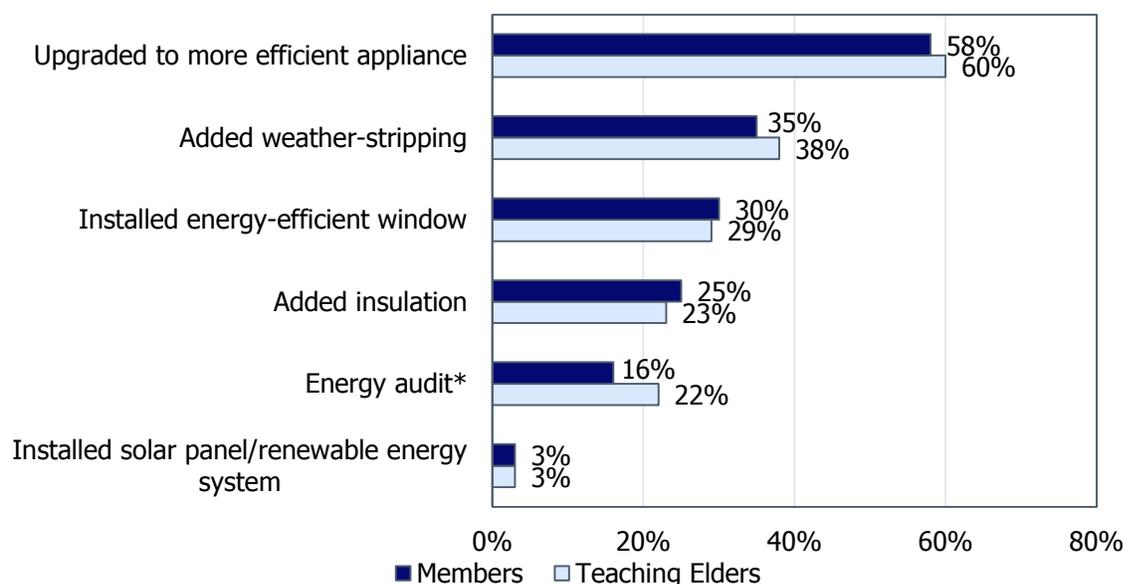
**Figure 6: Is There Solid Evidence the Climate is Changing?
(Teaching Elders, 2009 vs. 2016)**



You and the Environment

Presbyterians certainly have beliefs and opinions about the environment, but what are they personally doing to be more environmentally conscious? Panelists who own their home were asked if they have made any of six environmentally conscious changes in their home in the past 12 months. (See Figure 7.) More than half of panelists replied that they have replaced an old appliance with a more efficient model. Fewer have made any of the other listed changes. Teaching elders were more likely than members to have an energy audit done; otherwise, similar proportions of members and teaching elders made each change. Based on the low percentages of panelists taking some of these actions, it may be that more awareness needs to be raised about ways Presbyterians can make their homes more environmentally-friendly.

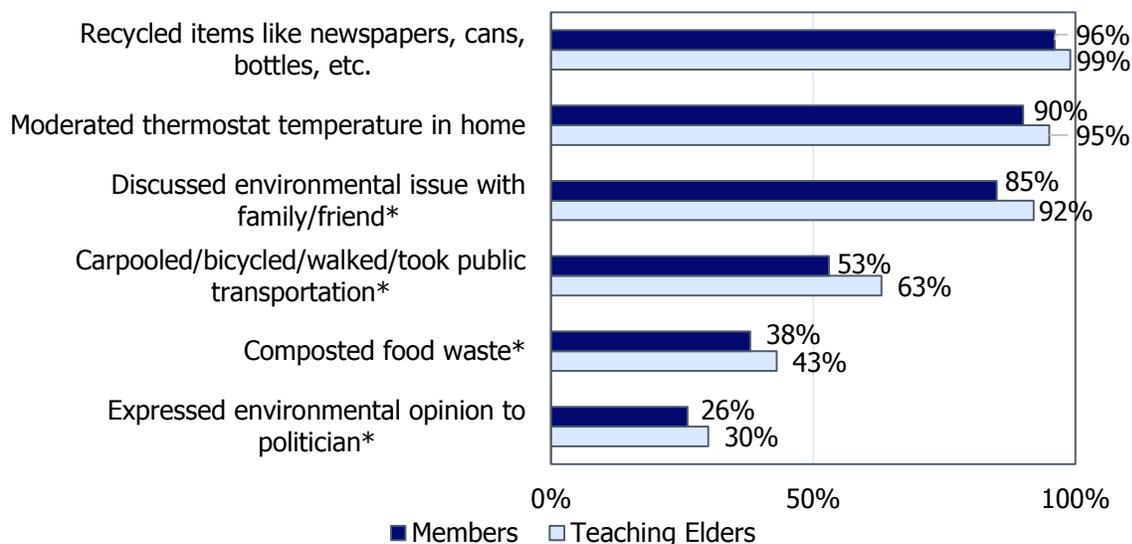
Figure 7: Environmental Changes Made to Home in Past 12 Months (n=1,186)



**Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.*

Do Presbyterians lead an environmentally conscious lifestyle, in general? Panelists were asked whether they took each of six specific environmental actions in the past 12 months. (See Figure 8.) Teaching elders are leading the way in doing the more “inconvenient” actions (sharing their opinion with a politician, composting, avoiding excess car transportation), but high majorities in both groups have done simpler tasks like recycling, saving energy by moderating their thermostat temperature, and having conversations about environmental issues.

Figure 8: Environmental Actions Done in Past 12 Months



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

Have Presbyterians been growing more environmental over time? Looking at some of the same/similar questions about environmental activities that were asked in earlier panel surveys can help answer this question. (See Table 2; for help in interpreting this table and all other tables in the report, see the description of Table 1 on page 8.)

Over the past 25 years, many more members and teaching elders report carpooling, bicycling, walking, or using public transportation as an alternative to excessive car use. Also, these survey questions were worded more broadly in the 1991 and 1997 surveys (which asked if anyone in the panelists’ household took these actions, instead of just the panelists themselves). The increases in some of these actions through the years are therefore likely even more dramatic than what is shown.

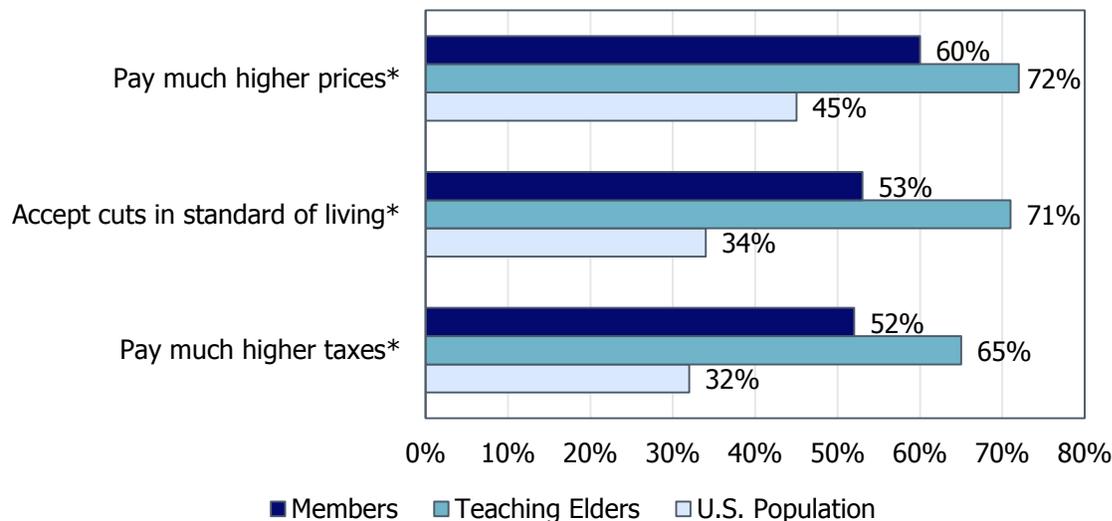
Table 2: Environmental Actions Taken by Panelists, 1991 - 2016

		1991	1997	2009	2016	Total Change
Carpooled/bicycled/walked/ public transportation	M	34%	34%	45%	53%	+19%
	TE	43%	43%	59%	63%	+20%
Composted food waste	M	31%	—	30%	38%	+7%
	TE	33%	—	35%	43%	+10%
Communicating environmental opinion to politician	M	19%	17%	17%	26%	+7%
	TE	29%	24%	24%	30%	+1%
Discussed environmental issue with family/friend	M	—	—	81%	85%	+4%
	TE	—	—	90%	92%	+2%
Recycled items like newspapers, cans, bottles, etc.	M	—	95%	92%	96%	+1%
	TE	—	96%	96%	99%	+3%
Moderated thermostat temperature to save energy	M	—	—	91%	90%	-1%
	TE	—	—	95%	95%	0%

Note: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders

Not only are Presbyterians increasingly participating in some specific environmental activities, they are also more willing than the U.S. population to sacrifice financially for the environment. When asked if they would pay higher prices, pay higher taxes, and accept cuts in their standard of living to protect the environment, most panelists are “very willing” or “fairly willing” to do so. (See Figure 9.) In each case, teaching elders are more likely to be willing than members, but both members and teaching elders are more likely to be more willing than the general U.S. population (as measured in the 2010 General Social Survey).

Figure 9: Willingness to Sacrifice Financially to Protect the Environment



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

Over time, Presbyterians’ willingness to sacrifice financially on behalf of the environment has stayed relatively constant, but it has always been higher than that of the general population. (See Table 3.)

Table 3: Willingness to Do Each of the Following to Protect the Environment

		1997	2009	2016	Total Change
Pay much higher prices	M	59%	53%	60%	+1%
	TE	75%	73%	72%	-3%
Accept cuts in standard of living	M	54%	—	53%	-1%
	TE	77%	—	71%	-6%
Pay much higher taxes	M	44%	41%	52%	+8%
	TE	60%	64%	65%	+5%

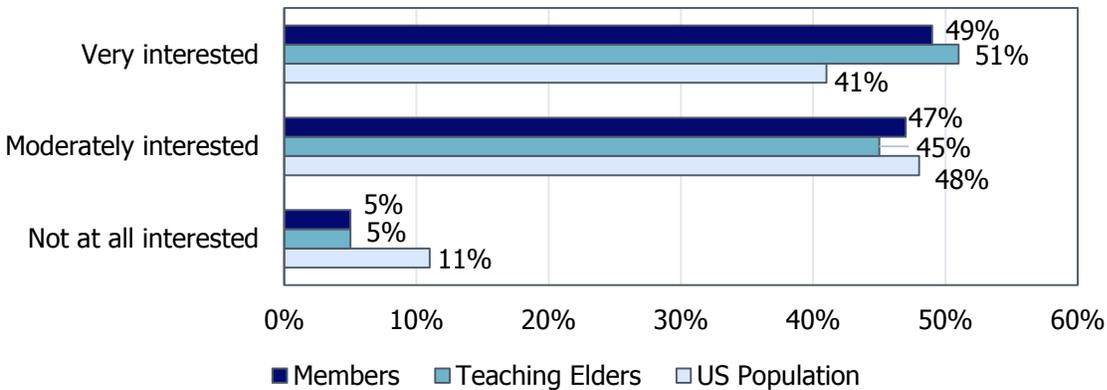
Note: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders

However, Presbyterians show a similar level of interest in issues of environmental pollution as does the general public. Panelists’ interest in issues about environmental pollution was measured on a five-point scale, with the following response options: very interested, interested, moderately interested, slightly interested, and not at all interested. To compare these results with the results from a similar question on the 2014 General Social Survey that had three response options (very interested, moderately interested, slightly interested), the Panel survey variable was recoded to three categories

by adding half of the additional categories' percentage totals ("interested," "slightly interested") to each adjacent response option. For example, 40% of teaching elders answered "interested," so 20 percentage points were added to "very interested" and another 20 percentage points were added to "moderately interested."

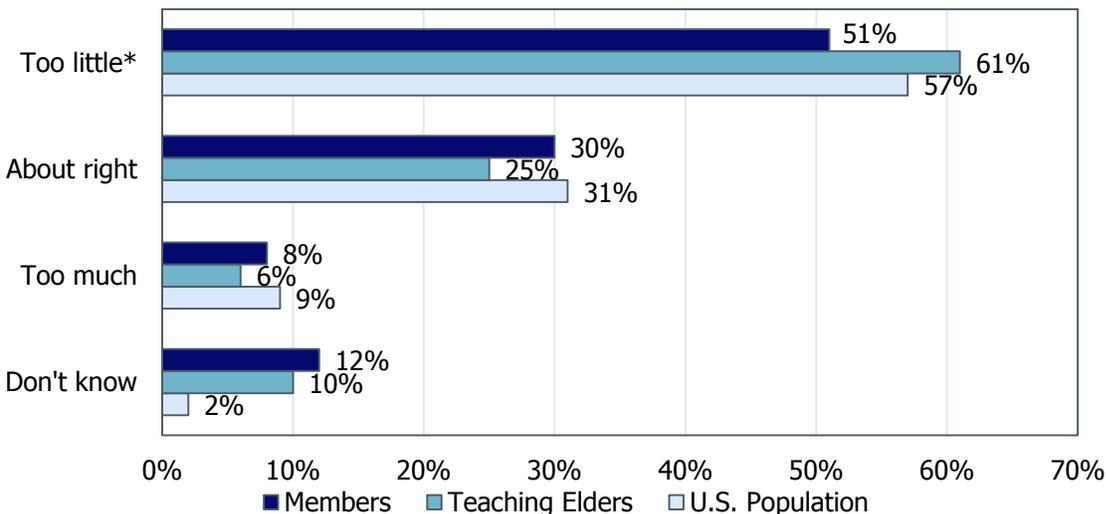
As Figure 10 shows, there's little difference between members and teaching elders' interest in environmental pollution, and both are only slightly more interested in these issues than the general U.S. population.

Figure 10: Level of Interest in Issues about Environmental Pollution



Presbyterians also tend to share the U.S. population's opinions about government spending on the environment. A similar technique as that described above (to compare questions with different numbers of response options) was used to compare panelists' opinions to those of the U.S. population (as recorded by the 2014 General Social Survey), regarding whether the U.S. is spending too much, too little, or the right amount on improving and protecting the environment. Figure 11 shows that teaching elders are more likely than members to think that the U.S. is spending too little in this area, and that the opinions of teaching elders more closely mirror the U.S. population.

Figure 11: Is the U.S. Spending Too Much, Too Little, or the Right Amount on the Environment?

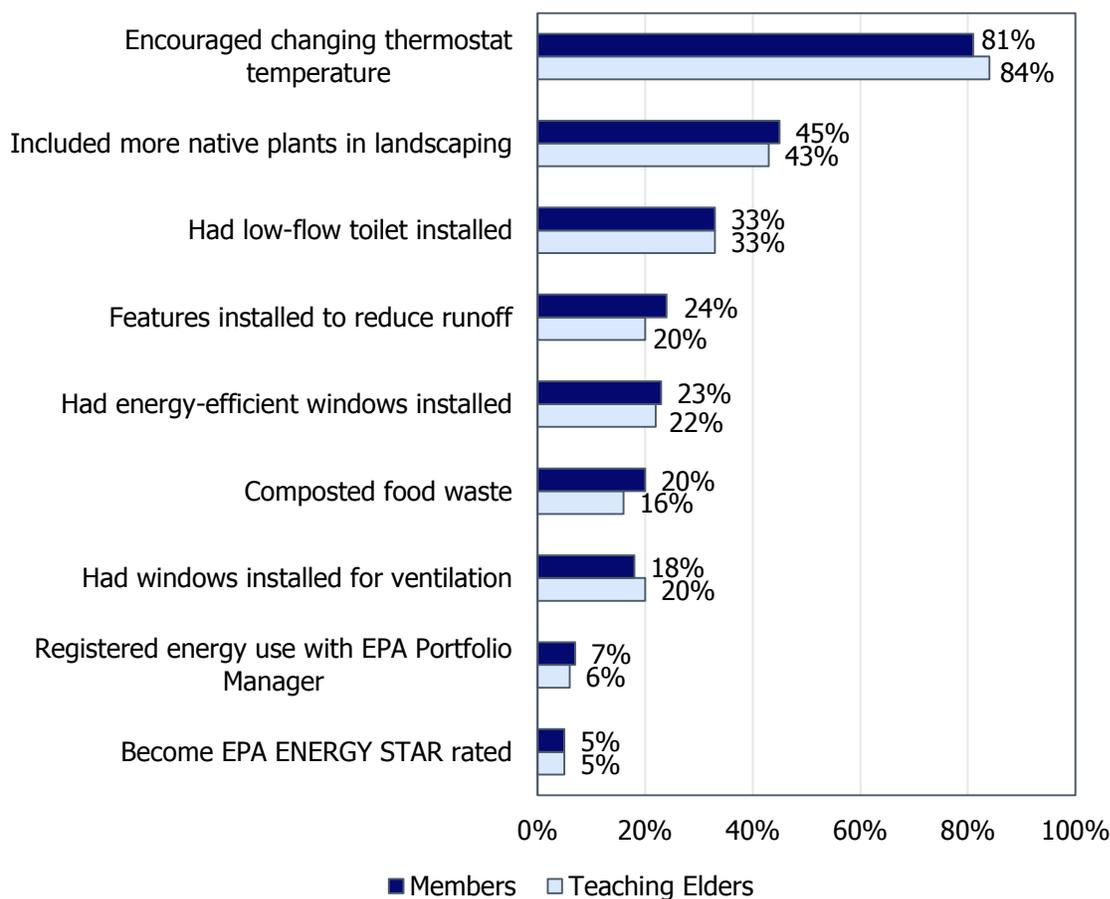


**Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.*

Your Congregation and the Environment

Do Presbyterian congregations take actions to support the environment? Panelists who serve or regularly attend worship at a PC(USA) congregation were asked whether their congregation has done any of nine specific environmental activities in the past 12 months. (See Figure 12.) Among panelists who are aware of whether each of these activities occurred in the congregation, members' and pastors' responses are quite similar. Most panelists report that their congregation adjusted their thermostat temperature to save energy, but fewer than half report that their congregation did any of the other environmental actions in the past year.

