

# The Temple Beth Am Green Team Mission Statement

***“The Lord God took the earthling and placed him in the Garden of Eden to work it and to guard it.” (Genesis 2:15) The Torah is clear in its message to humankind: God expects us to guard the planet and protect its beauty; God, therefore, made environmental protection and the wise use of natural resources a mitzvah, a Divine mandate. While we have permission to work the Earth and use it for our benefit, and we have the intelligence to control the fate of this blue planet in ways other creatures cannot, our “working the garden” must be done intelligently, be tempered by humility, and be focused on the goal of maintaining the order and harmony that God has established.***

***The mission of the Temple Beth Am Green Team is to assist our congregation in fulfilling the mitzvah of “guarding the garden” –***

- by working with the Beth Am lay and professional leadership to ensure that our synagogue operates in an environmentally-responsible manner;
- by cooperating with those responsible for the education of our children and adults in the development and presentation of educational curricula and programming that promote ecological awareness and environmentally sensitive behavior;
- by motivating our membership to “green” our homes and workplaces through the use of the latest environmentally-friendly products and practices;
  - by mobilizing the congregation to support meaningful legislation and participate in community action projects that enhance and protect our environment.