

Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network

GREEN SYNAGOGUE
COVENANT OF COMMITMENT

THIS COVENANT (the “Covenant”) is entered into by and between the Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network (“BJEN”) and _____ (the “Synagogue”), as of the date hereinafter set forth.

WHEREAS, BJEN is committed to serving as an advocate to and resource for local synagogues as they pursue operational and religious policies and practices that model Jewish environmentalism; and

WHEREAS, BJEN has established a certification program to encourage, support, and recognize congregations that adopt and implement environmentally sustainable practices (the “Green Synagogue Program”); and

WHEREAS, the “Synagogue” seeks to participate in the Green Synagogue Program by committing to strengthen environmentally sustainable activities in its facilities, operations, religious practices, and education of its members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BJEN and the Synagogue agree as follows:

1. OBLIGATIONS OF BJEN

- a. BJEN agrees to provide, or has provided, the Synagogue with a resource guide listing possible actions to implement environmentally sustainable practices.
- b. BJEN, in consultation with the Synagogue, agrees to appoint, or has appointed, a liaison to provide assistance to the Synagogue, and to help the Synagogue review its progress every three (3) months during the term of this Covenant.
- c. BJEN agrees to make a representative available upon reasonable request of the Synagogue to explain any questions concerning the Covenant or responsibility the Synagogue board or officers may have.

2. OBLIGATIONS OF SYNAGOGUE

- a. The Synagogue agrees to appoint, or has appointed, a representative whose responsibilities will be to serve as a liaison to BJEN and to oversee the implementation of this Covenant and report back to the Synagogue’s board on a periodic basis regarding its progress.

- b. The Synagogue agrees to establish a structure to implement measurable, meaningful goals and programs for reducing its carbon footprint.
- c. The Synagogue agrees to conduct, or has conducted, within the past three (3) years, an energy audit of its facilities and operations.
- d. The Synagogue agrees to undertake an educational program of its choice to explore the intersection of Jewish values and environmentally sustainable practices.
- e. The Synagogue agrees to implement at least one other significant project, program or task in compliance with the requirements of the “Greening Your Synagogue Packet”, which can be found at www.bjen.org

3. CERTIFICATION

At the end of two (2) years after the signing of this Covenant, and provided the agreed upon activities have been implemented and are in place, BJEN will award the Synagogue a Certificate of Achievement, and will recognize the Synagogue at appropriate BJEN, Synagogue and community events. The Certificate will be valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of issue.

AS WITNESS the signatures of the parties.

Date: _____, 2_____, _____, 57_____

Signed _____, Director/Chair
Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network

_____, Synagogue President

_____, Synagogue Rabbi/Spiritual Leader

_____, Synagogue Executive Director