Figure 12: Environmental Actions Taken by Panelist's Church in Past 12 Months (n=1,230)



Note: Only panelists who answered "yes" or "no" to each question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "not sure" and "not applicable" responses).

How do congregations' recent environmental actions compare to changes they've made in the past? In a 2009 environmental survey, panelists were asked about whether their congregation had done seven of these nine activities in the past year. (See Table 4, next page.) In 2016, more congregations are composting food waste and installing features to reduce runoff (e.g., bioswales, rain barrels, rain gardens, pervious concrete). Fewer congregations are installing energy-efficient windows or windows to create natural ventilation. Perhaps many congregations had already upgraded to these types of windows by 2016.

Table 4: Environmental Actions Taken by Panelist’s Church in Past Year, 2009 vs. 2016

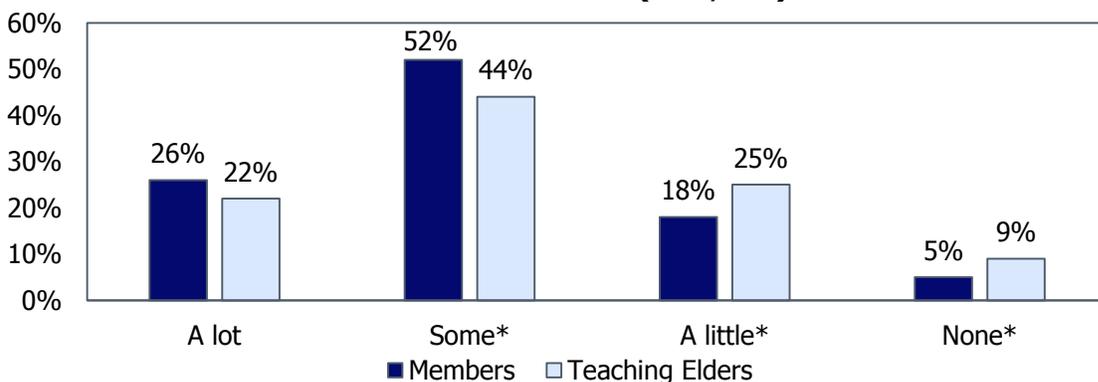
		2009	2016	Total Change
Composted food waste created at the church building	M	4%	20%	+16%
	TE	6%	16%	+10%
Installed features to reduce runoff	M	13%	24%	+11%
	TE	17%	20%	+3%
Installed a low-flow toilet	M	26%	33%	+7%
	TE	30%	33%	+3%
Included more native plants in landscaping	M	42%	45%	+3%
	TE	43%	43%	0%
Encouraged changing thermostat temperature	M	81%	81%	0%
	TE	83%	84%	+1%
Had energy-efficient windows installed	M	25%	23%	-2%
	TE	30%	22%	-8%
Had windows installed for ventilation	M	25%	18%	-7%
	TE	27%	20%	-7%

Notes: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders

Only panelists who answered "yes" or "no" to each question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "not sure" and "not applicable" responses).

Presbyterian congregations also tend to give a moderate amount of emphasis on their energy efficiency and water conservation. Panelists were asked how much emphasis on energy efficiency and water conservation there is among the person(s) in the congregation who are responsible for making recommendations about the care and upkeep among the church’s building and grounds. Among panelists with substantive answers (that is, excluding those who said “don’t know” or not applicable), around half say that there is “some” emphasis placed on energy efficiency and water conservation by this person or people. (See Figure 13.)

Figure 13: Emphasis on Congregation's Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation (n=1,008)

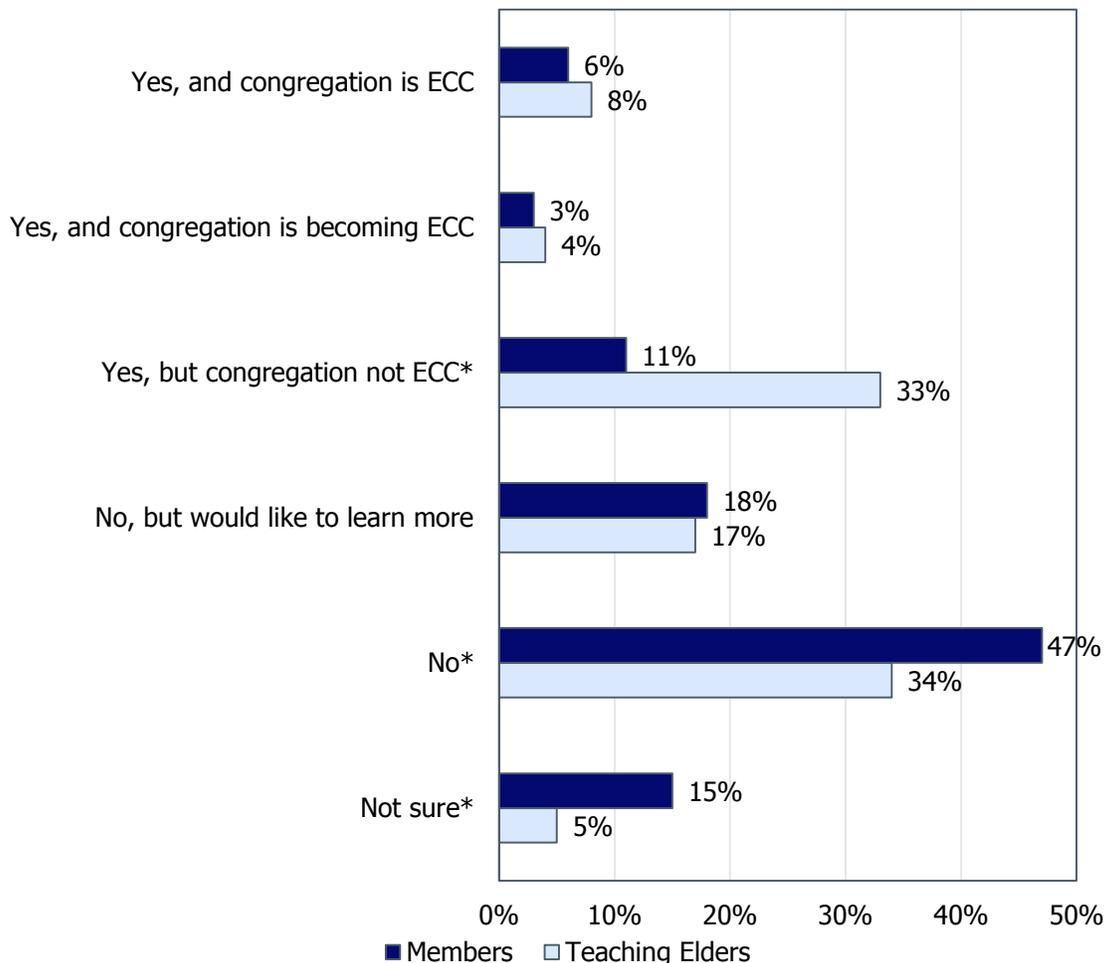


Note: Only panelists who gave a substantive answer to this question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "don't know" and not applicable responses).

*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

Nearly half of teaching elders, but only one in five members, has heard of the Earth Care Congregations program (ECC), created by the Environmental Ministries office. Churches can become certified as Earth Care Congregations by completing environmental activities and projects. (See Figure 14.) Around one in ten panelists in each group are involved in a congregation that is currently an ECC or becoming one.

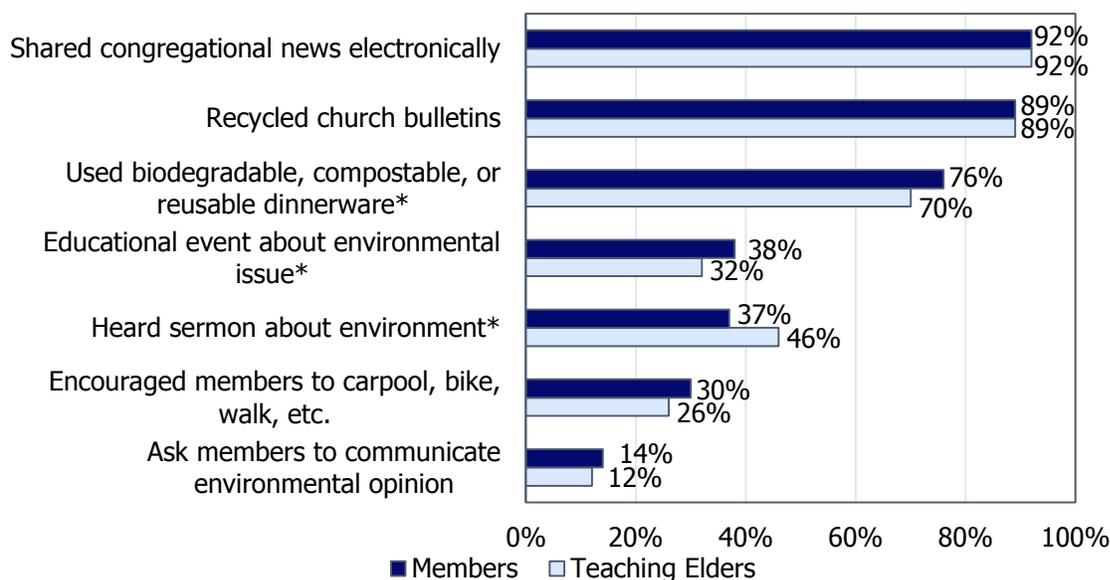
Figure 14: Are You Aware of the PC(USA)'s Earth Care Congregations Program? (n=1,285)



**Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.*

What other environmental activities do Presbyterian congregations participate in? Panelists were next asked if their congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation) has done any of seven environmental activities in the past 12 months. (See Figure 15.) Among those who were aware of whether such actions had occurred, majorities report that their congregation shared news electronically, recycled bulletins, and used earth-friendly or reusable dinnerware in the past year. Teaching elders are more likely than members to recall hearing a sermon about the environment (perhaps because they were the one to preach it!).

Figure 15: Environmental Activities the Congregation Has Participated In, Past 12 Months (n=1,294)



Note: Only panelists who answered "yes" or "no" to each question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "not sure" and "not applicable" responses).

**Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.*

These same activities were asked about in a 2009 Panel survey. The activities that ranked highest in 2016 are the ones that increased most between 2009 and 2016: sharing news electronically; using earth-friendly dinnerware; recycling church bulletins.

Table 5: Environmental Activities of Congregation In Past Year, 2009 vs. 2016

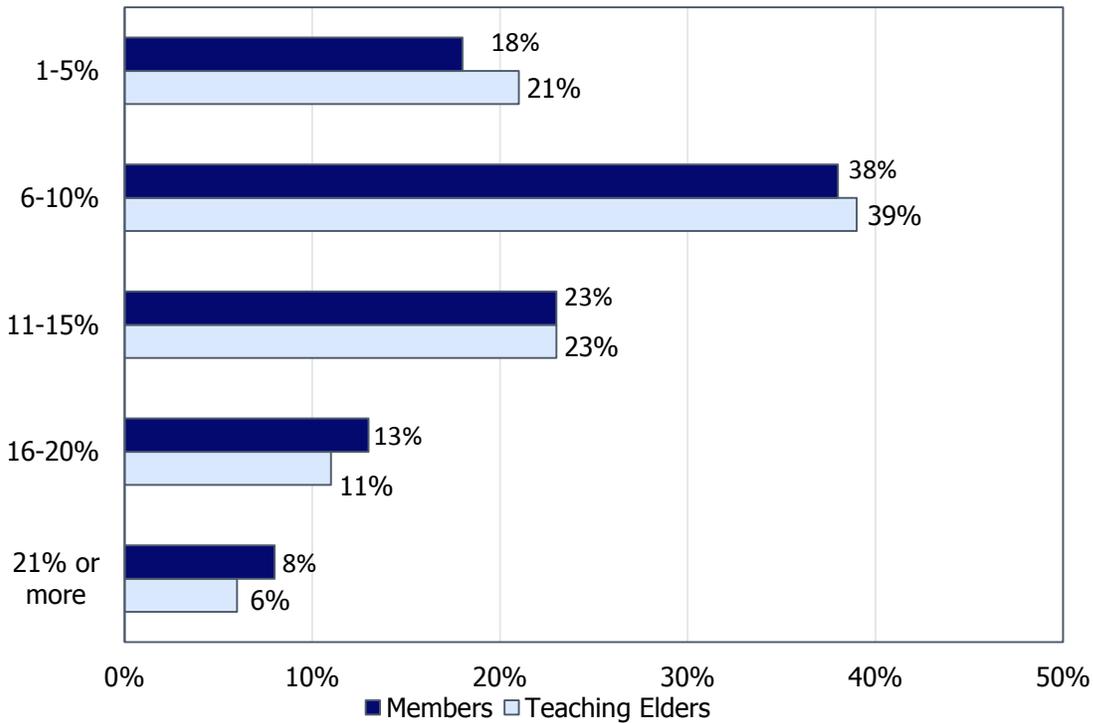
		2009	2016	Total Change
Shared congregational news electronically	M	78%	92%	+14%
	TE	80%	92%	+12%
Used biodegradable, compostable, or reusable dinnerware	M	63%	76%	+13%
	TE	66%	70%	+4%
Recycled church bulletins	M	78%	89%	+11%
	TE	78%	89%	+11%
Encouraged members to carpool, bike, walk, etc.	M	20%	30%	+10%
	TE	31%	26%	-5%
Educational event about environmental issue	M	29%	38%	+9%
	TE	42%	32%	-10%
Heard sermon on the environment	M	29%	37%	+8%
	TE	48%	46%	-2%
Asked members to communicate environmental opinion	M	10%	14%	+4%
	TE	17%	12%	-5%

Notes: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders

Only panelists who answered "yes" or "no" to each question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "not sure" and "not applicable" responses).

The use of utilities can create high environmental costs (as well as high financial costs for congregations!). Panelists were asked what percent of the congregation’s budget is spent on utilities, and were encouraged to ask church staff or read the congregation’s annual report to find the answer. (See Figure 16.) Nearly one-third of teaching elders, and two-thirds of members, were unsure. Among those who felt comfortable giving a specific answer, over half report that the congregation spends 10% or less of its budget on utilities.

Figure 16: Percentage of Congregation's Budget Spent on Utilities (n=710)

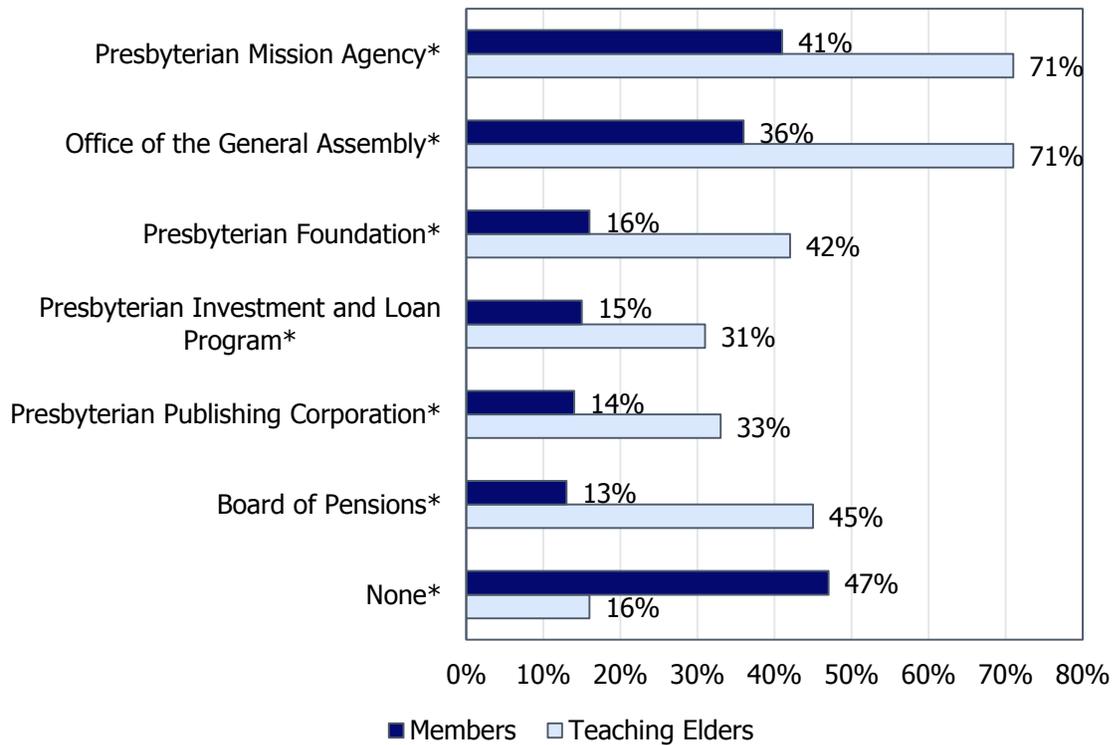


Note: Only panelists who gave a substantive answer to the question are factored into figure results (i.e., excludes "not sure" responses).

The PC(USA) and the Environment

Are Presbyterians aware that each of the six agencies of the PC(USA) is involved in environmental work? To measure this knowledge, the survey asked whether panelists were familiar with each of the agencies’ environmental work prior to taking the survey. (See Figure 17, next page.) Perhaps not surprisingly, teaching elders are much more knowledgeable about the environmental work of each agency, compared to members (nearly half of whom weren’t familiar with this work in any of the agencies). The highest percentages of members and teaching elders are aware of the environmental work of the Presbyterian Mission Agency and the Office of the General Assembly, perhaps the two most well-known agencies of the PC(USA).

