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**Top Ten Tips for Creation Care**

**The following are ten things that you can do practically to help care for creation. Although you can do these as individuals, you’ll have a bigger impact if you get others, including your congregation, involved.**

**Tip 1: Reduce your consumption!** Do you really need that extra item of clothing? Do you need to make that journey? Are you going to use all that food? Consider buying less, goods that are not wrapped in excessive plastic and utilise refill shops.

**Tip 2: Buy Local!** Check the label! Where does your food come from? How many air-miles are involved? Try to buy groceries, especially fruit, vegetables and meat products that are produced locally, particularly in the UK and Ireland.

**Tip 3: Switch off appliances and lights!** We tend to leave things on standby, or leave on lights we don’t need. We can save energy consumption by switching off appliances and lights that we’re not using.

**Tip 4: Turn down the heat and wear another layer of clothes!** Do you need all that heat? Putting on an extra layer, a jumper or a fleece can allow you to save electricity, oil or gas and so reduce your carbon footprint.

**Tip 5: Use sustainable energy sources!** Can you walk, cycle, or use public transport rather than make another car journey? Consider a move to electric or hybrid vehicles. Could you move to wind or solar produced energy?

**Tip 6: Reuse plastic!** Do you really need another plastic bag? Avoid single-use plastic where at all possible. Carry your own supply of plastic bags when you go shopping. Reutilise plastic containers around the home and in the garden.

**Tip 7: Recycle as much as possible!** Try to avoid sending anything more than necessary to landfill. A wide range of items can be recycled and most council areas will facilitate this, through collection and amenity sites. It may take extra effort but it’s an important habit to develop.

**Tip 8: Buy recycled goods!** Consider buying items made from recycled plastic, paper, wood and textiles. Perhaps you could do this for your birthday or Christmas gifts?

**Tip 9: Avoid excessive chemical usage!** We tend to overuse potentially harmful chemicals in the home and garden. Avoid chemicals which can harm wildlife; including bees and butterflies, fish and birds. There are many less-toxic alternatives available. Perhaps you could research these?

**Tip 10: Enjoy Creation!** God has given us this wonderful world to care for and enjoy. Get out and about and revel in the beauty and diversity of nature, and thank God for His gift!