



May 2026

## Energy Footprint Tool Deadline Approaching



The Energy Footprint Tool deadline is fast approaching on **30<sup>th</sup> June**. If you haven't yet filled in your energy use for this year, now is the time to start!

If it's not you who is responsible for filling this out in your church - please remind the person who is. A walkthrough video is available on our [website](#), and if there are any issues you can reach out to our [Diocesan Environment Officer](#) for support.

Filling in the tool yearly is more important than ever to be more eligible for carbon-reducing grants. 75% of churches in our diocese completed the tool last year, and we hope to see this number increase again this year, as every submission helps with planning our path to net zero.

## Upcoming Foundations for Creation Care Session - Everyone Welcome


 The Diocese of Southwark

## Foundations for Creation Care

Join us to explore why creation care matters for Christians and how we can live out our faith in a time of the climate and nature crisis.

This **90-minute foundation-level training session** will help you explore hopeful, practical ways to integrate creation care into church life and daily discipleship - without feeling overwhelmed.

Do you feel called to care for God's world in your church, but don't know where to start?



Or, do you want to reignite an Eco Church journey that's stalled, or simply want to learn more?



**Dates (all 6:30-8pm on Zoom)**

Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Jan      Thur 4<sup>th</sup> June  
 Tue 21<sup>st</sup> April    Thur 24<sup>th</sup> Sep

**Find out more and sign up here:**  
[tinyurl.com/creationcarefoundations](https://tinyurl.com/creationcarefoundations)

Register now!

Our next *Foundations for Creation Care* session is coming up on **4<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30-8pm** on Zoom.

These 90-minute sessions are ideal for anyone wanting to get involved in caring for God's world in their church, as well as those already involved who want to consolidate their knowledge of key topics like climate justice, caring for nature, reducing energy use, and 'greening' church finance.

Together, we will reflect on how caring for people and the planet is rooted in our faith and everyday discipleship, and consider practical, hopeful ways to take this forward in church life.

Come along on your own, or bring a group from your church to discuss ideas together in a welcoming space. Find out more and sign up for our June session [here](#).

 **Great Big Green Week - How to Get Involved**



Great Big Green Week (6<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June) is the UK's largest celebration of climate and nature, with thousands of events taking place each year nationwide. It's also a great opportunity for churches to both care for creation on their doorstep, and reach out to their local communities with events.

We've released a [blog](#) and resource pack with ideas for churches. Events don't have to be new - so if you have a gardening session, or something else taking place that week already, you can register this on the platform to share it wider.

If you are taking part this year - please **send us a photo!** We want to see and share how churches from across our Diocese are getting involved.

### Churches Count on Nature Week - Register Soon



During Love your Burial Ground Week / Churches Count on Nature hundreds of church communities across the country take part in a week-long nature count to monitor and celebrate the biodiversity in churchyards. It deliberately coincides with Great Big Green Week, running from 6<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> June.

It's not too late to register your church for this year's Churches Count on Nature week. If you are interested in taking part, make sure to [register](#) by this Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to receive your resources in time.

### 🏆 New Eco Church Awards

A huge congratulations to St Peter's in Limpsfield, and St Augustine's in South Croydon for achieving their bronze Eco Church awards!



Find out more about the Eco Church scheme and how to get involved [here](#), or book a visit from our [Diocesan Environment Officer](#) to discuss ideas or next steps for your own church.

### Trinity House Awarded Eco Office Silver



As part of our wider work towards the silver award level of A Rocha's [Eco Diocese](#) scheme, we've been making various changes over the past year to our diocesan office, Trinity House, to care for creation throughout office life.

We are delighted to have recently received A Rocha's Eco Office Silver award in recognition of this progress! Read more about our journey to office silver [here](#).

### People's Emergency Briefing Showings & Church Resource



Last November, experts gathered in Westminster to present the facts on climate and nature in the UK. A powerful 50-minute film from the day - the *People's Emergency Briefing* - is now being shown in community settings to spread this message more widely.

Rt Rev Graham Usher, Bishop of Norwich and Lead Bishop for Environment said, 'I encourage churches to invite their wider community and show this film - it's a wake up for us all. Its message to care for climate, people, nature is so urgently needed, not least so that we might live and act as Jesus would have us be'.

For churches interested in hosting showings, a church resource [guide](#) has been produced by the CofE and partner organisations which includes guidance for discussion, prayer, and reflection. Screenings can also be registered as part of [Great Big Green Week](#).

Southwark Cathedral will host a showing on **7<sup>th</sup> June**, with discussion afterwards chaired by Bishop Martin - lead Bishop for the Environment in Southwark. All are welcome - book a free place [here](#), or find a showing near you on this [map](#).

### Archbishop Tenison's Installs Solar with Croydon Community Energy

Last year, Croydon Community Energy installed solar panels at Archbishop Tenison's CofE school, saving the school money on its energy bills and reducing its carbon footprint. Read more and watch a video about the project [here](#).



### £2,700 Cool Spaces Grant Opportunity



As the summer months approach and temperatures rise, churches can play a vital role as safe, welcoming spaces for the vulnerable in their communities during heatwaves.

This year the [London Communities Emergencies Partnership](#) is distributing £2,700 grants to ten venues across London, to help equip communities with knowledge and networks they need to fill key gaps for extreme heat preparedness.

Funding can support building local partnerships, staff training, and improvements to create welcoming, climate-resilient church spaces. Find out more about eligibility and how to apply [here](#).

 [RSPB Update Bird Feeders](#)



We all want to help make our outdoor spaces areas where wildlife can thrive, and feeding birds is a much loved way to do this.

But, research has shown a worrying decline in garden birds due to a disease called trichomonosis. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) has released an update for all who feed birds to help us do so in a way that prevents this disease.

This includes tweaks to feeding habits such as feeding seasonally, not using flat surface feeders, and moving feeders around. Read the update [here](#) for more information and a helpful explainer video.

### Rivers of Life, Rivers of Spirit - Event this Friday



This Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> (1pm-5pm), the Rivers of Life, Rivers of Spirit event is taking place at St John's Waterloo as part of the Rivers of Life festival.

This mini-conference will bring together church leaders, environmental activists, and community practitioners to reflect on deep incarnation - and the crisis facing rivers and nature. Find out more and book your place [here](#).