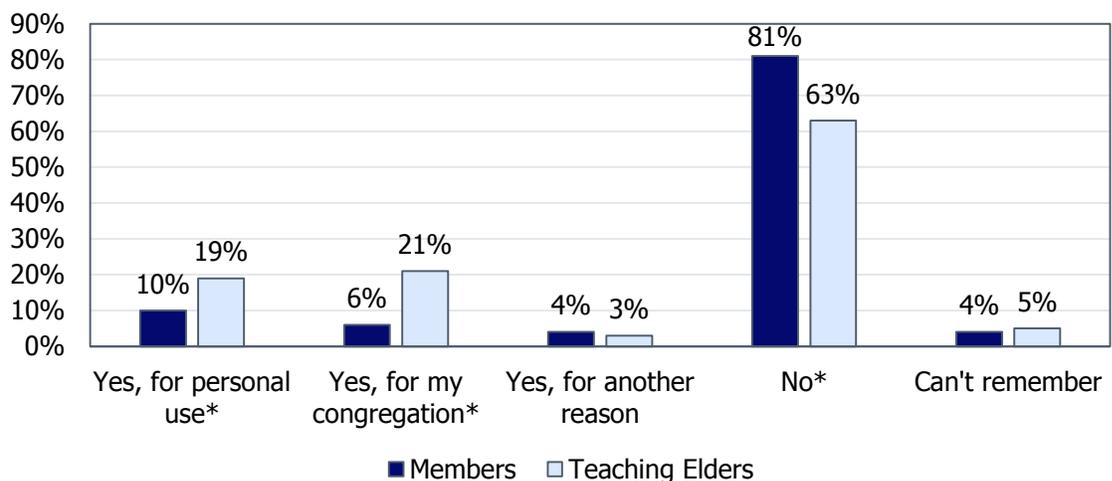
Figure 17: Awareness of Each PC(USA) Agency's Environmental Work



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

Do Presbyterians seek out denomination-specific resources about the environment? Panelists were asked if they had searched for Presbyterian resources that address the connection between Christianity and the environment in the past two years. (See Figure 18.) More teaching elders than members report having done so, both for their personal use and for their congregation. However, the majorities in each group did not search for any such resources.

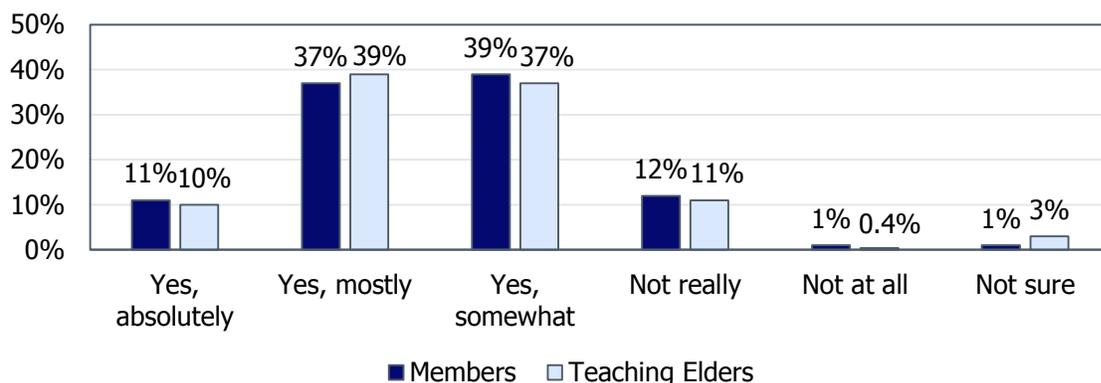
Figure 18: Recently Looked for Presbyterian Resources about the Environment



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.

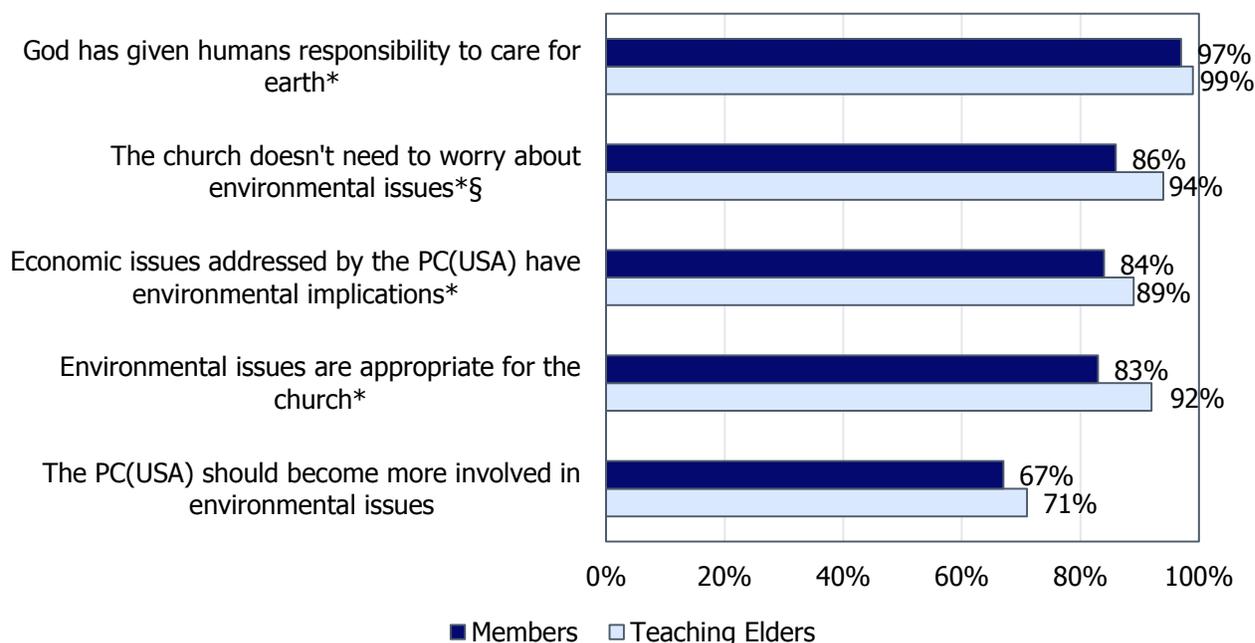
Did these Presbyterians find helpful denomination-specific resources on the environment when they looked? Around half of all members and teaching elders who had searched for Presbyterian resources on the environment answered “yes, absolutely” or “yes, mostly.” (See Figure 19.) While this does indicate the presence of valuable Presbyterian resources on the environment, it also indicates that there is room to create even better resources, or to more effectively promote the ones that do exist.

Figure 19: Did You Find Presbyterian Resources on the Environment that Fit Your Needs? (n=331)



How do Presbyterians view the role of the church in issues regarding the environment? Panelists were asked whether they agree or disagree with each of five different statements about religion and the environment. (See Figure 20.) Majorities agree with each statement in a way that affirms the important place of environmental issues in the Christian faith. For nearly every statement, teaching elders have stronger opinions than members.

Figure 20: Panelists who "Somewhat Agree" or "Strongly Agree" with Each Theological/Environmental Statement



*Indicates a statistically significant difference in response between members and teaching elders.
 §This question was reverse-coded; higher scores indicate higher disagreement.

Over the past 25 years, members have grown to more strongly embrace the church’s efforts to care for and promote the environment, while teaching elders’ opinions have stayed more or less constant. (See Table 6.)

Table 6: Panelists’ Agreement with Theological/Environmental Statements, 1991 - 2016

		1991	1997	2009	2016	Total Change
Environmental concerns are appropriate for church	M	64%	68%	67%	83%	+19%
	TE	91%	93%	92%	92%	+1%
PC(USA) should become more involved in environment issues	M	55%	—	45%	67%	+12%
	TE	72%	—	62%	71%	-1%

Note: M=Members; TE=Teaching Elders

Appendix A: Survey Questions and Responses Environmental Stewardship Presbyterian Panel: Volume 1, 2016

	Members	Teaching Elders
Number of completed surveys	654	807

Environmental Problems

1. Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.

	Members	Teaching Elders
a. Agricultural runoff (of pesticides, herbicides, etc.)	n=642	n=796
One of the most serious.....	40%	36%
No more serious than others	52%	54%
One of the least serious	6%	6%
Don't know	2%	4%
b. Climate change (global warming)	n=641	n=802
One of the most serious.....	67%	77%
No more serious than others	19%	14%
One of the least serious	13%	8%
Don't know	1%	1%
c. Consumer demand for more material goods in the United States and other wealthy nations	n=640	n=798
One of the most serious.....	24%	37%
No more serious than others	48%	47%
One of the least serious	24%	14%
Don't know	3%	2%
d. Consumption of oil, gas, and other nonrenewable resources	n=641	n=799
One of the most serious.....	48%	56%
No more serious than others	41%	36%
One of the least serious	11%	7%
Don't know	< 0.5%	1%
e. Destruction of natural areas and wildlife habitats from human encroachment	n=644	n=798
One of the most serious.....	61%	57%
No more serious than others	34%	38%
One of the least serious	5%	5%
Don't know	1%	1%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

	Members	Teaching Elders
1. [cont.] Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.		
f. Environmental contamination from chemical waste disposal	n=645	n=797
One of the most serious.....	56%	47%
No more serious than others	38%	46%
One of the least serious	5%	4%
Don't know	1%	3%
g. Environmental contamination from nuclear waste disposal	n=642	n=794
One of the most serious.....	44%	33%
No more serious than others	39%	48%
One of the least serious	13%	14%
Don't know	4%	4%
h. Loss of species through extinction	n=641	n=797
One of the most serious.....	37%	38%
No more serious than others	46%	47%
One of the least serious	15%	13%
Don't know	3%	2%
i. Mountaintop removal as part of the mining of coal, iron, copper, etc.	n=639	n=799
One of the most serious.....	31%	34%
No more serious than others	50%	51%
One of the least serious	15%	12%
Don't know	4%	3%
j. Uneven distribution of water resources (both clean water and water in general)	n=642	n=796
One of the most serious.....	51%	59%
No more serious than others	35%	34%
One of the least serious	11%	5%
Don't know	4%	1%
k. Oil spillage from tankers and pipelines in lakes, rivers, oceans	n=640	n=796
One of the most serious.....	37%	31%
No more serious than others	51%	54%
One of the least serious	11%	14%
Don't know	2%	2%
l. Pesticide residues on food eaten by humans	n=642	n=797
One of the most serious.....	39%	31%
No more serious than others	43%	50%
One of the least serious	16%	17%
Don't know	2%	3%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

1. Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.

m.	Storage of spent nuclear fuel	n=638	n=798
	One of the most serious.....	28%	24%
	No more serious than others	47%	51%
	One of the least serious	19%	20%
	Don't know	6%	5%
n.	Potential destruction of water supply by fracking (extraction of natural gas from the earth)	n=638	n=794
	One of the most serious.....	40%	43%
	No more serious than others	37%	40%
	One of the least serious	18%	13%
	Don't know	5%	4%
o.	Industrial, commercial agriculture as the main global model for food production and consumption	n=633	n=784
	One of the most serious.....	25%	33%
	No more serious than others	46%	45%
	One of the least serious	23%	17%
	Don't know	6%	5%
p.	Other (please specify): _____	n=76	n=81
	One of the most serious.....	57%	65%
	No more serious than others	15%	9%
	One of the least serious	3%	3%
	Don't know	26%	24%

2. Of the potential problems listed above, which do you think are the top three most serious environmental problems at the present time? (*Mark up to **three** of the letters corresponding to the problems listed in Q1.*)

		n=638	n=791
a.	Agricultural runoff (of pesticides, herbicides, etc.).....	20%	12%
b.	Climate change (global warming)	60%	73%
c.	Consumer demand for more material goods in the United States and other wealthy nations.....	13%	21%
d.	Consumption of oil, gas, and other nonrenewable resources	29%	37%
e.	Destruction of natural areas and wildlife habitats from human encroachment	34%	24%
f.	Environmental contamination from chemical waste disposal	25%	16%
g.	Environmental contamination from nuclear waste disposal.....	13%	7%
h.	Loss of species through extinction	12%	15%
i.	Mountaintop removal as part of the mining of coal, iron, copper, etc.	5%	6%
j.	Uneven distribution of water resources (both clean water and water in general).....	29%	39%
k.	Oil spillage from tankers and pipelines in lakes, rivers, oceans.....	10%	4%
l.	Pesticide residues on food eaten by humans	13%	8%
m.	Storage of spent nuclear fuel	6%	4%
n.	Potential destruction of water supply by fracking (extraction of natural gas from the earth)	14%	12%
o.	Industrial, commercial agriculture as the main global model for food production and consumption	8%	12%
p.	Other (please specify): _____	3%	3%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

	Members	Teaching Elders
3. Is there solid evidence the climate is changing? (<i>Mark only one option.</i>)	n=647	n=802
Yes, because of human activity.....	49%	64%
Yes, because of natural patterns.....	10%	6%
Yes, but we don't know the cause.....	10%	9%
Mixed evidence.....	24%	17%
No.....	5%	3%
Not sure.....	2%	1%

You and the Environment

4. Do you or another family member in your household own your home?	n=641	n=800
Yes.....	90%	78%
No (<i>skip to Q6</i>).....	10%	23%
5. [<i>If "yes" to Q4,</i>] In the last 12 months, have any of the following been done to your home?		
a. Had an energy audit done on it	n=557	n=607
Yes.....	16%	22%
No.....	80%	76%
Not sure.....	1%	1%
Not applicable.....	3%	2%
b. Installed a solar panel system or other renewable energy system	n=553	n=606
Yes.....	3%	3%
No.....	94%	95%
Not sure.....	0%	< 0.5%
Not applicable.....	3%	2%
c. Installed a window made of energy-efficient glass	n=557	n=610
Yes.....	30%	29%
No.....	66%	67%
Not sure.....	< 0.5%	1%
Not applicable.....	4%	3%
d. Replaced an old appliance (heating or air-conditioning system, dishwasher, clothes washer or dryer, refrigerator, etc.) with a more efficient model	n=563	n=607
Yes.....	58%	60%
No.....	38%	38%
Not sure.....	1%	< 0.5%
Not applicable.....	3%	2%
e. Added weather-stripping to doors and windows	n=558	n=609
Yes.....	35%	38%
No.....	60%	59%
Not sure.....	1%	< 0.5%
Not applicable.....	4%	3%

		Members	Teaching Elders
5.	[If “yes” to Q4,] In the last 12 months, have any of the following been done to your home?		
[cont.]			
f.	Added insulation	n=554	n=609
	Yes	25%	23%
	No.....	70%	72%
	Not sure.....	1%	1%
	Not applicable.....	4%	3%
6.	In the last 12 months, have you personally done each of the following and, if you have done this, how often?		
a.	Carpooled, bicycled, walked, or taken public transportation (such as a bus, train, or subway) to church, work, or school	n=637	n=798
	No or not sure	37%	29%
	Once, or a few times	23%	28%
	Monthly.....	8%	9%
	Weekly.....	14%	15%
	At least daily.....	8%	11%
	Not applicable.....	10%	8%
b.	Composted food waste	n=633	n=799
	No or not sure	56%	53%
	Once, or a few times	12%	13%
	Monthly.....	2%	4%
	Weekly.....	9%	10%
	At least daily.....	15%	16%
	Not applicable.....	7%	4%
c.	Recycled items like newspapers, cans, bottles, etc.	n=644	n=800
	No or not sure	4%	2%
	Once, or a few times	3%	3%
	Monthly.....	4%	5%
	Weekly.....	26%	25%
	At least daily.....	63%	66%
	Not applicable.....	< 0.5%	< 0.5%
d.	Talked about an environmental issue with a friend or family member	n=641	n=796
	No or not sure	14%	7%
	Once, or a few times	31%	27%
	Monthly.....	23%	27%
	Weekly.....	25%	31%
	At least daily.....	6%	7%
	Not applicable.....	1%	1%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

6.	In the last 12 months, have you personally done each of the following and, if you have done this, how often?		
[cont.]			
e.	To save energy, moderated the temperature at which a thermostat is set in your home	n=639	n=796
	No or not sure	7%	5%
	Once, or a few times	10%	6%
	Monthly.....	7%	7%
	Weekly.....	12%	17%
	At least daily.....	61%	65%
	Not applicable.....	2%	1%
f.	Wrote a letter, sent an email message, or made a telephone call to a politician expressing your opinion on an environmental issue	n=631	n=785
	No or not sure	72%	67%
	Once, or a few times	18%	23%
	Monthly.....	4%	5%
	Weekly.....	2%	1%
	At least daily.....	2%	1%
	Not applicable.....	3%	3%
g.	Other environment-related practice (please specify): _____	n=109	n=153
	No or not sure	38%	34%
	Once, or a few times	9%	13%
	Monthly.....	4%	8%
	Weekly.....	6%	12%
	At least daily.....	21%	12%
	Not applicable.....	22%	20%
7.	How willing would you be to:		
a.	Pay much higher prices to protect the environment?	n=642	n=791
	Very willing.....	16%	25%
	Fairly willing.....	44%	47%
	Neither willing nor unwilling.....	22%	16%
	Not very willing.....	13%	8%
	Not at all willing.....	6%	4%
b.	Pay much higher taxes to protect the environment?	n=638	n=792
	Very willing.....	16%	23%
	Fairly willing.....	36%	42%
	Neither willing nor unwilling.....	24%	16%
	Not very willing.....	14%	12%
	Not at all willing.....	11%	8%
c.	Accept cuts in your standard of living to protect the environment?	n=643	n=794
	Very willing.....	14%	23%
	Fairly willing.....	39%	48%
	Neither willing nor unwilling.....	26%	18%
	Not very willing.....	14%	8%
	Not at all willing.....	6%	3%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

	Members	Teaching Elders
8. How interested would you say you are in issues about environmental pollution?		
	n=640	n=799
Very interested.....	30%	31%
Interested.....	39%	40%
Moderately interested.....	22%	21%
Slightly interested.....	9%	8%
Not at all interested.....	1%	1%
9. Would you say that the U.S. is spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on improving and protecting the environment?		
	n=642	n=801
Much too little.....	34%	46%
Somewhat too little.....	34%	30%
About right.....	10%	8%
Somewhat too much.....	5%	4%
Much too much.....	6%	4%
Don't know.....	12%	10%

Your Congregation and the Environment

10. Do you serve or regularly attend worship at a PC(USA) congregation?		
	n=643	n=801
Yes.....	92%	91%
No (<i>skip to Q16</i>).....	8%	9%

If you answered “no” to Q10, please skip to Q16. If you answered “yes” to Q10, and you serve or attend more than one PC(USA) congregation, please answer the next set of questions about the congregation you are most involved in.

