

St. Ignatius Catholic Church

Sustainability best practices

Updated March 2018

St. Ignatius Catholic Church holds ecojustice as core to our mission. As Pope Francis writes in his encyclical *Laudato Si: On Care of Our Common Home*, many of our problems “are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish. To cite one example, most of the paper we produce is thrown away and not recycled.” He continues that we must be “limiting as much as possible the use of non-renewable resources, moderating their consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing and recycling them. A serious consideration of this issue would be one way of counteracting the throwaway culture which affects the entire planet.” Therefore, we seek to take personal action that counteracts our throwaway culture. Below is an introduction to our ongoing practices for maintaining ecojustice operations. In addition, a staffperson or Ecojustice representative will be invited to give a yearly presentation on our ecojustice best practices.

RECYCLING

We recycle all of the following:

- ✓ Paper, plastic, and metal or aluminum cans – Blue containers located at every desk and in the kitchen
- ✓ Glass (in kitchen only) – Marked container in the kitchen
- ✓ Composting - containers available in parish office kitchen and in Dillon Hall cafeteria
- ✓ Batteries (small) – Place in “dead batteries” tub in vestibule
- ✓ Laptop batteries and toner cartridges – give to Patty
- ✓ Electronics – recycled / donated to a parishioner’s company – give to Patty

REUSABLE DISHWARE

- ✓ Dishware is available in the kitchen cabinet, as is silverware in the kitchen drawer, and plastic cups are in the kitchen for your use, including events.
- ✓ Dishware and utensils are available in the cafeteria kitchen and pantry for events. Please ask Tyler, Patty or Mary White for instructions on how to use the dishwasher in the cafeteria kitchen.

ENERGY AND WATER USAGE

Computers

- ✓ Set to automatically print duplex. Save 1-sided prints in designated box by printer (these can be used for scratch paper or turned into handy notepads for office use).
- ✓ Please turn your computer completely off at the end of each business day, except when it is necessary for it to be left on for routine back-ups, maintenance etc.
- ✓ Please set your monitor to go into hibernation mode when inactive for 15 minutes (Ask Tyler or Patty if you’re not sure how).

Lights

- ✓ Be sure all overhead, kitchen and conference room lights are turned off at the end of the business day, with the exception of designated lights which are the lamp in the entryway, light for the staircase and the back entryway light. Please also be mindful of light usage during the day, and turn off any that are not needed or in use (restroom, kitchen, etc).

Water

- ✓ We are aiming to switch to low-flow aerators on our faucets, and only run the dishwasher when it is 90% or more full.

- ✓ We encourage reusable water bottles. Our tap water has been tested and is safe to drink. We use Brita filters for extra safety and have one for cold water in the refrigerator and one for room temperature water on the kitchen counter.

Energy

- ✓ The microwave and electric kettle/toaster have outlet switches to reduce energy loss when appliances aren't running. Please turn these off when not in use.

SUSTAINABLE PURCHASING POLICY

- ✓ Purchasers should actively request and shop for sustainable supplies and resources that minimize resource consumption. Things to look for are higher recycled content, reduced packaging, made in the USA and for sustainable certifications.
- ✓ For items that are purchased relatively regularly, please reference the Buying Guide in the front office or check with Patty for the sustainable and affordable options that we have chosen.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS & OPTIONS

Facilities:

*Cycling: The Bradley Room in the basement level of our building can be used for safely storing bikes.

Individual Transportation Options and Information

TriMet – Offers Trip Planner, Transit Tracker, System Maps, Transit Schedules and Service alerts, along with additional valuable area information. Phone: 503-238-RIDE (7433); <http://trimet.org/>

Google Maps

Bike, Bus and Pedestrian map options are available on Google Maps. Just select Get Directions on the link below and enter your beginning point and destination points. Then simply select the icon for the transit option you'd prefer. <http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&tab=ll>

Portland Smart Trips

Free bicycling and walking maps, transit material and more transportation information.

www.PortlandSmartTrips.org

Car2Go

This is an individual transportation option for short-term small vehicle rentals at a low cost. One time membership fee is \$35 plus tax, and then \$.35 per mile. <http://www.car2go.com/portland/en/concept/>

-This document should be reviewed and updated at least biannually and shared with all new employees and leaders of ministries.