

HOW TO SAVE THE EARTH

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As its core, the environmental crisis is a moral challenge. It calls us to examine how we care, save, use and share the goods of the earth. What we pass on to the future generations and how we live in harmony with God's creation.

The effects of environmental degradation surround us, the smog in our cities, chemicals in our water, and on our food, eroded topsoil blowing in the wind, the loss of valuable wetlands, a radioactive and toxic waste lacking adequate disposal sites, threats to the health of industrial and farm workers. The problems, however, reach far beyond our own neighborhoods and work places. Our problems are the world's problems and burdens for the next generations to come. Poisoned water crosses borders freely. Greenhouse gases and chlorofluorocarbons affect the earth's atmosphere for many decades, regardless of where they are produced or used. Opinions vary about the causes and the seriousness of environmental problems. Still we can experience their effects in polluted air and water, in oil and wastes on our beaches in the loss of farmland, wetlands and forests, and in the decline of rivers and lakes. Scientist identify several other less visible but particularly urgent problems currently being debated by the scientific community, including the depletion of the ozone layer, deforestation, the extinction of species, the generation and disposal of toxic and nuclear waste and global warming. These important issues are being explored by scientist, and they require urgent attention and action.