11. [<i>If “yes” to Q10.</i>] In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...		
a. Changed the church’s landscaping to include more plants native to your geographic area		
	n=575	n=715
Yes.....	30%	36%
No.....	36%	48%
Not sure.....	31%	11%
Not applicable.....	3%	5%
b. Composted food waste created at the church building		
	n=577	n=717
Yes.....	12%	14%
No.....	48%	71%
Not sure.....	39%	12%
Not applicable.....	2%	4%
c. Encouraged changing the temperature at which thermostats in church buildings are set to save energy		
	n=578	n=716
Yes.....	54%	76%
No.....	13%	14%
Not sure.....	32%	9%
Not applicable.....	2%	2%

		Members	Teaching Elders
11.	[If “yes” to Q10.] In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...		
[cont.]			
d.	Had a low-flow toilet installed in the church	n=572	n=712
	Yes	19%	28%
	No.....	39%	56%
	Not sure.....	41%	14%
	Not applicable.....	1%	3%
e.	Had features installed on church property to reduce runoff, such as bioswales, rain barrels, rain gardens, or pervious concrete	n=575	n=717
	Yes	16%	17%
	No.....	50%	69%
	Not sure.....	32%	11%
	Not applicable.....	2%	3%
f.	Had energy-efficient windows installed	n=574	n=715
	Yes	16%	19%
	No.....	53%	66%
	Not sure.....	29%	11%
	Not applicable.....	2%	4%
g.	Had windows installed that can be opened for ventilation as an alternative to air-conditioning	n=578	n=714
	Yes	12%	17%
	No.....	54%	69%
	Not sure.....	28%	8%
	Not applicable.....	5%	7%
h.	Registered its energy use with the EPA Portfolio Manager tool to track money and energy savings	n=578	n=716
	Yes	3%	5%
	No.....	38%	72%
	Not sure.....	57%	22%
	Not applicable.....	2%	3%
i.	Become EPA ENERGY STAR rated	n=571	n=717
	Yes	2%	4%
	No.....	42%	74%
	Not sure.....	54%	20%
	Not applicable.....	2%	2%

	Members	Teaching Elders
12. How much emphasis on energy efficiency and water conservation is there among the person or people in your congregation whose responsibilities include making recommendations about the care and upkeep of the church's building, grounds, and facilities?		
	n=579	n=717
A lot	17%	19%
Some	34%	38%
A little	12%	22%
None.....	3%	8%
Don't know	31%	10%
Our congregation doesn't have anyone with these responsibilities	2%	3%
13. Are you aware of the PC(USA)'s Earth Care Congregations program? (Churches become certified as Earth Care Congregations by completing environmental activities and projects in fields of worship, education, facilities and outreach.) <i>(Mark only one option.)</i>		
	n=570	n=715
Yes, and my congregation is an Earth Care Congregation	6%	8%
Yes, and my congregation is working on becoming an Earth Care Congregation	3%	4%
Yes, but my congregation is not an Earth Care Congregation	11%	33%
No, but I would like to learn more about this program	18%	17%
No.....	47%	34%
Not sure.....	15%	5%
<i>[Those who answered "No, but I would like to learn more about this program" were asked to provide their contact information, which has been tabulated separately.]</i>		
14. In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...		
a. Asked members to write letters, send e-mail messages, post messages online, or make phone calls stating their opinions on an environmental issue		
	n=577	n=724
Yes	10%	11%
No.....	61%	78%
Not sure.....	28%	11%
Not applicable.....	1%	1%
b. Encouraged members to carpool, bicycle, walk, or take public transportation (such as a bus, train, or subway) to church		
	n=579	n=725
Yes	22%	23%
No.....	52%	66%
Not sure.....	24%	7%
Not applicable.....	2%	4%
c. Had an educational event or study group about an environmental issue		
	n=577	n=724
Yes	29%	29%
No.....	47%	62%
Not sure.....	24%	8%
Not applicable.....	1%	1%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

		Members	Teaching Elders
14.	In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...		
[cont.]			
d.	Heard a sermon during worship that emphasized environmental issues	n=575	n=724
	Yes	28%	41%
	No.....	47%	49%
	Not sure.....	24%	10%
	Not applicable.....	< 0.5%	1%
e.	Recycled church bulletins	n=576	n=722
	Yes	76%	85%
	No.....	9%	10%
	Not sure.....	15%	4%
	Not applicable.....	< 0.5%	1%
f.	Shared congregational news electronically (on a Web site, by email, etc.) instead of producing hard-copy newsletters	n=579	n=723
	Yes	90%	89%
	No.....	8%	8%
	Not sure.....	2%	1%
	Not applicable.....	1%	2%
g.	Used biodegradable, compostable dinnerware, or dinnerware that is washed and reused, instead of disposable eating ware	n=575	n=720
	Yes	59%	63%
	No.....	19%	27%
	Not sure.....	21%	9%
	Not applicable.....	1%	1%
h.	Other (please specify): _____	n=42	n=70
	Yes	45%	54%
	No.....	5%	13%
	Not sure.....	26%	4%
	Not applicable.....	24%	29%
15.	On average, what percentage of your congregation's budget is spent on utilities (e.g., gas, electric, water)? (You may need to ask church staff for help answering this question. This information is often made available in an annual report, distributed at a church's annual meeting.)	n=564	n=712
	1-5%.....	7%	15%
	6-10%.....	15%	28%
	11-15%.....	9%	16%
	16-20%.....	5%	8%
	21% or more.....	3%	4%
	Not sure.....	62%	31%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

The PC(USA) and the Environment

16.	Each of the six agencies of the PC(USA) is involved in activities to help protect and preserve the environment. Prior to taking this survey, did you know that each of the agencies were involved in this type of work? (<i>Mark all that apply.</i>)	n=585	n=784
	Board of Pensions (partners with Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI)).....	13%	45%
	Office of the General Assembly (has offered statements on environmental issues, negotiates sustainable conferencing spaces for General Assembly and Big Tent).....	36%	71%
	Presbyterian Foundation (provides environmentally-friendly options for investment).....	16%	42%
	Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP) (offers church loans to improve energy efficiency).....	15%	31%
	Presbyterian Mission Agency (diverse environmental justice ministries, such as the Presbyterian Hunger Program, Mission Responsibility Through Investment, and Environmental Ministries)	41%	71%
	Presbyterian Publishing Corporation (PPC) (mainly prints books on demand to reduce waste, uses electronic communications to revise manuscripts).....	14%	33%
	None of the above	47%	16%
17.	In the past two years, have you looked for Presbyterian resources that address the connection between environmental issues and Christian faith? (<i>Mark all that apply.</i>)	n=634	n=798
	Yes, for personal use.....	10%	19%
	Yes, for my congregation.....	6%	21%
	Yes, for another reason (specify): _____	4%	3%
	No.....	81%	63%
	Can't remember	4%	5%
17a.	[If "yes, "] Overall, did you find resources that fit your needs?	n=95	n=236
	Yes, absolutely.....	11%	10%
	Yes, mostly	37%	39%
	Yes, somewhat.....	39%	37%
	Not really	12%	11%
	Not at all.....	1%	< 0.5%
	Not sure.....	1%	3%
18.	Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?		
a.	Environmental issues are appropriate social concerns for the church	n=636	n=798
	Strongly agree	54%	68%
	Somewhat agree.....	29%	24%
	Neither agree nor disagree	9%	5%
	Somewhat disagree	5%	2%
	Strongly disagree	4%	2%
b.	The PC(USA) should become more involved in environmental issues	n=634	n=794
	Strongly agree	36%	37%
	Somewhat agree.....	31%	34%
	Neither agree nor disagree	17%	16%
	Somewhat disagree	8%	8%
	Strongly disagree	8%	4%

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 due to either rounding or the ability to select more than one option
n = number of respondents who replied to this question

18. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

[cont.]

c.	Economic issues addressed by the PC(USA) have environmental implications (e.g., hunger/poverty, disaster assistance)	n=634	n=791
	Strongly agree	53%	63%
	Somewhat agree	31%	26%
	Neither agree nor disagree	11%	8%
	Somewhat disagree	3%	2%
	Strongly disagree	2%	2%
d.	The church doesn't need to worry about environmental issues, because the environment is God's domain	n=628	n=793
	Strongly agree	2%	2%
	Somewhat agree	2%	2%
	Neither agree nor disagree	11%	3%
	Somewhat disagree	17%	14%
	Strongly disagree	69%	80%
e.	God has given humans a responsibility to care for the earth	n=633	n=792
	Strongly agree	84%	92%
	Somewhat agree	13%	7%
	Neither agree nor disagree	3%	1%
	Somewhat disagree	< 0.5%	< 0.5%
	Strongly disagree	< 0.5%	< 0.5%

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.

[*Tabulated separately.*]

Appendix B: Responses to Open-Ended Survey Questions Environmental Stewardship Presbyterian Panel: Volume 1, 2016

1. Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.

p. Other (please specify):

- A public that is uneducated, or ideologically resistant, about the real facts regarding climate change.
- Acid mine run off
- Acid rain
- Additives and hormones to animals and food
- Air pollution - smog
- Air pollution from coal burning power plants
- Air pollution, smog, light pollution
- Automobiles, fossil fuel, excessive lifestyles
- Beef cattle flatulence (methane production)
- Burning to clear land for farming
- Calling humans the main cause of environmental problems whereas much is within the natural cycle of environmental cycle
- Coal ash storage resulting in spills and waterway/watershed contamination.
- Coal mining in China--puts mercury in the air that then ends up in US waters
- Complete disconnect between humans and nature in first-world nations
- Conflict/war over scarce resources
- Contamination of air, water allowed with lax environmental regulation.
- Conversion of farmland into developments - loss of farms
- Corporate power via Citizen's United decision- leading to lack of power of individuals
- Deforestation (n=2)
- Degrading of the water infrastructure
- Destruction of tropical forests
- Diesel fumes are known to cause dementia (i.e. Alzheimer's & Parkinson's)
- Donald Trump as President
- Earth worshippers denying DDT to the 2/3rds world to eradicate malaria
- Economically expensive options with little payoff
- Electromatic pulse
- Environmental activists
- Environmental contamination from manufacture of chemicals, especially along waterfronts
- Environmental fascists
- Environmentalist restrictions on effective mosquito pesticides, allowing preventable diseases to decimate poor populations.
- Expansion of pipelines
- Focusing on environmental issues instead of the human condition
- Food waste from residential and commercial sources
- Genetically modified food
- Get Monsanto off food!!
- Global cooling
- Global loss of soil
- GMOs (n=3)

1. **Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.**

[cont.]

p. Other (please specify):

- Government subsidies to fossil fuel businesses
- Greed and selfishness
- Have church teach from Bible instead of running the world
- Household and community health lead, radon, formaldehyde
- Human greed
- Hysterical concern over imagined environmental problems and falsification of global warming data.
- I would like to see PCUSA do more to encourage vegan lifestyle
- Improper disposal of excess prescription medicine
- Incoherent environmental, agricultural and energy policies
- Individualist rather than communitarian life
- Industrial contamination of soil, air, water, vegetables
- Irrigation
- Lack of government funding of green power supplies and defunding of harmful power supplies.
- Lack of local food, goods; resources - ie - shipping pollution - tankers, planes, trucks, etc.
- Lack of reforestation
- Lack of theological understanding of the earth and creation.
- Lead in bullets used in hunting.
- Loss of farmlands, bird habitats
- Loss of fresh water supplies through depletion of aquifers, wasteful practices, and climate change
- Meat production
- Medicinal residue contaminants in drinking water
- Natural disasters and extreme weather
- Non-point specific water pollution
- Non-degradable plastics dumped into the oceans
- Not enough options for recycling
- Not making it the LAW to recycle and fining people if they do not recycle. It should not be optional.
- Nuclear proliferation
- Ocean acidification
- Ocean contamination from plastics
- Ocean dumping of garbage, sewage
- Overpopulation & greed of industrial countries
- Overpopulation (n=6)
- Overregulation
- Persistence of plastic waste, especially in the oceans
- Pesticide use that decimates bee populations
- Plastic trash in the oceans
- Plastic waste in our oceans
- Plastics and trash in the oceans
- Plastics disposal
- Political and general public resistance to science
- Political leaders who deny climate change.
- Political teaching in our schools/universities
- Population

1. **Below is a list of some different environmental problems. For each item, please indicate whether you think it is, in your opinion, one of our most serious environmental problems, no more serious than other environmental problems, or one of our least serious environmental problems.**

[cont.]

p. Other (please specify):

- Population control
- Population growth
- Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus to people who are not saved.
- Removal of trees to make room for more crops or housing
- Renewable energy and sustainability
- Respected persons speaking out in plain language in church about global warming & adopting solar and other changes to better steward our planet
- Should encourage local farming ind. owned, self-sustaining.
- Similar to (b) (e) and (o): Deforestation
- Zoning ordinances that prevent construction of fast food restaurants
- Storm water run-off mismanaged in cities
- Suburban sprawl.
- Switching to sustainable energy sources
- The human's ability to understand & grapple w/these issues
- The most serious problem is the estrangement of humanity from the earth.
- The rape of oceans by China & Japan
- The rise of disposable good, appliances
- The search for a fix it pill, rather than doing the hard work of caring
- The spewing of hatred by political candidates
- Too many laws & regulations
- Trash from over-consumption of plastics and waste
- Uncontrolled population growth
- Use of antibiotics in animals who are factory farmed - cars, trucks and roadways run-off.
- Use of pesticides and chemicals damage (i.e. bees etc.)
- Waste created in armed conflict
- Water pollution/trash build-up

2. **Of the potential problems listed above, which do you think are the top three most serious environmental problems at the present time? (Mark up to three of the letters corresponding to the problems listed in Q1.)**

p. Other (please specify):

- A lack of courage in the PCUSA to be honest about what the Bible and the Book of Confessions teaches.
- A lack of understanding nature
- All contamination of water.
- Bee loss
- Burning to clear land for farming
- Complete disconnect between humans and nature in first-world nations
- Conflict/war over scarce resources
- Degraded water supplies
- Electromatic pulse
- Environmentalist restrictions on effective mosquito pesticides
- Incoherent environmental, agricultural and energy policies
- Loss of tropical forests
- None

2. **Of the potential problems listed above, which do you think are the top three most serious environmental problems at the present time? (Mark up to three of the letters corresponding to the problems listed in Q1.)**
[cont.]

p. Other (please specify):

- Overpopulation (n=4)
- Plastic waste in the oceans
- Plastics in the ocean
- Political and general public resistance to science
- Population growth (n=2)
- Presbyterian Church getting involved with environmental issues.
- Storm water run-off in cities is polluted
- Suburban sprawl
- The human condition
- Too little encouragement for recycling

6. **In the last 12 months, have you personally done each of the following and, if you have done this, how often?**

g. Other environment-related practice (please specify):

- Attended educational programs & encourage recycling as business owner
- Avoided excessive shopping
- Backyard kitchen garden
- Became an Earth Care Congregation
- Begun supporting a renewable electricity provider
- Biomass as heat source
- Bought a hybrid vehicle
- Bought a Prius
- Bought environmentally friendly products
- Bought local organically grown food
- Boycott bottled water
- Brought our obligation to be good stewards of creation to the attention of my congregation
- Build habitat
- Changed light bulbs and water heater temperature
- Chosen to telecommute instead of using any transportation
- Close shades for insulation / summer & winter
- Compost, recycle water
- Conserve water
- Conserve water & electricity
- Contributed to environmental cause
- Country life: have to drive so have Hybrid car. Every spring we walk and pick up trash along roads
- Cut down amount of water used - washing, bathing, wherever I can.
- Cut water usage
- Discussed in worship
- Discussed my options
- Donations
- Drive diesel
- Drive electric car
- Driving an electric car
- Eaten less meat
- Eaten organic food

6. In the last 12 months, have you personally done each of the following and, if you have done this, how often?
[cont.]

g. Other environment-related practice (please specify):

- Encourage more plant-based diet
- Encouraged the church to refrain from using plastic flatware, Styrofoam plates and cups
- Energy-efficient light bulbs
- Feed scraps to wild animals
- Fertilizers for organic lawn & garden
- Fixed something instead of throwing away and buying new
- Gardener, Birds/Bees
- Gardening
- Gardening, collected recyclables from streets, not fertilized lawn
- Gauging one's own carbon footprint; using less (buying less)
- Gave money to environmental groups
- Gave sermons on caring for the environment
- Gone to a restaurant that uses reusable items instead of disposable
- Grow our own food, buy locally
- Hybrid car
- I don't wear shoes indoors
- I'm an environmental consultant professionally.
- Installed an on-demand hot water heater
- Installed a water meter
- Intentionally reduced consumption of material goods
- LED bulb & fixture replacement
- LED lights
- Limit travel
- Limit use of e-technology which wastes resources and supports pollution
- Live on a farm
- Live within 2 miles of work
- Local organic food use and produce
- Looked for place that recycles hard-to-recycle items
- Low speed in autos
- Manage a water bank for victims of fracking
- My job is as a remedial project manager to clean up chemical problems
- New car w/better MPG
- Not consumed animal products
- Operate/own vehicles that get more than 26 mpg
- Organic gardening
- Participated in a protest
- Pick up trash on roadside, etc.
- Plant native species
- Planted a tree
- Planted vegetables in yard
- Pray
- Preached & lectured on it
- Preached a sermon on the environment
- Preached concerns
- Preached on the topic and participated in denominational & community environmental groups
- Preached the gospel of Jesus
- Public event organized presbytery taught classes
- Purchase environmentally safe products
- Purchase second-hand items, instead of new.

