

## Top 12 Eco Church Tips - St Mark's Church, Holbrook – 11.1.26

1. **Prayer & news** – Have Eco Church and Care for Creation as regular prayer and news items for church services, prayer meetings, newsletters and on your website.
2. **Appoint an Eco Church Champion**, register for Eco Church, sign up for A Rocha UK News [www.bit.ly/aruksignup](http://www.bit.ly/aruksignup) and Horsham Eco Churches News [www.eepurl.com/hENwET](http://www.eepurl.com/hENwET)
3. **Recruit an Eco Team** - delegate the Eco Church areas, work through the survey and resources, review what your church is already doing well and consider your next steps. Create a duplicate test survey, change responses to see the impact of particular changes. Set goals start with easy things, little steps, quick wins and some longer-term goals to work towards too.
  - Worship and Teaching
  - Buildings and Energy
  - Land and Nature
  - Community and Global Engagement
  - Lifestyle <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk>
4. **Creation Care scheme** – register your church and household, promote the free online questionnaire and ideas for next steps towards a Bronze, Silver or Gold award and offer to present certificates in your church services. <https://creationcare.org.uk>
5. **Other resources**
  - **Become a Fairtrade Place of Worship or Recommit to Fairtrade**  
<https://fairtrade.net/uk-en/get-involved/campaign-with-us/grassroots-groups/places-of-worship.html>
  - **Chichester Diocese Environment and Net Zero Carbon**  
<https://chichester.anglican.org/environment&nzc>
  - **Church of England Net Zero Carbon Church**  
<https://churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/net-zero-carbon-church>
  - **Church of England Environment Programme** - webinars and recordings.  
<https://churchofengland.org/about/church-england-environment-programme>
6. **PCC and Premises Committee** Eco Church representatives with Eco Church as a standard agenda item. Written PCC and APCM reports, keep copies in **Eco Church Diary** together with photos, posters (when you take them down from a notice board), newsletter items etc, as a record of your eco journey and part of your supporting evidence for a Gold Eco Church Award!
7. **Recycle** - support and promote your council's recycling schemes, have recycling bins alongside general waste bins and consider supporting some charity recycling schemes.
8. **Connect with other churches** join The Parish Environment Support Network to share news, support each other and encourage Chichester Diocese on its Eco Journey.  
<https://www.facebook.com/ParishEnvironmentSupportNetwork>  
Connect with other denominations and local Churches Together, set up or join a local Eco Church network, like Horsham Eco Churches. <https://horshamct.org.uk/eco-churches>
9. **Connect with local** environmental and community groups, schools and councils to share information, expertise, ideas and resources and work together to make a difference.  
<https://OnePlanet.com>
10. **Apply for grants** – consider what costly work may lie ahead for church maintenance and eco church projects. Spend funds wisely as it is easier to get grants for some things than others. Seek advice from your Diocese and local council.  
<https://horsham.gov.uk/climate-and-environment/community-climate-fund>
11. **Create havens for wildlife** even in a small, paved area or shared space with pots, baskets or window boxes for herbs, pollen, seed and fruit bearing plants, nest boxes, a bug house and a shallow bowl of water. Compost church flowers, tea bags, coffee grounds and kitchen waste.
12. **Have fun enjoying God's creation**, working together and celebrating your achievements.  
**More information:** <https://www.stmarksholbrook.org.uk/EcoChurch>