

Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team

We can help care for creation by generating less waste, individually and as congregations. A good way to get started, either at home or at church, is to conduct a **waste audit**. Step one in a waste audit is very simple – look in the trash. What is being thrown away? What is thrown away most often? Step two: Brainstorm some ways to throw away less. Ask:

- Are there disposable items that you could replace with reusable items?
- Are there things you currently throw out that you could recycle?
- Are there items you could clean and re-use instead of throwing away? (ie: zip-lock bags)
- Could you or someone else upcycle any of your items or use it for another purpose after initial use?
- Is there anything you could donate instead of throwing away? (only if it's wanted and in good condition)
- What food waste could you compost? Maybe start with coffee grounds, fruits, or vegetables.
- What packaging can you eliminate? Maybe some different brands use less packaging, or paper instead of plastic.
- Do you use take-out containers? Can you take your own container instead?
- Do you have non-perishable items that you buy frequently? Buying in bulk can reduce the amount of packaging.
- Are there things you regularly have too much of or frequently end up not needing? Think about ways to reduce how much you purchase.

Every little bit of waste reduction helps care for creation!

Read more about The Green Team and waste audits at <https://www.northwesternpasynodelca.org/nwpa-green-team.html>
Contact The Green Team at nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

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