6. In the last 12 months, have you personally done each of the following and, if you have done this, how often?
[cont.]

g. Other environment-related practice (please specify):

- Purchased shares in a local solar field
- Purposely consume less
- Re-use other items
- Recycle "grey water"
- Recycle metal
- Recycling of old batteries, etc.
- Recycling soldering chemically
- Regifted, reused, or sold items no longer needed
- Reuse of items
- School
- Sell high-efficiency equipment
- Significantly reduced water usage
- Slow down car speed
- Slowed driving speed
- Solar awareness educating others about my home solar
- Sponsored training
- Stopped irrigating my lawn
- Storm water runoff
- Summer garden
- Telecommuted, saving the energy otherwise expended in travel
- Try to conserve water usage, purchase less - clothing, luxury items
- Trying to save water; turn off unused lights
- Undertaken to educate myself and others on critical environmental issues including climate change, energy alternatives and agricultural production
- Use an electric car
- Use bio-friendly products
- Use greywater
- Use my own bags for groceries, pick up trash when I walk my dogs
- Use only reusable shopping bags at all stores
- Used cloth bags instead of plastic
- Used compost & natural fertilizers rather than chemical in garden
- Vegan
- Volunteer in parks to plant plants, clean up trash, etc.
- Voted for politicians with good environmental records
- Water barrel for rain run-off. LED lights
- Water conservation
- We purchase wind energy
- Worked with other small farmers to grow/prepare/can/store their own food

14. In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...

h. Other (please specify):

- 1. Installed more energy efficient heating in the sanctuary. 2. Installed air hand-dry machines to reduce paper towel waste
- Advised members to keep church environment clean
- Care for creation is a frequent theme in sermons and prayers, because it is a frequent theme in the Bible

14. In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...
[cont.]

h. Other (please specify):

- Coffee mugs in our café, LED bulbs through facility
- Considered that feeding people's stomach and souls is more important installing solar panels?
- Created Urban Community Garden & Compost
- Fed the poor
- Held a worship service outdoors
- Held community events/seminars on energy, water, ecology & agricultural issues
- House a program for distribution of used clothing
- Improved disposal of cooking waste
- In the process of installing a new environmentally friendly HVAC system
- Included environmental issues in public prayers
- Installed an energy efficient HVAC system with programmable thermostats
- Installed LED lighting in sanctuary
- Installed solar 6 years ago
- Installed solar panels on church's roof
- Installed water system in Honduras
- Invested in a specially made roof for energy efficiency and sustainability
- LED lighting
- LED lighting installed in 80% of building
- Meetings on earth care situations
- Mostly use disposable eating ware for large gatherings. Our small group uses paper plates & old silverware in our crafters meetings
- Not paid attention to nonsense like is in this survey
- One elder collects all cans, papers, cardboard, plastic and recycles. Some members bring from their homes!
- Planned a medicinal herb garden
- Planning a prayer garden w/native plants. Grow a veggie garden on church grounds
- Planted and maintained a vegetable garden
- Previous energy audit, light upgrade, added insulation years ago
- Programs for recycle cans, bottles, etc.
- Protested an oil train
- Rainwater collection system to provide water to food pantry garden
- Re-useable communion cups, cut water usage to lawn area, low-water-use plants around manse.
- Recycle all trash weekly
- Recycle battery site for the county
- Recycle paper, plastic and other recyclable materials weekly
- Recycle plastic, glass, cans & pill bottles
- Recycle plastic, newspaper, glass
- Recycled all plastic, A10, cardboard
- Recycled cardboard, cans, glass, office paper, etc.
- Recycled glass, plastics, and cardboard
- Recycling bins on site
- Recycling of plastics, glass, cans & cardboard & paper
- Recycling office paper and kitchen items
- Replace all lighting systems with non-incandescent: sanctuary LED's, fluorescent bulbs, all security/grounds lighting LED
- Separate bins for recyclable materials
- Showed concern for the environment
- Starting a community and meditation garden

14. In the last 12 months, has your congregation (as a whole, or any group in the congregation)...
[cont.]

h. Other (please specify):

- Sunday School class has a recycled project calls "CAN Ministry"
- Switched the majority of our lights indoors and outside to LED fixtures
- Turned down water heater, turned off water fountain & coffee maker, turned off lawn sprinkler
- Turned off the sprinkler system; intentionally killed the grass on the side of the building
- Use of non-toxic cleaning materials, community garden, worm garden, veggies locally grown, organic, options for meals, connection with global mission environmental issues/partners
- Visited an organic farm and did worship outdoors
- Water resources. We are in a desert.
- We compost our waste from meals and from the food pantry
- We have lights and air on timers
- We wash communion cups instead of plastic. Have pastor around encouraging ecology then check tire pressure, lower thermostat, etc.

17. In the past two years, have you looked for Presbyterian resources that address the connection between environmental issues and Christian faith? (Mark all that apply.)

Yes, for another reason (specify):

- Bible study material
- Campus ministry
- Committee work
- Earth Day
- Educational use
- For a community group
- For camp & conference center I serve
- For my workplace
- For Presbytery Commission since we are going to have a program on environment
- For presbytery use
- For presbytery use
- For sharing with friends and clients
- For writing an overture to GA
- GA reports
- Good neighbors
- Hoping for ways to help
- Horizon Bible Study touches environment issues
- I lead a water mission to Mexico for our church
- Interfaith Food Collaborative
- Leading Episcopal youth retreats on environmental issues (water resources and conservation).
- Mission for providing clean water
- No, I didn't know there were any. I used other sources
- Overture preparation
- Presbyterian camp
- Presbyterian Women
- Presbytery
- Presbytery use
- Presbytery work
- Professional research

17. In the past two years, have you looked for Presbyterian resources that address the connection between environmental issues and Christian faith? (Mark all that apply.)
[cont.]

Yes, for another reason (specify):

- Programs at Mo-Ranch
- PW study lessons
- Resource center director
- Searching for logic in PCUSA values
- Share with non-Presbys
- Sunday school lesson
- Teaching resources
- To compare policies of organizations: religious, social, business, political
- To promote community garden and the type of gardening/plants we will do/plant
- Took a class on it at seminary in 2012
- Used them in Intersocial Interim positions
- Volunteer program
- Yes, in connection with my work
- Youth group

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.

- (1) I found the first two questions very hard to rank because some are more reversible whereas others are not, because some are of immediate threat and others are of limited immediate threat but greater long-term danger, and other such distinctions. (2) I believe the category "No more serious than others" was badly worded. It made me feel I was dismissing the impact of items to which I gave that rating, rather than ranking them as serious even though I felt other examples were even more serious. (3) My responses in other questions are less helpful than I would wish as (after two years in retirement) I am only three weeks into service in a new congregation. The survey serves as a helpful reminder of things I need to learn about my new congregation.
- 1. We have established an organic garden as a source for fresh produce for the food pantry we sponsor. 2. We have consolidated hours the church is open to conserve energy
- 1) Our church has operated a water bank for the past four years. We distribute approximately 300-400 gallons per week to families in the area whose water has been contaminated by fracking. 2) Most of the answers to Q11 were "NO" because the improvements were made prior to twelve months ago.
- A bit of hubris that the PCUSA can speak to these issues frankly. A kind of progressive liberal privilege at work - this survey & the upset of the PCUSA on anything.
- A camp is planning a program about environmental issues and how they relate to Biblical references.
- A church member is paying for recycling of paper products which are collected by a local waste disposal company. The congregation is contributing to the recycling bins with used/unused bulletins, other papers used, and cups, plates, and other items used for meal preparations. Our staff is highly aware of the need to recycle and make use of all papers by using both sides or turning leftover papers into scrap paper for notes. The missionary we support in Peru is working to eliminate pollution from a metal plant that is causing high levels of lead in the environment, air and water. When we renovate, we are planning to provide energy efficient appliances. We are aware of the need to monitor the heating/cooling systems and their expenses.
- A family member is testing a creek in town and recommending solutions to the city to improve water quality

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.
[cont.]

- A large building in the downtown requires a large portion of the budget. We concentrate on conservation more than actively promoting environmental projects
- A neighborhood garden that we led locals in planting and tending is used to help stretch our food bank and lunches for children and their parents. (Frankly, they would prefer coupons to McDonald's. We discovered we have some local education to do -- like, "This is a tomato. You cut it like this.")
- A rainwater collection system that takes run-off from the church roof and stores it in huge tanks which provide water to the community/food pantry garden. No more dragging hoses across the parking lot. No more city water for growing the food saving money.
- A very generous member of our congregation donated this beautiful garden, inside a courtyard, at our church about a year ago. It was built between our sanctuary and chapel. It adorns flowering trees along with boxwoods and crape myrtles. It is used for gatherings, wedding, receptions and other events. A fountain is its focal point and a variety of plantings provide seasonal color. The garden is projected to grow in grace and grandeur as it matures. I believe this is a fine example of exciting environmental news at our church! Thank you. (Also provided picture.)
- African Fellowship ministry at [name deleted] Presbyterian Church is encouraged to participate in improving clean the church property, educating youth to pick up boxes, soda cans, food remains, trash, plastic bags and throw them into a collection bin or huge trash container
- After 63 years, we just installed a new furnace, which cuts fuel use by 2/3. We had new metal doors installed the same year. Overall energy consumption is much lower. In a rural setting, we compost all fruit and veggie waste on someone's farm.
- All of our heating and cooling units are zoned and on timers to reduce waste.
- All the items listed in #1 are worthy of concern.
- An area adjacent to the parking lot has been converted to a vegetable garden. The proceeds are donated to a local food pantry
- An earlier question asked if our congregation "owned" its building---I checked yes, but believe that we hold it in trust for the denomination and for God...yes I'm being picky, but you will understand. And our own home is new (under 10 years old) so it is quite efficient and thus we have not needed to insulate, etc.
- As a congregation, we have lost significant financial support because of GA's push away from fossil fuels. Several families who own companies in the energy business have stopped giving to the degree they were in protest of GA's political/legislative leanings.
- As I filled out this survey, I realized that my responses may skew the results simply because I serve as an Interim Pastor who has just changed congregations. I make every effort to lift up these issues in the congregations I serve, but am still learning what is done in my new congregation.
- As noted above, I installed solar panels on my home five years ago. It turns out I was the first person in my village to do so.
- As pastors living in the manse, we will start composting piles behind our garden. Since the manse sits in full view of the church, we model actions and invite conversation that may inspire our people to do likewise.
- At age 97 I'm not quite able to attend church services. Am in a HUD facility with limited financial resources. But my envelope is sent every Sunday.
- At this point in my life I'm not involved other than Sunday and Circle. This is my third time to live here and being in this church - my husband had been an elder and Sun School teacher until our last time here - he had Parkinson's plus dementia. He was more involved & since he had been gone, I'm not as active. 90 years old now.
- Attended an interchurch seminar on this and reported to the congregations.

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.
[cont.]

- Because of God's appointment of human beings as caretakers, Christians should lead the way in avoiding environmentally wasteful living. That does not mean the PCUSA should be making political proclamations on environmental issues. Provide Bible-based resources, but leave the politics to individual Presbyterians.
- Because of the PILP our congregation has started the process of doing an energy audit with the goal of making capital improvements to reduce our carbon footprint. Thanks PCUSA!
- Better to concentrate on bringing souls to Jesus? If the pastors and PC(USA) have all that extra time, maybe they should reallocate to concentrate on sharing the faith and learning the Bible?
- Breeding the Mediterranean Spurred Thighed Tortoise to eliminate the need to remove them from the wild.
- BTW, in questions about actions taken in the last 12 months by me and by my church to address environmental concerns (insulation, efficient windows, and the like) the survey does not adequately measure such steps. Both my church and I personally have taken many, many such steps, just not in the last year. (You can't upgrade windows this year, for example, if you've done this a couple of years ago.) This is a flaw in the survey.
- Caring for bees!
- Changed most lighting to LED type and explored efficiency issues of our heating system.
- Changing from grass to desert landscaping.
- Changing our watering schedule (reduced times) as a response to the drought in California.
- Changing outdoor lightbulbs to more energy efficient ones
- Church-wide recycling program where members bring recyclables to church (cans, bottles) to sell to support of other programs. Awareness, involvement, friends!
- Clean-up projects and for congregations that team up with Boy Scout/Girl Scout organizations conserving and caring for the environment is a constant lesson for all participants
- Columbia Theological Seminary has an active sustainability committee, along with an active student group working on creation care issues. There is so much to tell: garden, 2 Gold Leed buildings, green cleaning products, composting, napkin project, no idle campaign, creation care sermon prize, courses on theology/Bible and creation, energy Sabbaths, commuting/walking initiatives (part of the clean air campaign), charter member of Seminary Stewardship Alliance, etc.
- Comment: I do not believe that protection of the environment is a PCUSA responsibility but I do believe that our Presbyterian churches have a responsibility to equip us as individuals to take care of the environment
- Common sense things like washing dishes though paper used sometimes; not heating/AC unused buildings during week; I would like PCUSA to suggest things we can do as individuals and congregations but not push political "solutions" that may have unintended negative consequences. We need to care both for environment and for our brothers and sisters.
- Community garden & orchard w/bird sanctuary added to empty space behind church
- Community gardening, considering solar panels
- Complete redo of landscaping to sought tolerant/resistant plants.
- Congregation of membership has embraced as many eco-friendly practices and building adaptations as humanly possible over the last three years.
- Considering solar panels & removing grass to save water. We are a SoCal PCUSA church
- Considering starting a community garden on our property
- Could have completed this online and saved the paper, mail fees, etc.
- Creation Care Committee of the Session reviews, monitors and communicates environmental issues and suggests action steps.

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.
[cont.]

- Creation Care reliance of Western North Carolina is working to bring together faith groups to work on environmental issues. Q7) I would be very willing but these are hard to do on an individual basis - we need government or community intervention
- Creational Theology is church appropriate, as is stewardship, but environmentalism is so steeply politicized as to be unnecessarily divisive. Politicized preaching is a major turn-off.
- Currently looking into changing all lighting to LED lighting.
- Did our congregation's funds to the PC(USA) pay for this survey? Please! Let's focus on love and brotherly love and let the environmentalists (and there are many more than us) focus on that!!!
- Different regions have different needs and ways of addressing them, e.g. rain barrels in Miami (avg. annual rainfall 57", snowfall none ever) is a silly idea to breed more mosquitoes. Also, the building questions with the 12 month limitation - it isn't necessary to do all these things every year, if they were done 3 or even 5 years ago they are still effective.
- During the summer of 2015, held summer-long series on water, using PW Horizons Bible study as resource.
- Each person is given a clean plate. We have person on staff to wash plates, silverware, cups, etc. We keep recycle take-home boxes for use afterwards.
- Earth Day/week events, Lenten devotions booklet, Season of Creation in worship, kids' veggie garden
- Encourage a plant-based diet. Encourage reduction in obnoxious, wasteful consumption and consumerism in the US.
- Evaluating solar panels
- Extensive recycling program.
- For the question asking if the church needs to worry about environmental issues I put neither agree nor disagree. I agree that God has called us to be good stewards of the land and to care for his creation. However, I think this the topics of this survey is what bothers me about our denomination. These questions were about 80% about the environment and 20% about God and his views. I just wish we could care about social issues while making God the center focus. And I know that you say that God is your main focus in all you do but it just seems like we get caught up in the current issues and concerns of the world we fail to fully trust God and his how his providential spirit is at work in the world. I wish our denomination would focus more on the glory and greatness of Christ. We do an okay job with this. I just wish that when we talk about the environment our main focus was on seeing God in nature and celebrating his glory instead of saying okay guys we have to really fix nuclear waste storage. We get lost sometimes and need to turn back to focusing on God and trusting him to lead us to a solution. I care for the environment because my spirit longs for all things to be made new and for the redemption of all things to come to completion.
- Giving away tomato plants every year.
- Great rain garden and education from company that installed it.
- Had an energy audit performed. Looking into solar panels. More efficient heating and cooling systems installed.
- Had building and equipment rated and evaluated. Plans for more insulation. Increased monitoring of thermostats
- Have a community garden which produces food for free community dinner. Also keeps our composted items usable at the church.
- Have encouraged carpooling
- Have stopped using disposable plates, cups, etc. Have installed extra efficient boiler to heat the facility. Installed new, efficient a/c. All done more than 12 months ago.
- Having had an energy audit this past summer and did the work that needed to be done. We also put up solar panels.

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[cont.]

- [Church name and location deleted] maintains a vegetable garden on its front lawn and harvests the results of this effort to send to a local food shelf. Also, the coffee served on Sundays is from a local company - Peace Coffee - that is environmentally responsible.
- I agree that the environment is important, but I think the church has more pressing issues with the breakdown in the family unit in the US.
- I agree that there is global warming for BOTH reasons; natural causes and human influences.
- I also work on a university campus - Jesuit Catholic - that has a large emphasis on sustainability. This is teaching the Presbyterian (& all) students about conservation & care in ways I hope they take to their faith communities upon graduation.
- I am a life-long member and former officer in my church. However, now as a senior citizen I participate only as a Sunday school and worship attender and as a financial supporter. I think the current officers and members are interested in the environment as individuals, but I am not aware of congregational programs involving current environmental issues. I have confidence in our leadership but am not interested in taking a leadership role.
- I am aware of my church installing energy efficient lighting
- I am co-pastoring a new creative worshiping community. We are paper free - no bulletins, newsletters or any other type of paper is used. We are either without or electronic. We also rent a building only on Sunday mornings - so we share space and have no building to worry about. I believe that we all need to recycle, use less materials and care for the earth. In our family we use no pesticides, no chemicals for cleaning our home, washing clothes or washing dishes and eat almost exclusively organic food. Thank you for your concern about our precious earth.
- I am concerned about the emphasis on using electronic communication rather than paper communication. Demand for electronics is much more environmentally damaging than using paper. Paper can be recycled and is biodegradable if disposed of otherwise, whereas computers, smart phones, and tablets will not biodegrade. Additionally, electronic devices are often manufactured in overseas sweatshops in which workers receive little to no pay and commit suicide because they are afforded no workplace rights. The church should be discouraging the constant upgrading of computers, smartphones, and tablets due to these factors, rather than pretending that it is actually more environmentally friendly to use an iPhone rather than a piece of paper for a newsletter.
- I am currently attending a UCC church. Their Winter/Spring catalog of offerings is called "Sacred Landscapes" and devotes programming to many different courses/meetings which address environmental issues and concerns. This is a peace & justice church, and caring for the environment is at the heart, always!
- I am currently working at a school in India which recycles - amazing since the idea of throwing garbage in a garbage can is counter-cultural
- I am encouraged and excited that PCUSA is involved in environment concerns and look forward to bringing info to our local church
- I am not a fan of questionnaires. The usefulness of the data is limited in my opinion other than to get a limited pulse of opinion.
- I am not an active church member but I am pleased the church has an interest in environmental concerns
- I am not aware of any occasion or program in which our church is involved regarding the environment.
- I am on presbytery staff, attending different congregations. In our presbytery 6 churches are growing local food, one hosts a farmers' market, one encourages indigenous food, the presbytery has made earth care a component part of each ministry goal, the presbytery hosted a climate change eco-tour.
- I am presently leading workshops with pastors about the churches role as stewards of the community and the world.

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[cont.]

