

Resources:

Church of the Nativity

1) Contacts: Carl Sigel: cwsigel@aol.com,
and The Rev. Stephanie Allen:

sa@nativityonline.org

2) Church of the Nativity's Caring for Creation blog:

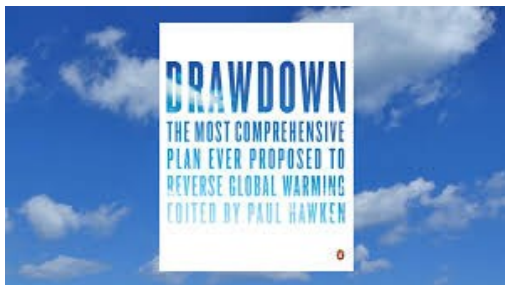
<http://nativityonline.org/faith/caring-for-creation/>.

Video and Book

1) Video: *The Soil Story*

<https://youtu.be/nvAoZ14cP7Q>

2) Book: *Drawdown* by Paul Hawken



Top 100 ways to remove carbon from air.

Food waste collection services (haulers) for households and small businesses including churches:

CompostNow: <http://compostnow.org/> (Triangle)

Crown Town Compost: <http://>

www.crowntowncompost.com/ (Charlotte)

Food FWD: <http://foodfwdnc.com/> (Triangle)

Gallins Family Farm: <http://gallinsfarm.com/> (Triad)

Organix Recycling: <http://organixrecycling.com/>
(Statewide)

SMART Recycling: <http://>

www.smartrecyclingus.com/ (Statewide)

About the Sponsors of This Project:

Church of the Nativity

At Church of the Nativity, we believe that our faith in Jesus, our reverence for the earth, and our service to others are deeply woven together in our life of faith. We seek a connection to God through our connections with one another, through caring for the natural world, and through an examination of our interior life. Included within our overall mission is working to restore the original wholeness of creation.

North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light

(NCIPL): A program of the NC Council of Churches that works with faith communities to address the causes and consequences of global climate change and promote practical, hope-filled responses through education, outreach, and advocacy.

NCIPL offers programs and resources at no charge to congregations on energy, food, and worship as they pertain to communities of faith in NC.

For more information visit the NCIPL website www.ncipl.org and Facebook page or call 919-828-6501.



Becoming the Good Soil

Bearing the Fruit That Will Last

A project to address climate change and increase food security initiated by the Church of the Nativity



The Rev. Stephanie Allen, The Rev. David Lynch, The Rt. Rev. Anne Hodges-Copple, and The Rev. Dr. Jennifer Copeland, Executive Director, NC Council of Churches (left to right).

“This is the appointed time for all God’s children to work for the common goal of renewing the earth as a hospitable abode for the flourishing of all life. We are called to speak and act on behalf of God’s good creation.” Episcopal House of Bishops’ Pastoral Teaching on the Environment.

This project is supported by a grant from the Advisory Council on the Stewardship of Creation, The Episcopal Church, and is part of the Sacred Foodscapes Program of North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light, a program of the NC Council of Churches.

Scientific Understanding:

To avoid severe climate change, reducing emissions from burning fossil fuels will not be enough.

Carbon (as carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas) must also be removed from the air and stored away, or “sequestered”.

Many ways are being developed to sequester carbon. We all can help to slow climate change by making compost, which when applied to the land will increase plant growth leading to more carbon being removed from the air and stored in the soil in a process referred to as “carbon farming”.



Nativity Community Garden was expanded in 2014

An added benefit to this process is that soil fertility will be increased, which can lead to increased crop yields and greater food security.

How to Compost:

By composting at home and at church, we can:

- 1) reduce the amount of garbage we generate,
- 2) create valuable compost for home and church gardens,
- 3) decrease our carbon footprints by sequestering carbon in the soil.

What to Compost:

Kitchen greens, fruit scraps, chewing gum, vegetable scraps, house plant trimmings, coffee grounds, rice, pasta, eggshells, tea bags, fresh flowers (not woody), plant trimmings (not woody), leaves (not as thick mat), coffee filters, stale bread, paper napkins, paper towels, dryer lint (not containing synthetic fibers), hair, fur from brushed animals.

What Not to Compost:

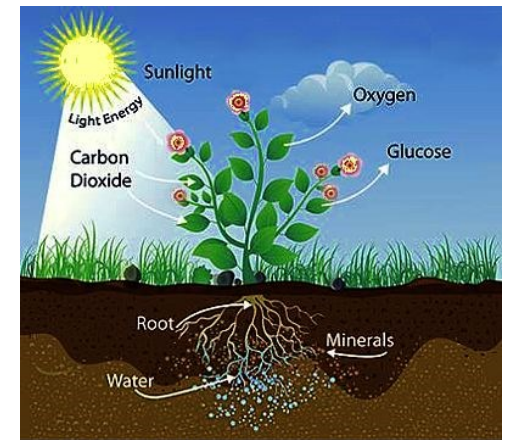
Meat, fish, bones, dairy products, oils and fats, sauces, ashes, pet waste, diseased plants, weeds (especially with seeds), grass clippings.



Nativity member adding kitchen scraps from home to a compost bin at church

Quick Facts about Carbon Farming:

- 1) About one third of the carbon in the atmosphere today was once in the soil.
- 2) All agricultural production originates from plant photosynthesis, which uses sunshine to combine carbon dioxide from the air with water and minerals from the soil to produce plant material.



- 3) Carbon farming involves implementing such practices as supplementing the soil with compost that are known to improve the rate at which carbon dioxide is removed from the air.
- 4) Compost decomposition provides a slow-release fertilizer leading to increased removal of carbon from the air and increased plant production.
- 5) In California, research indicated that covering just 5% of the degraded, grazed rangeland with half an inch of compost would remove an amount of carbon roughly equal to the carbon dioxide released in providing the energy used by the states' homes and businesses in a year.