



# Ohio Interfaith Power and Light

A Religious Response to Climate Change



## Earthkeeping Summit

**Join Us!** We'll explore the connection between faith and the environment and discover ways to put our faith into action.

*What are the challenges we face when responding to global climate change? How can we be better stewards of the earth? How can we ensure a healthy, just environment for all?*

### Inspiring Speakers

**Dr. Jason Box**, climatologist and researcher with the OSU Geography Department and the Byrd Polar Research Center

**Nancy Sleeth**, author and Program Director for Blessed Earth, a faith-based nonprofit focusing on environmental stewardship

**William Spratley**, Director, Green Energy Ohio

**Dr. Greg Hitzhusen, M.Div.**, OSU School of Environment and Natural Resources

### Engaging Workshops

- Towards a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Spirituality
- Justice and Advocacy
- Green Teams and Local Food
- House of Worship Energy Audits
- Rediscovering Sabbatical Living
- Awakening the Dreamer; Changing the Dream

### Date

March 31, 2012

### Time

8:30am (registration opens)

9:30am-4:30pm

Lunch provided

### Location

Nationwide & Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center (a LEED-certified facility)

2201 Fred Taylor Drive  
Columbus, OH 43210

### Registration

Please register on-line. For information, go to the Ohio Interfaith Power and Light website at [www.ohipl.org](http://www.ohipl.org)

### Zero-Waste Event

The Earthkeeping Summit strives to be a **Zero-Waste Event**, with the goal of reducing typical event waste by at least 90%. Help us to achieve this goal by registering on-line, bringing your own coffee mug or water bottle, and consider carpooling.

## The Summit Partners

- Ohio Interfaith Power & Light
- The School of Environment and Natural Resources, OSU main
- The Climate Change Outreach Team-OSU Extension
- The Ohio State University Energy Services and Sustainability
- Green Energy Ohio



# Earthkeeping Summit

## AT A Glance

During the Plenary session, we will explore the intersection between the science of climate change and faith and a religious response to the environmental challenges we face today.

### Keynote Speakers:

**Jason Box, PhD** is a climatologist in the Geography Department at Ohio State University and a research scientist at Byrd Polar Research Center. With nineteen expeditions to Greenland since 1994, his work has measured and studied glacier speed changes and glacier flow sensitivity to climate. He will be sharing up to date information about climate change.

**Nancy Sleeth** is the Program Director of Blessed Earth, a faith-based nonprofit focusing on environmental stewardship. She is the author of “Go Green, Save Green: A Simple guide to saving time, money, and God’s green earth”, which was the first-ever practical guide to going green from a faith perspective. She will share what congregations are doing, nationwide, to engage in creation care.

**William Spratley** is the Executive Director for Green Energy Ohio. Bill offers a wealth of experience and knowledge in the utility and energy sector, having served as Ohio’s first Consumer’s Counsel and as a national utility consultant.

**Dr. Greg Hitzhusen, M.Div.**, is a Lecturer in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at The Ohio State University. His work and research focuses on the intersection of faith and the environment and developing partnerships between scientific and faith communities.

### Workshops

#### **Awakening the Dreamer; Changing the Dream Symposium**

The symposium was created as a result of “Pachamama” (Quecha for “Mother Earth”)—a collaboration between indigenous peoples of the Ecuadorean rainforest and North Americans.

#### **Towards a 21<sup>st</sup> –Century Spirituality:** Leader, Sr. Paula Gonzales

As we consider our ecological footprint and what impact we have on our earth, we’ll discuss ways we can make a difference by reducing our footprint and creating alternatives.

#### **House of Worship Energy Audits:** Leader, Craig Foster, Brian Abels

“Do It Yourself” steps to reducing energy use will be offered. (Abels) The energy audit process and an overview of the utility and government programs in Ohio that are available to help offset costs will be shared (Foster).

#### **Justice & Advocacy:** Moderator, Bob Downs, Frank Edmands

Three major environmental concerns will be addressed in a panel discussion with time for Q&A about these important issues—clean air, coal production, and natural gas fracking. Discuss advocacy opportunities in 2012.

#### **Rediscovering Sabbatical Living:** Leader, Nancy Sleeth

Continuing her discussion from the morning, Nancy will explore ways we can personally move toward sustainable living. Through a film series entitled “Rest” participants will rediscover Sabbatical living.

#### **Green Teams and Local Food:** Moderator, Keith Mills, Job Ebenezer

Two “Cool Congregations” award winners will present their challenges, successes, and stories about how they got started, why caring for God’s creation is important to them, and the activities that inspire their congregations. In addition, opportunities for congregations to explore local food production will be shared.