- I believe parts of this survey are too restrictive in that you ask about "in the past 12 months." This church is a fairly new facility and all of those concerns were addressed when it was built.
- I believe that climate change is inevitable as a natural part of our ever changing world. There are things that we should do to help preserve the environment but don't think the church should spend majority of time/money on this. Seems that this has become an extreme obsession that creates bureaucratic jobs.
- I believe that the church must NOT deny the opinion of the majority of scientists and thus, in effect, align itself with pandering politicians. The church must not be silent.
- I believe that the environment is very important. Saying that, I also believe that the PCUSA should stay out of politics. One of the historic strengths of our denomination is our assertion that God is the Lord of the conscience. We need to spend more time focusing on our denomination's spirituality, and less time lobbying politically.
- I believe the environmental issues are a concern, but they are often overplayed. The environment is changing, but change is the only constant. Adapt or die. Be a good steward. Do not blindly sacrifice economic growth and the good it does (love your neighbor) to save the snail darter.
- I built a rain collection system to water my garden.
- I do agree that we (the church) should be involved in environmental concerns, there are just so many areas that need prayer and assistance, and we can only do so much. Sometimes it is difficult to prioritize. Thanks
- I do not believe environmental issues are a major concern for the church, and, the Presbyterian Church is WAY MORE LIBERAL than I am. It is a concern for me to sit by and watch the course the church takes.
- I drive a Nissan LEAF, an all-electric no gas car!
- I have been at my congregation for less than two months, so I don't know everything that may have been done before my arrival.
- I have a conservation easement on my farm & currently participating in USDA environmental quality incentives program and VA State Best Management Program.
- I have lived in 'the oil patch' of western Texas for more than thirty year, and many members of my church family are fossil fuel producers ... damned to Hell by the PCUSA environistas. There IS such a thing as moral/responsible fossil fuel production ... but you have no eyes to see, no ears to hear, and you will accept nothing less than the total destruction of their industry, and their way of life.
- I have written excellent Bible studies, worship and retreat materials for being Stewards of Creation based on The Tree of Life stories as bookends of Scripture (found in Genesis and Revelation). The very first retreat I led on this theme back in 1981 using The Lorax book, when I did my internship at [name deleted] in [location deleted]. [Name deleted] has strong connections with the PCUSA. Also, I have written reports (for Democrats Abroad, Germany and their national Women's Caucus) on how closely issues of women's equality and environmental justice are linked together. Progress on one will be good news for both. Thank you for asking. My presbytery has expressed no interest.
- I think it is wise for PCUSA to be concerned about our environment; however, I hope their concerns about the spirituality of the church is going to be of more importance than the environment.
- I just find it so odd that as the denomination continues to shrink and age, THIS is the kind of survey I get! Of course environmental issues are important and God cares about creation and calls us to take care of it...but--HOLY SHIT!--this is the wrong thing to be spending energy on today IMO. Seriously...
- I marked that I do not attend or serve in a PCUSA local congregation because I am a mission co-worker working in a country without a local PCUSA congregation.

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[cont.]

- I serve on Presbytery Commission for Nurture and Outreach and we are hosting a pre-Presbytery event in May that will focus on environmental issues. The Ohio Power and Light organization will co-sponsor. In December, I attended an event put on by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati on the environment and really expanded my ideas about what an event could bring to churches/individuals.
- I spent over a decade promoting the cold water resources at local, state and national level. It is very difficult to overcome human greed, to protect the environment, and allow human rights. It is impossible to legislate morality, and yet difficult to get the church to use scientific knowledge in a Godly manner. Hard to get back to Eden.
- I started an organic community garden
- I stopped answering questions about my household efforts to preserve energy because they asked what I have done in the last 12 mos. I have been in this house for 37 yrs and have regularly had audits, upgraded windows, insulation, power sources, and appliances, spending 10's of thousands on these. Unfortunately, none of these has been done in past 12 months. The questions do not reflect my actual efforts including high dollar expenditures to maximize energy efficiency of my home. Issue two regards looking to PC(USA) for leadership on these matters. My opinion is that this church has been so far beyond the curve on these that I have not relied on them for guidance in these matters. I have been focused on these matters for my entire adult life, and I am 66 years old. My best wishes are with this church as they engage in this, but I am further down the road with my own journey in these matters.
- I think the "green" issue is being carried too far compared to other pressing societal issues such as in the health field. The church should not be involved in a "political" issue like the environment!
- I think the denomination should be more involved, but I wish they would not focus so much on divestment as a means, I think there are much better ways in encouraging lifestyle changes that will really have impact. Divestment only consolidates wealth and makes it much harder to control.
- I tried to increase our recycling and received really poor response. I started an initiative to use coffee mugs instead of paper cups and people still seek out paper cups. It is very discouraging.
- I try to have a small carbon footprint and do my part to help protect the environment.
- I wish I had something to say here. On a more positive note, I am delighted to learn that the PC(USA) is so concerned about these issues and involved with them.
- I wish there were a great program within PC(USA) to help congregations install solar panels on their buildings. The tax credits do not help non-profit organizations, which puts it out of reach for many. We have large roofs...should be put to better use.
- I would like to see the church look at the consumption of meat/animal products as environmental issue. We do vegan potlucks multiple times per week at [name deleted].
- I would love to figure out a way to launch a community garden. A church in our presbytery has one and it sounded wonderful
- I'm a chaplain at a Presbyterian related continuous care retirement community and 85% of the time I do not use bulletins - but go digital for worship
- I'm an avid recycler. It hurts me when I see beautiful trees cut down to allow more space for farming or house construction. All windows were replaced in the home we sold & in my duplex all light bulbs have been changed to LED
- I'm retired and care for a congregation of 12 members. Staying alive is my congregation's main concern
- I've talked the talk, but haven't been good at walking the walk
- In a building on our campus (not the sanctuary), we installed a geothermal system.

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[cont.]

- In comparison we as PCUSA do a lot on environmental issues & virtually nothing on evangelism...everyone (church or not) should be concerned about environment, but only the church can do evangelism, so we are missing our main calling.
- In my mind, it would be helpful to distinguish environmental care concerns (which I support) from the political sham that is "climate change." I do not support this sham that serves to increase prices on the poor for no tangible benefit to the environment / climate. The climate is changing, as everything in life changes. It has been changing for millions of years. It will continue to change. The whole "climate change" agenda is simply serving to make some people rich, while the poor are hurt. The church should get out of the "climate change" politics and focus on caring for God's creation because it's our responsibility as Christians, not because it furthers a political party or agenda. I am all for conservation and protection. I grew up believing we should take care of the creation and pass it on better than we found it. But don't expect me to buy the sham about global warming. All this is doing is further polarizing our society and making people cynical about environmental issues.
- In my opinion the survey questions have a definite pro-environmental agreeable slant, likely to result in biased survey results. i.e. "leading questions" - Statistics 101. I am a retired environmental manager having worked for several large manufacturing companies, many of whom have closed with resulting loss of jobs (employment and poverty) in the southeast. I am concerned for the environment with a holistic view of the issues.
- In my work as a MFT, I find a variety of ways to share eco-justice concerns. Can be a part of sessions, organize symposia re: such, and am politically involved as a chaplain for the local Dem Party.
- In the case of declining membership, critical financial losses, the church (PCUSA) needs to focus more on its essential mission of proclaiming the gospel and enabling disciples, and finding new ways to train & retain teaching elders in effective ministry in dynamic new work paradigms
- Individual Christians should certainly be involved in environmental issues - as they feel led but the Church as an organization should focus on other things - like equipping people to live out their vocation in union with Jesus Christ whether they are coal miners or environmental activists.
- Installed 17 living waters for the world water systems. 16 in Guatemala, 1 in Cuba since 2006.
- Installed geothermal heat pump. Participate in State's Classified Forest Program. Spent \$1,000's cleaning up trash debris from rural property
- Installed solar system in my home. Composting
- Insulating the church building and installing new energy efficient windows.
- Intergenerational retreat with a theme of creation care at a church camp outside our city
- Investigating community gardens
- Involved in gardening that supports our food bank. Also, lots of recycling. Energy audits.
- Just became center care congregation spending whole day on earth stewardship in our summer VBS. Looking forward to do more.
- Just continuing to expand/deeper environmental awareness and consequences of behaviors in inaction and trying to instill new personal and congregational habits that are sustainable and revitalizing
- Landscaping with drought-resistant plants.
- LED lighting wherever possible
- Let's work to strengthen one's faith in Christ. These environmental issues are political issues! Not issues of salvation!!

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[cont.]

- Like many small congregations ([number deleted]), we are in survival mode. When you say in the first section "Do you own a home?" you did not factor in that many people own condos in which you are limited to the changes you may be able to make to your home environmentally.
- Limiting the questions on home energy upgrades to the previous 12 months precludes your gathering useful information. All of my answers in that section were "No" because I bought a house five years ago and did all the things listed in your questionnaire. In addition, I have installed timed thermostat controls in every house, manse, condo, etc., I've lived in for over 30 years.
- Living Waters for the World is one of most vital PCUSA ministries that I & others in my congregation support
- Living waters.
- Lots of recycling
- Maintaining and preserving green space in a rapidly developed suburban area. Approximately 6 acres for play, rest and recreation.
- Maintains garden on property with several tons of produce given to food pantry each year.
- Many of the answers were "no" because things were don't between 18-24 months ago, not within the last 12 months. So many of the energy saving, etc. things have been done.
- Many of the questions raised have been addressed prior to my arrival. Also, with a median age of 72 many do not apply
- Members of our congregation have developed a neighborhood garden in a nearby community which provides a nurturing environment for the soil and for them. The gardeners plan to plant milkweed to attract and feed monarch butterflies. Students will learn techniques for tagging them so they can be monitored on their migration route
- Memorial garden all desert landscaping
- More than 12 months ago, our church replaced all of our windows to be more energy efficient and added insulation. We are now a fairly efficient building. Our lights turn off and on automatically by sensors and clocks.
- Move the snow & ice
- Moving towards exploring installing a solar panel "farm" on the flat roof of our building. We have an old, historic bldg, so renovations have been slow and changes difficult to make.
- My church is very involved in improving the urban environment including teaching children about earth care.
- My congregation has a new composting and recycling program that has been an intergenerational project.
- My congregation has been aware of environmental issues for a long while and many years ago had an energy audit done and have been very conscious about controlling heat/air...there are a number of folks who have taken environmental issues very seriously....recycling etc. I'm sure we can do more but we are on the right track.
- My congregation is made up of Republicans and get defensive when they hear the words environmental environmentalist. They are willing to try new things when there is direct positive impact like lower electric bill. But they are leery when doing things because it considered good for the environment.
- My congregation is small and older, and is located in a small town with few (and declining) employment opportunities. Many of the questions asked were difficult to apply to us.
- My congregation maintains a community garden, providing produce for the neighborhood and a place for composting and our church is moving to 100% LED lighting.
- My congregation's gas and electricity usage in 2015 is the lowest it has been since 2008 - a close to 25% drop for gas usage from 2014, and a close to 10% drop for electricity usage from 2014.

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[cont.]

- My house has energy efficient windows. We don't have AC in either church I serve. We try to do everything we can to conserve energy
- My husband is an environmental scientist with 30 years in the field of environmental impact assessment. Almost daily he confronts the so-called environmental advocacy groups that misrepresent science to extract money from an ignorant public and government. In its zeal to do God's work, too often the church blindly follows the pronouncements of the environmental lobby (a multi-billion-dollar industry), pats itself on the back, and goes merrily along its way feeling self-righteous about its contribution to saving the planet. The church could focus on many more useful areas, such as helping the poor and homeless, before committing time and money to the "environment."
- My seminary: organic farm, solar panels, locally sourced food, etc.
- New rain gardens parking lot & new LED lighting
- New slate roof. Redoing food pantry & child development center, bringing to current codes
- New to my current congregation - unsure of their specific actions/plans/missional work in/with environmental concerns - but as it is an interest of mine I will explore.
- Not exciting, but trying to push to switch the thermostats to timer-type so heat and AC usage is more regulated and not dependent on any one individual in this small, rural church.
- Note: the reason I did not answer affirmatively on most of the #5 questions is that we did all of those things in our household several years ago (NOT in the last 12 months, except appliances.)
- Organized environmental justice committee and efforts to engage community, municipality in protecting low-income neighbors from pollution
- Other people focused issues are more important. Elect Christian congressman to ethically approach environmental issues. Spend church funds on direct people issue
- Our area has been impacted by water pollution - church should get involved
- Our church has a spiritual garden on timed drip irrigation, compliant with our city's aquifer/drought-protection policy. We are considering an energy-compliant upgrade to replace old high-pressure sodium and florescent lighting. I'm an Environmental Professional, and believe emphasis, if any, should be on: (1) availability of clean water locally and worldwide (wells, filters, plants, irrigation); then (2) safe, sustainable food availability (farming, markets, organics, composting); (3) livestock welfare (they part the ultimate sacrifice for our well-being and should not suffer to do it); (4) renewable resources (forestry, habitat, parks, recycling); (5) energy efficiency in facilities, homes, and transportation (solar, weatherization, cycling, public transit); then lastly, if there are individual professionals with proficiency in specialized fields, like: contamination, air quality, nuclear waste, etc. We do our part by changing our transportation, buying, eating, and living habits. Industry does their part by complying to new air quality regulations and installing BACTs.
- Our church has a vegetable garden to grow organic food for our pantry.
- Our church has energy and resource conservation programs for our church, tankless water heater, environmental certification, Earth Day programs, fundraising program for helping protect rhinos, Living Waters for the World, programs and projects, etc.
- Our church has installed solar panels.
- Our church has recently set up a 'Power to Change' group to look at environmental issues within our congregation
- Our church is old and we are in the process of building a new facility keeping the environment at the top of our decisions.
- Our church recently remodeled and updated facilities and landscaping taking in account conserving energy and water. Lent was designated as a time of study & reflection on environmental issues, reading pope Francis' encyclical on the environment for discussion and to stimulate action

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[cont.]

- Our church's Earthcare committee has accepted my daughter (11 years old) onto the committee and is having her share committee information with the youth of the church and getting them involved.
- Our community garden is organic and we also raise native flowering plants to attract bees and butterflies. We compost yard and garden waste. Our food, fruit and flowers go to a food pantry. We recycle as much paper, plastic and metal as we can.
- Our congregation has an active task force, Power to Change (under Mission and Outreach), which works on environmental issues. Recently, LED lights were installed in our sanctuary, the group is planning to install a charging station for electric vehicles, and various other aspects of environmentally-friendly ideas are brought to the congregation's attention and, often, implemented.
- Our congregation has done some of the environmentally helpful things listed (like a rain barrel) prior to the period designated.
- Our congregation installed energy efficient LED bulbs all over campus, and is working very hard to reduce our electric bill. However, the people doing this work are doing it almost entirely for financial reasons, to lower our power bill. They don't really care about the environment. In the summer, our power bill (mostly b/c of AC) is \$160+ per day.
- Our congregation invested \$25,000 in a rain garden that covers the front area of the church property.
- Our congregation is currently falling apart over the gay marriage issue that PC(USA) has shoved down our throats. The environment is way down our list of problems. I hate how liberal PC(USA) has become!
- Our congregation is extremely interested in, and IS involved with these environmental issues on a continual basis, we work continually to continue to deal with these issues and problems, and many of our membership are involved daily in projects facing our middle-sized and aging church.
- Our congregation is highly involved in Living Waters for the world: education, funding, and participation both in US of overseas
- Our congregation is very aware of recycling issues and have people responsible to recycle aluminum cans and paper
- Our congregation rents space from another Presbyterian church, so we don't have a lot of say in how the building and grounds are kept with regard to environmental concerns. Maybe we should ask to have a voice in those decisions.
- Our family tries to live more simply in general. My husband commutes by bicycle, I telecommute, we expect the kids to walk or ride bikes when can. And we always think twice before buying things. I believe most of our problems stem from focusing on worldly treasures rather than the kingdom. Too much stuff!
- Our grounds are well landscaped, from large trees to annuals and perennials, that I'm sure help with runoff and soil health
- Our Lenten book study was the Pope's encyclical on care for our common home, including small group discussions. During Lent about 15 congregants participated in the local climate change conference sponsored by an interfaith environmental alliance.
- Our presbytery is sending overtures on climate change for the 222nd GA.
- Our PW did us the Come to the Waters study by Judy Fletcher. It was a great study and certainly had much about the environment - As Adult Study - Sunday School - Leader, I'll look into a good study for the near future!
- Our sanctuary was built in 1856. One wing of the facility was built in 1956 and the other in 1965. We recently invested \$50,000 to improve the energy efficiency of our existing facilities. Our new Fellowship Hall will have the highest energy efficiency rating available for buildings of its kind.

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[cont.]

- Our Session has submitted an overture regarding an environmental issue for the 222nd GA, as the overall congregation has been slowly becoming aware of various environmental issues.
- Our tiny congregation of 5 people is not doing anything exciting, but we were able to improve the efficiency of our heat and air duct work in the last year.
- Our Youth group is recycling tin and aluminum for a project.
- Our youth group is very active environmentally. Their influence spills over.
- Ours is a small congregation of older people. Our church is struggling to survive. What we really need in an influx of young families who will take on the responsibilities of the church as our old folks pass away. What we are doing re: the environment -- is low on our priority list. Sorry.
- Over the last two years we have installed LED lights throughout our church - sanctuary, office, narthex, and outside - parking lot lights, flood lights. This has reduced our energy consumption while cutting down on maintenance. This is something all churches can do at little cost and should be encouraged
- Overall, this is an embarrassingly dishonest survey tool rent with double barreled questions and inappropriate response options. Sadly, the science underlying most of the denomination's environmental positions and strident (but mostly inaccurate) warnings and responses is junk. For example, Q18 - second statement: Although I strongly agree that the PCUSA should be more involved, it must not continue nor be more involved as it has with its blind acceptance of the hair-on-fire stridency of the eco freaks who seem to have captured its movement. Same with the eco-disinvestment responses which are totally inappropriate (drain out the money from those able to make improvement and NO IMPROVEMENT will be made! How socially/environmentally responsible is that? Show me some responsible science and I can take its advice more credibly in my Christian walk than I can with the foolishness I now see coming from the misled 'environmentalists' and even worse-led 'economists' who have captured our church's response options by shaming the unknowing with dishonest reports and projections. I answered all of the 'last 6 or 12 months' questions no because I had done all of these things many years ago. Why are you shaming me with this list in the guise of a survey now? Again, an embarrassingly dishonest survey tool. Shame on you.
- Participating in environmental concerns and activities in the community; in adult, youth and children's education programs about taking responsibility for the environment; installing environmentally sound heating and lighting systems as older buildings have been repaired, restored or converted into educational facilities for the congregation and for refugee resettlement ministries [name of ministry deleted]
- PC USA should encourage or underwrite investments which would make our congregation good exemplars. Revitalize Living Waters for The World. We think globally and act locally. It seems PCUSA talks globally and does not walk the talk. What is our denomination doing to set an example not telling others what to do?
- PCUSA church in [location deleted] was doing remarkable work - common ground gardening for food bank, hydroponics, seed farm, etc.
- PCUSA has involved itself with too many social issues. It should concentrate on what the Bible teaches.
- Personally I do not like the start of the questioner as it appears you blame agriculture for the problems. Ag is the only place that new product is made.
- Planning an energy use audit in the near future
- Planting "God's Garden" on the church property to feed the poor in the community. All produce that God provides will be organic
- Planting gardens at local government housing projects - Planting trees and eco-friendly plants on campus.
- Preparing recommendation for use of several undeveloped acres, restoring prairie, forest.
- Preplacing furnaces w/high efficiency ones

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[cont.]

- Presbyterians for Earth Care in this presbytery (Northern Plains) have become so obnoxious that supporters are voting against them at Presbytery meetings. All things in moderation, people.
- Protecting wetlands at our church camp. Also to clean river banks so as to not pollute
- Proud of friends at [church name deleted] (NY) for going green
- Q. 10 does not provide for churches that have taken these steps prior to the last 12 months-- this skews the picture of the state of environ. concerns in a congregation. These are not NEW issues, recognize that congregations have been acting on some of these matters for decades.
- Q1 - In actually they all could be most serious but that is not how question was written.
- Q1 needs to be paired with ease & economic feasibility (costs) of dealing with same - Including educating. I'm 86 & use a walker - 30 yrs ago I was very active in these issues.
- Q10. NO because of "Gay" marriage - not right, against Bible. Q19. Don't go there because they are marrying "Gays"!! Not right!!
- Q10. None close by - Methodist closest to us - attend there or watch Joel Osteen and 1st PC(USA) in Charlotte NC
- Q12. Low flow toilets - yrs ago. Windows - yrs ago. Will be landscaping after stain glass windows fixed. Q19. Reducing energy costs by more efficient use of our boiler. Insulated the attic of the C.E. building.
- Q13. Former congregation was certified & I helped with the process.
- Q13. We qualify but can't get anyone to do the paperwork - they think doing is more important than proving it. Q19. We grow veggies to teach children & adults. We worship in fellowship call in winter - has efficient new windows. Recycle buckets everywhere. Compost bins, lights off program, had energy credit & changed many fixtures to more efficient, changing sanctuary lighting more efficient.
- Q15. Part of our unity kerosene is donated. Q19. We are very small (17 members). We have members who would "agree" w/the statement above Q18-1). We have wonderful environmentalists. As pastor, I make some environmental decisions & for the most part the congregation follows - I walk the middle line but have stronger views than some members.
- Q16. Had not thought about it, as I'm not on those committees. Q19. We have a plot of land in our town of [location deleted] where anyone can raise a garden & it is a very busy place in summer. A lot of us raise part of our food at our homes & we share. Our minister was active in putting the lad to good use. He has a vegetable garden & encourages others. We have very active youth programs which we all support. In this day when some churches are losing teens, our programs are overflowing. I'm so proud.
- Q16. I am aware that the General Assembly has debated divesting of investments in oil company stocks. This is going to negatively impact the PCUSA financially. It also does not take into consideration the positive environmental impacts these companies support. These companies make & provide resources that contribute to the quality of people's lives, i.e., plastic for medical procedures.
- Q18. Which we are caretakers. (We should be responsible caretakers!)
- Q18d. Bad statement. If you bring people to Christ the other will follow, I believe. Main reason for church - don't need to preach on environment. Can include Earth Day etc. with small groups SS, etc.
- Q3. Bad question - you need to research "A Disgrace to the Profession" by Steyn. Climate changes frequently over the life of the planet.
- Q3. It's both. But the natural changes are exacerbated by human activity. Q18e. Is a strange question. We most definitely have a responsibility to care for the earth. To say "God has given humans..." is just odd.

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[cont.]

- Q3. I am a professional meteorologist, who took early retirement when my research proving this fact was suppressed. Q19. I am writing a book on the relationship of science to the Bible. Its final chapter, titled "Manifesto", concludes with: If we continue all our present practices, humanity will be extinct in two or three centuries. If we consistently follow our highest moral standards, and at the same time apply the best of our science and technology, we can stretch that to a million years. With continued increase in faith, love and knowledge, we just might last a billion years. God has done his part to make that possible. What will we do?
- Q3. The climate is always changing for goodness sake - It is a method of redistributing money - that's all. Q11d. The kind you must flush 2 or 3 times!!! Q18d. The church can be involved without being so political - I live on a farm and my family & I choose to take care of the environment. We don't need to hear sermons on global warming -
- Q3. This shouldn't even be a question? Ridiculous! Q7. How do we define standard of living? Q11. I think they host a community garden - reduces BTU's for food transport. Q16. This is SHOCKING. I am a lifelong PCUSAer & I have never heard anything about these other agencies preserving the environment. Presbyterian Foundation loves flying people from place to place. PILP and PMA never say "don't build." It's like we don't know how to "be church" without building. Q19. Our family is "between" congregations right now. I believe the Agencies should prioritize environmental issues in so far as it saves money and improves health and well-being of employees and volunteers. But, it is a waste of time to try to create content. This is already happening locally or in networks
- Q5. I live in cooperative own a condominium. Q19. Thank you for sending this to me
- Q5. Our home is already insulated & has double-pane windows. We are frugal with heat/AC etc. Q11. Need & make the changes above. Q16. Grants would be more helpful.
- Q6: This question is too hypothetical to answer. It would depend on how such resources were spent. There is already an exorbitant amount being spent "in the name of" environmental protection & preservation. The vast, vast majority of that money is being misspent to no avail. Q8: As above. The politicization of environmental concerns coupled with the blind fanaticism of many advocacy groups has led to a situation of corruption, cronyism and misappropriation. The quality of environmental science has been lost to maintaining a received political and academic narrative. The wrong issues are being addressed in unproductive ways according to bad science and a political & academic oligarchy. The key issue behind all of it is energy production and the essential solutions that we must face are being ignored. Our present nuclear power industry is 50 years out of date and the DOE and NRC are applying bureaucratic regulation according to outdated (and patently false) technical thinking. Wind and solar will never meet our needs. We could be fielding inherently safe, clean, inexpensive and demand-responsive nuclear power within ten to twenty years with appropriate R&D funding and regulatory reform. At maturity, Liquid Fluorine Thorium Reactor (LFTR) technology could put walkaway safe, scalable and load responsive power anywhere for less than the cost of solar. Wind without subsidies is a net loss. And the environmental footprint of installation and decommissioning of wind and solar is far higher than the current Administration would have us believe. Without addressing NOW the energy train wreck that we are facing in the next 50-100 years, nothing else we do on the environmental front will matter much. Clean, cheap, equitable available and geographically portable electrical power is basic to everything else we do. Placing a much higher priority on development of Generation IV Nuclear Power production would allow meaningful and cost effective gains on all fronts, including water, food, infrastructure and economic equity.
- Q7: Depends on definition of "protect the environment" - not specific enough to answer.
- Q7. This assumes that govt makes these decisions. I rarely agree with their methodology on public policy. Q9. Again, suspicious of govt waste. Q19. Stewardship of creation is part of what it means to be a Christ follower, however. I am generally very skeptical of how politicized this issue has become both in our government and in our denomination

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[cont.]

- Q7. Very willing only if utility & big business are not using the money to get richer!! Q9. Utilities & big business should do their part instead of passing it on to customers!! Q19. Our ministers occasionally mention that we as Christians and all humans should protect the environment that God created, mainly in prayer.
- Q7a: A verifier BcE effort on the part of government to make an impact on the environment and not some political gain!
- Question #3 needs the option "Both 1 & 2" as the current science supports that position Question #7 lack the specificity needed for a useful answer - how much higher? Both of these questions are reminiscent of political 'push polls' wherein the poll is specifically design to yield a predetermined result.
- Question number 3 was not helpful. I would have chosen 3 answers as true: humans, cyclical weather patterns, and other unknowns are all contributing to climate change. The scientific evidence is there for all 3. The question did not give enough options for answers.
- Quite a few years ago various improvements were made. There was also serious consideration of putting solar panels on the south-facing roof; but that proved to be impossible without putting on a new roof. Quite a few have been very involved in stopping fracking in New York.
- Re-doing all of our wiring and lighting with LED to reduce electrical use and enhance visibility
- Re: question about improving energy efficiency in my home: We did all of these things more than 12 months ago.
- Recently completed a columbarium and Memorial Wall to help those members who no longer plan to have casket burial.
- Recycle as much as possible. Also purchase goods with minimal packaging. Carpool as much as possible.
- Recycling and energy auditing.
- Recycling as much as possible
- Recycling containers have been placed all around the facility to encourage more recycling. Dinnerware used for the church kitchen has been mandated to be recyclable.
- Recycling of paper, plastic tin cans, metal objects, etc.
- Recycling, energy efficient lighting, variable thermostats, increased insulation, permeable parking lot, promoting earth-care messages in education and worship.
- Redistributing kindly used products through garage sales.
- Removal of nuisance species like buckthorn on church property
- Renovating our church yard from a green lawn to a more environmentally sustainable space called The Peace Garden, like an outdoor sanctuary.
- Replacing HVAC system that is over 60 years old.
- Researching installing solar panels and upgrade heating system to produce 100% of our electrical use.
- Sallie McFague has the best theology that is church-friendly
- Saving the environment is a worthy effort. But the church's #1 priority is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ!
- Saving trees
- Sermon last Sunday
- Several agriculture professionals in congregation and land owners dealing with oil/gas production issues at present.
- Several local congregations have community gardens. One helps local residents can excess garden produce. Also teaches people to make their own eco-friendly detergent.
- Several of the questions (like the one about our homes) asked if we had done any upgrades in the last 12 months. The question didn't take into account that we did most of those things when we purchased the house three years ago.

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[cont.]

- Solar array on the roof.
- Solar Panels; replace the toilets; replace the heater; collection of paper, cans, glass; have a vegetable garden no pesticides
- Some of the questions do not appear to be unbiased
- Some of what you asked was only in regards to the past 12 months, and I think we addressed some of these structural concerns (e.g. energy efficiency) with our last church building expansion a dozen years ago. Likewise, I have had an energy audit of my personal residence, but not in the past 12 months.
- Stewardship of resources: body, mind, soul, and world!
- Stewardship of the environment is a biblical command and the church should encourage all members to be good stewards of God's kingdom, his animals and his glorious creation. That said, environmental concerns in the present day often are at odds with economic concerns, to the point that PCUSA advocacy for renewable energy winds up advocating against ways of getting energy that are less expensive to produce and use. The long view is that we should become less dependent on fossil fuels, but that will occur only as other forms become cost-effective and not because the government mandates their use and subsidizes their development. My perception of the PCUSA is that it runs roughshod over these concerns in a misguided and short-sighted attempt to use the force of government to distort the economic marketplace for energy. This particularly hurts the poor, who spend a larger proportion of their income on energy, broadly speaking.
- Stick to preaching the Gospel & stay out of environment issues
- Structure of question misleading. Q18c many solutions to environmental issues increase poverty with disregard for the poor in high costs for fuel - Related to healing & prosperity increased scrutiny of Fuel-Ethanol in U.S. drives the global grain/corn process. Chickens & eggs drive cost for food for the poor up in Cali. Q17. Presby resources are just political liberal talking points & sham science clouded in religious symbols & oppress the poor. Q14. Offensive and a waste of our members letters? sermons? Q16. Who cares!!! When PCUSA says about environment then we others who did it here.
- Summer Camp Ministry with strong emphasis on stewardship of the earth, sustainability in God's Creation and living more simply so that others and the earth's life may continue to live. Preaching on redistribution of wealth and the ethical implications of living lives in luxury in the fact of immense and staggering poverty.
- Thank you for this important survey! My congregation has been swamped with water purity issues due to flooding and drainage problems in their 60 plus year old building. Our Presbytery has greatly emphasized environmental awareness/stewarding issues.
- Thanks for doing this.....
- The "last 12 months" limiter is going to skew your results, because things like low-flow toilets and insulation are one-off projects. I have them, but not in the last year.
- The Church needs to focus on sharing, teaching, preaching the Word of God, NOT political issues!
- The church needs to raise theological awareness of our individual responsibility to care for the earth. I'm not a fan of government solutions.
- The church property is designated as a Monarch Way Station.
- The community garden is wonderful!
- The Earth Care congregation program is great and has helped our church be more environmentally aware in operations, but most in the congregation don't think about environmental issues. We need better pastoral leadership and resources to preach on the importance of addressing these issues and making a difference.
- The ecumenical monastery where I serve has built a LEED platinum rated building. We also do prairie restoration on our property.

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[cont.]

- The energy improvements mentioned were done years ago. Our people do not look to the denomination for encouragement or expertise in these matters.
- The installation of new energy efficient windows in our church and day care has had a major impact on our energy efficiency and the comfort of our day care kids. We also installed new fixtures with CFLs in our sanctuary and use programmable thermostats.
- The item about taking buses, trains, or subways to church hints that the question was written by urbanites out of touch with rural churches. The questions also reflect a big church perspective. Smaller and rural churches also have need to protect creation. You can do better.
- The money spent on this survey could have been put to better use in ministries that feed, clothe, and educate people and their salvation.
- The PCUSA material I have seen on environmental issues is predictable and caricatured according to the current environmental agenda. Besides being a minister, I have a ranch and I work on the land which gives me a different perspective from the environmentalists who like other in the urban/suburban class are estranged from the forces of nature. To think that we need to "save" the earth is absurd for the forces of nature are so great and powerful that nature responds to human abuse in an overwhelming way. People who lived through the Dust Bowl knew this first hand.
- The Presbyterian Church has become too much like the Sierra Club, too political and is forgetting its church roots.
- The problem is most of this is philosophy and has little or nothing to do with facts - or - Christian faith.
- The problem with environmental issues is that enthusiasts are willing to spend unlimited amounts on matters such as global warming which are not clearly enough identified as being affected by the remedies being proposed. Good judgment is needed and I am convinced that it is often in short supply in environmentalists.
- The question about global warming should have had the option "human activity is CONTRIBUTING to global warming" rather than saying that it is THE cause, since the cause is multi-factorial.
- The questions asked don't give a good picture of what our congregation is doing in regard to the environment. The question asks "what in the last 12 months." We have already done many things before the 12 months.
- The questions in this survey are in no way neutral. They are written to get the response the writers are looking for. For instance, the way we grow and distribute food creates environmental problems AND through the efficiencies it creates, it feeds a lot of people who would not otherwise eat. The issue is too complex to be the either/or presented here.
- The survey asked about home energy audits within the last 12 months -- we had one several years ago, and are still paying for the improvements.
- The survey has a bias. It's poorly designed. My choices don't reflect subtle differences in answers. Environmental matters are serious. Some are more serious than others. Many do not need overbearing government solutions. Many are overstated. Environmentalism has become a religion for some. We all need to do things that we can to improve human impact on the environment.
- The survey is seriously skewed to providing answers that lean in a particular direction. Yes, the church should be involved in earth care, but the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind is far more important. The survey does not allow a ranking of this concern against the great ends of the church and should NOT be used to generate GA policies.
- The way they are worded, I could not responsibly answer the first set of questions. I would be guessing instead of giving informed responses. Too vague to understand any valid way the responses could be used/interpreted legitimately.

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[cont.]

- There is a strong minority in our congregation that opposes any church action on social justice or environment because "the church should not get involved in politics." Climate change denial is a platform of Republicans running for President and PC USA has many (majority?) Republicans. For the past decade or more, political beliefs have won. PC USA pastors need to be much clearer that the church spreading the gospel of social justice and care of God's earth is NOT political, it's evangelical. Truth is politics (and money) have taken over the church
- There is more than enough being done. God has always changed the environment in ways that destroy parts and encourage others. We should work with God not against him
- They got rid of toxic air freshness in bathroom. Need to work on getting rid of Styrofoam plates and plastic ware. One step at a time!
- This climate change thingy is certainly a totalitarian scam.
- This congregations supports local efforts in sustainability.
- This is a complex issue that could have been treated better. What would the consequences be for the poor; just because I might not mind paying more in taxes or at the store does not mean I support it at the policy level (due to consequences for others)
- This is a great topic and I'm eager for results of this survey to be shared with our denomination!
- This is heavily flawed. The questions seem to relate to what we have done in the last 12 months. What about what we have done in the last 10 years? We are so far ahead of the curve on our energy use at the church, but it will not be reflected in your questions, because we already installed energy efficient windows, a more energy efficient boiler, low energy light bulbs both in the interior and exterior. As a result of your questions, I don't think you will find this useful, and surely not accurate.
- This kind of involvement in social and political issues is causing the mass migration out of the PCUSA.
- This survey was a complete waste of time. Stop all the social justice issues and get back to the basics of the faith
- Through the PEC (Presbyterians for Earth Care) Advocacy Committee, an overture that I authored against Factory Farming (CAFOs, etc.) is being circulated among several presbyteries, with the hope that it will get a concurrence this year and make it to GA.
- Tore down our old church manse and now have usable green space. We are running a church-wide survey to seek input on how best to utilize it.
- Unfortunately, outside of adjusting heating and cooling temperatures, and recycling as much as possible, there isn't very much.
- Use of a water collection unit of rain barrels
- Used reflective roof coatings to lessen heat absorption
- Using energy star rated freezers for our open pantry program
- Using LED lighting in worship and classrooms.
- Using low wattage light bulbs. Insulating heat/ ac ducts. Using timers and thermostats to reduce usage of utilities.
- Water is an issue where we are. We are learning more ways to conserve and to have "clean" water to drink.
- We actually have a working farm that is quite large - providing food for hundreds of local residents each week. We provide organic vegetables and know that food grown locally has smaller energy footprints.
- We are a congregation very involved in the production of low cost energy that makes the quality of life incredibly better for people all over the world.
- We are a green congregation. We aggressively compost and recycle. We are engaged in the coal/oil terminal issues in our region. We are United Methodist but I learned all of these practices as a Presbyterian.

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[cont.]

- We are a little/small rural church where most members either grow their own food or buy locally. This survey has given me some ideas @ addressing more issues @ environment
- We are a new church and used LEED standards to guide our building (four years old now) of the new sanctuary and office/classroom space. Low flow toilets, automatic faucets, light sensors, LED lights, airtight timber frame construction, etc. We take this very seriously.
- We are a tiny congregation in a large bldg. The heat is specific to rooms per use. No AC. We are in the land of trees and tree hugging and forest fires because no one allows thinning....wrong as houses could be cheaper and less \$\$ spent on fires fighting and waste of water and need to use fire retardants...ugh!
- We are an earth care congregation, our capital campaign includes environmentally friendly features, we hear sermons and lessons/events about the environment, have done VBS on issues, and have a garden.
- We are approaching a kitchen renovation that will address many of our challenges (energy inefficiency and disposable products). Hope we can make some great changes this way!
- We are attempting to use windsource & solar
- We are beginning our fifth year of solar power supplementation program. We have recently up-graded our heating system to be more energy efficient.
- We are beginning to switch our lighting to LED. We are starting with our parking lot and outdoor building lights. We have received a generous subsidy from the light company. We have examined solar panels but do not feel this is the right move for our facility at this time.
- We are creating a meditation and community garden in response to a couple of members who noted a double-lot owned by the church that is sitting vacant and saying that the property could be used for a greater good. Both people are very knowledgeable about gardening and environmentally conscious. We are learning a great deal from them as we are creating/developing the garden space.
- We are currently having a Lenten Study that is surrounding the issues of "How much is enough?" Each week we are focusing on resources (water, food, shelter, etc) and how we (the U.S.) in general are using more than our "fair share." Additionally, we are looking at using the Living Waters for the World VBS resources for our 2016 VBS.
- We are discerning how to do more effective work and are beginning to make big changes to our mission work. I know not what this will look like yet but we are excited to see where we are called.
- We are embarking on a capital campaign focused on sustainability - replacing a decrepit boiler and inefficient A/C system with a new, energy efficient system that will be much more sustainable for the long-term. We hope to include window repairs and updates to make our lighting more efficient as well (motion sensors, etc). We've had energy audits done in the past and I hope that a green team will be borne out of the campaign.
- We are establishing a Monarch Butterfly Waystation on our property
- We are getting ready to do a major remodeling of the area behind our sanctuary. This will allow us to tear out outdated heating, add insulation, and install cost effective climate control.
- We are growing vegetables on some land around the church and exploring tearing down the Manse and better use of the land.
- We are in California so some of your questions were a bit off. We just did this at church: Great Backyard Bird Count,(GBBC)! Everybody was invited to take part in this citizen science event, taking place worldwide Feb. 12 - 15. This Sunday we had displays, free Birdwatcher's Digest issues, and more information about local birds. The official GBBC website notes: "With the El Nino weather phenomenon warming Pacific waters to temperatures matching the highest ever recorded, participants in the 2016 GBBC, may be in for a few surprises. We read more, gathered, reported online and helped scientists at birdcount.org
- We are in SW US. Our grounds are xeriscaped and the building is relatively modern.

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[cont.]

- We are in the process of changing disposable eating ware to dinnerware that is washed/reused. We will continue to encourage Sunday school classes in recycled aluminum can. It helps in environmental awareness and produce money for our "church building fund."
- We are involved in the Living Waters for the World program in Cuba with our sister church, La Iglesia Presbiteriana GetsemanÃ-
- We are looking into selling a house that was a bequest of a former member and has now become more of a liability than an asset. We are also in conversation with another denominational congregation toward sharing space and ministry through our 1 church location.
- We are not doing enough in this area
- We are one of two Earth Care Congregations in the [city deleted] area, if not the state of Ohio. We hold a clean-up for the park (across the street) annually and have a policy prohibited throw away paper products!
- We are re-insulating walls & ceilings & windows room by room
- We are reading and discussing Bill McKibbens book Deep Economy. We also have a "Grow to Give Garden" that has sparked new interest in the environment and several members are talking about planting gardens at their homes.
- We are renovating our 80 year old building to be more energy efficient. We've already landscaped to support the environment.
- We are slowly exchanging and replacing our florescent lamps with LED fixtures and bulbs. You didn't ask about doing this...
- We are the shore of lake Superior. The environment is very high poverty
- We are to be good stewards however, we need to carefully examine the issues before we jump on the bandwagon.
- We are upgrading our heating and cooling using PILP funding.
- We burn leaves to increase our carbon emissions!
- We collect firewood and give it away to people who burn it and use it to heat their homes. Very green energy!!!!!!!
- We constructed a rain garden and herb & native plant garden in 2015.
- We created a garden beside the church parking lot, extending the garden with tall Blue Spruce trees planted 20 years ago. Used "weed compost" by burying all gathered weeds about 8" below surface to enrich the soil, planted baby Blue Spruce from Arbor Day, seeded with sunflowers to shade trees in summer and wild flowers to encourage congregation to water area often. Trees are thriving and flowers were beautiful all summer. Placed tomato cages over trees to protect from over-zealous weeding.
- We did not install energy efficient windows because the church was originally built with them.
- We do have a gleaning garden to raise vegetables for our local Food Pantry. The garden is organic, no pesticides are used.
- We do organic gardening of healthy produce & host a free farmer's market at the local food pantry
- We eliminated the use of all foam plates and cups. We recycle cans and donate the funds to a local food bank.
- We emphasize God's presence in creation and use Celtic Christian liturgy to help do that. We landscape with native plants and are creating a medicinal herb garden beside the church and will offer education on how to use the herbs for health and to connect with nature.
- We had 5 trees removed from our property and are replacing them with native trees that are fruit bearing, with plans to donate the fruit to the local food bank. Also, we had some of our old single pane windows replaced with energy-efficient windows, which is going to save us money in the long run.

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[cont.]

- We had our first Victory Garden last summer in front of the church. We may double or triple it this year.
- We had the first solar array on a church in our county (still have the biggest). As I said, we turned off the sprinklers (yes plants died and were removed). We also intentionally riddled the grass along the side of the building and mulched over the top. We have a community-wide speaker series that brings in big names to talk about what we can all do to contribute to greening the earth. I'm appalled by the #3 question...praying people will answer "human causes" b/c otherwise we have all sorts of work to do!
- We have 16 active members. We do not have any "young people". Our area is rural - cattle, wheat, cotton, etc.
- WE have a 100 year old gothic structure that doesn't allow some modern changes but we do have energy efficient lighting, windows that open, low water landscaping, and a community garden on the property.
- We have a community garden
- We have a community garden and a drip system is now used. Sad that the church grounds are not also water-efficient with less lawn.
- We have a community garden and we are starting to plant an arboretum.
- We have a green team that puts a Green Idea in the bulletin each week. We have a community "sharing" garden which anyone can harvest food if they are hungry.
- We have a Living Waters for the World team trained and active in insuring clean water availability for all - particularly within Appalachia.
- We have adopted a strategic plan and are beginning its implementation. I am on the newly-created long-range endowment committee.
- We have an active Environmental Committee and we are an Earth Care Congregation
- We have an annual clean up the roadway and hiking trail day.
- We have an emerging ministry ([name deleted]) that connects spirituality and activism. It includes a faith-based community garden (organic). We emphasize creation spirituality and have worship services that celebrate the four seasons and four Celtic cross-quarter days. We are registered as a New Worshipping Community and expect to complete a more detailed study later this year.
- We have an organic garden for growing fresh food for a food pantry.
- We have converted 50% of the grass lawn to an organic vegetable garden, meaning no more synthetic chemicals can be used on the remaining lawn or flowerbeds. We also reversed the rainwater runoff from the building so that it flows to the garden and lawn instead of the parking lot, so we water less. And we use real dishes almost all the time, with an energy-efficient water-saving commercial dishwasher to clean them.
- We have created gardens that the children tend to provide produce for local food pantries. Native plantings. Complete recycling of all church waste wherever possible. Recent investments in infrastructure/windows to reduce consumption costs.
- We have cut our heating and cooling costs by 35% this past calendar year by doing several things to make us more efficient and look to do more...
- We have eliminated paper bulletins. We also recycle.
- We have installed new boilers, windows, doors and lighting fixtures that have reduced energy consumption.
- We have installed programmable thermostats in our building.
- We have just recently installed solar panels in order to produce our own electricity.
- We have just replaced our old furnace with a newer, more efficient furnace that will use less natural gas, and is more tied in to our local renewable energy.
- We have many engineers including the pastor who mediate complexity in environmentalism.
- We have our youth involved in helping to move the church to be environmentally sound and to help talk to the church members and their friends.

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[cont.]

- We have planted 4 new trees in order to build in the future a prayer area, or small praying forest. Each tree was given names of past and present women/children of the local congregation as a tribute to church women and their contribution.
- We have planted a new garden and changed the materials in the playground to be more environmentally friendly.
- We have reduced the number of bulletins, use email to send out newsletters and other notices, recycle as much paper, bottles, cans, cardboard, etc., as possible. Making sure lights are off in rooms not in use. Set thermostats to lower temp in winter and warmer in summer.
- We have shut down and removed all drinking fountains in the building. They are among the most energy inefficient items we had based on our energy audit conducted five years ago.
- We have solar panels
- We have sprinkler systems and landscaping to keep our building cooler in the summer, warmer in the colder windy seasons. We recycle our cans used when we cook for our Saturday Manna program. We recycle and reuse washed cups and utensils used for our after school tutoring program.
- We have weekly recycling. We have a walk to church Sunday. We have reconfigured downspouts at the church. At our house, we renovated over 12 months ago (2.5 years ago) and put in all energy-efficient windows and a NEST heating/cooling system that senses when we are away and resets the temps.
- We held in January 2016 climate justice Sunday when all of the liturgy was focused on the care for the environment/climate change.
- We host a Community Supported Agriculture pick up site. We have a small vegetable garden. We are a part of the GreenFaith certification program.
- We installed LED lights throughout the church.
- We installed solar panels and have been gradually putting in drought tolerant landscaping instead of the huge lawns we had before. We have cut our water usage significantly as well as our electricity. We are an Earth Care Congregation.
- We just installed green infrastructure as part of our landscaping
- We live in a farming environment. Our large church kitchen is frequently used by small farmers to gather locally grown produce to can, freeze, and store food for sharing with others.
- We offer a community recycling program.
- We offer Styrofoam recycling to our community.
- We offer workshops on environmental issues
- We partnered with civil and multi-faith organizations in September to hold a vigil about climate change, and this week showed The Merchants of Doubt - more than 100 people showed - a great turnout.
- We plan to offer a little-used parking lot to the community for use as hay-bale or raised-bed gardens starting this spring.
- We plant trees
- We planted a monarch butterfly habitat waystation with milkweed species of plants, as an environmental educational project to help our members learn how to cultivate a healthier habitat for other creatures/plants.
- We provide opportunities to collect e-waste. We also compost dinnerware. We recycle daily.
- We rebuilt our church two years ago and have incorporated most, if not all, of the items listed above (but I answered "no" above because you only allowed a 12 month window). The same is true of my home.
- We recently spent \$200,000 to restore our stain glass windows, thus making the sanctuary considerably more energy efficient. Additionally, we will be repairing our slate roof and installing new insulation, which we also hope will help with energy costs. Further, we are installing LED lights throughout our building - oddly, a topic not addressed in any of the above questions.

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[cont.]

- We recycle bulletins and other products on the accepted list for our local site. We keep our air down and our heat down when the building is not in use. Recycle-Reuse-Renew
- We recycle, monitor heating and cooling, and grow vegetables to provide fresh produce for those in need.
- We recycle, use very little disposables, have the boiler on a computerized schedule, replaced old light bulbs with more efficient ones (a large expense, with reduced lighting - definitely a sacrifice for an older congregation)
- We recycle. We are energy conscious. We have celebrated the Season of Creation. We Bless the animals every year. Our VBS has done environmental awareness themes.
- We researched geothermal energy as an alternative to natural gas. Found the initial outlay too expensive, but are turning attention now to solar panels.
- We restored the 3.5-acre wetland behind our church building and it is now our "outdoor sanctuary" with trails and benches.
- We seldom use disposable cups, plates or silver ware at any of our functions. We recycle everything we can get our hands on, including junking for Jesus.
- We serve many meals and have made substantial improvements in disposal of waste materials and waste water. "Global Warming" has recently been confessed by top, honest scientists to be a political scam.
- We should spend resources bringing people to know the love of God. Not advocating for environmental issues.
- We sponsor an annual art exhibition that invites local artists to submit work on an environmental theme.
- We stopped using disposable plates and cups and bought a new dishwasher for our weekly dinners. We also recycle most paper waste in our church.
- We support and educate Living Waters for the World and sponsor educational and fund raising regarding the clean water crisis.
- We switched all our lighting in the church to LED lighting this past year.
- We switched from oil heat to gas, which uses less. We put in a more efficient heating system and keep thermostat low. We recycle.
- We took out grass and added drought resistant landscaping at the manse.
- We use very few paper products.
- We welcome many groups to use our physical space, maximizing what we do spend and use in terms of energy by having the space we have well utilized. Last summer, we renovated an old playground area into a sustainable garden for our feeding programs.
- We will soon be an Earth Care Congregation after 2 years of planning and work. We have recently added a new education wing to replace an old one, and the new one is totally energy efficient and up to code. We will soon renovate another old structure and get it up to code! Praise God!
- We're forming a "Green Team" to look into ways to be better stewards of the earth.
- We've stopped buying Styrofoam cups and are using glass or china cups--some donated by the congregation.
- We've switched from disposable plates, cups and utensils at most meals to glasses, china and stainless utensils that are washed and reused. Our city no longer has a recycling program so we no longer recycle glass, aluminum or papers.
- Weekly green tips in the Sunday bulletin
- When you assess this survey, please remember the Flint water crisis is on-going.
- Which environmental concerns connect with our faith, they are not themselves the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I worry that PCUSA majors in the minors too often

19. Please use the space below to tell us something exciting that you or your congregation is doing for the environment, or to share any other comments.
[cont.]

- While I agree with and empathetic to many of the PCUSA's statements on the environment, please be aware that blanket condemnations of production agriculture may not be warranted. Living in the northern plains, there are many farmers who view their profession as God's calling--to feed hungry people through growing as much food as efficiently as possible. Our church lost one family, in part, due to using Westminster Press adult small group study materials that had an unbalanced view of what modern farming can mean for the world.
- While I am very concerned about the environment, and I attend church regularly, I am retired and work part-time as a hospital chaplain, so I am not as familiar with what the 1st Pres is doing regarding the environment.
- While I feel that we all need to do a better job taking care of the earth, and I do the best I can on a small scale, I admit that I have not done as well as your survey indicates that can be done.
- While I'm not directly involved, I am aware that church staff monitor resource use and try to track down any anomalies.
- While my husband and I are very concerned with environmental issues, it is a sentiment that is not shared by our congregation as a whole.
- While there is some importance to environmental issues, there are many other issues that are both more critical to society and better areas for PCUSA focus, such as: hunger, human trafficking, radical Islam, wars, domestic violence, drug abuse and drug trafficking, waning emphasis of families.
- Why are we doing this survey? Is the topic of environmental issues really the most important problem facing the Christian community? I doubt it.
- Why send paper surveys if you are so concerned with the environment? Most of our congregation's environmental work is done for cost savings first and good for the environment second.
- With regard to the PCUSA's involvement, I would say it's a matter of defining priorities. There may be other issues that are more critical to the mission (and survival) of the church. You have to ensure that PCUSA has a solid foundation before building out new initiatives (or placing more emphasis on existing initiatives).
- Within the past year we have begun a recycling program and moved to more recyclable materials and away from Styrofoam, etc. We also have an ongoing committee working on expanding environmentally friendly practices.
- Working with Tennessee Power and Light (TIPL) and TVA toward LEED certification
- would like some current worship resources on environmental issues and in particular regional resources (i.e., fracking in OH)
- Yearly, we celebrate Earth Day and Saint Francis of Assisi's Sunday where we do Blessing of the animals. We also maintain a relationship with and visit an organic farm, where we do worship outdoors and do diverse educational activities around creation care and sustainable living. We help people plant gardens in the city, and last year supported efforts to request our city to pass an ordinance that would allow people to have chickens in their backyards.
- Yes, I think that environmental issues are very important to life on this planet. But in the life of a small church with very limited human resources it is difficult to give these issues the priorities that the survey implies.
- Your questions about what I as an individual have done for the environment are flawed because they limit the activity to the last twelve months when many of the home improvement items were done long before that time. My answers make it look like I am not environmentally concerned when I am because I did those things more than twelve months ago.
- Youth led recycled art-eel project. One elder said, "It's depressing." (That's good.)

Appendix C: About the Presbyterian Panel

The Presbyterian Panel consists of two nationally representative samples of groups affiliated with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.): members of congregations and teaching elders (ministers of the Word and Sacrament). A new group of panelists are invited to participate every three years. Panel surveys are conducted quarterly, by mail and with an online completion option.

The Panel is maintained and directed by the office of Research Services of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The first Panel was created in 1973 to provide a means of informing leaders of the opinions and activities of Presbyterians across the church. Survey topics and questions are usually developed at the request of, and in consultation with, staff or elected members of national church entities. However, ultimate decisions on content and the disposition of Panel data are those of Research Services. Standards developed by the American Association of Public Opinion Research guide Panel surveys.

Suggested Citation

Research Services, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). *Environmental Stewardship: The Report of the Volume 1: 2016 Presbyterian Panel Survey*. Louisville, 2016.

Panel on the Web

Summaries and Reports of Panel surveys since 1993 and a listing of all surveys since the first Panel was created in 1973 are available on the web for free download in Adobe Acrobat (pdf) format at the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) website: www.pcusa.org/research/panel. Inquire about quantity discounts on printed copies of this *Report* by contacting 800-728-7228, ext. 2040, or panel@pcusa.org.