



Specifically, the campaign directs mosques and households to:

- Eat more fruits and/or vegetables and less meat. Take only what you can comfortably finish, eat moderately, don't waste food and keep in mind the following hadith: Miqdam ibn Ma'd reported: "The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, 'The son of Adam cannot fill a vessel worse than his stomach, as it is enough for him to take a few bites to straighten his back. If he cannot do it, then he may fill it with a third of his food, a third of his drink, and a third of his breath'" ("Sunan al-Tirmidhi," hadith no. 2380).

**DUE TO ITS STRONG BELIEF IN "TO CHANGE EVERYTHING WE NEED EVERYONE," THE SLOGAN FOR THE PEOPLES' CLIMATE MARCHES OF 2015 AND 2016, OUR TEAM ARGUES THAT CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS CAN SERVE AS THE CATALYST FOR NEEDED CHANGES. AS ALL OF US SHARE THIS PLANET AND A COMMON FUTURE, WE ARE WORKING WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND ACROSS FAITH COMMUNITIES.**

- Recycle and minimize your use of plastic products, for their production requires large amounts of fossil fuels and most of them end up in landfills. Avoid using plastic water bottles, for an estimated 80% of them are not recycled. Use quick degradable and/or paper products. Bring your own utensils and avoid Styrofoam products, which are neither recyclable nor bio-degradable.

- Use energy-saver light bulbs, ensure your facility's energy efficiency and conserve water — even while making wudu.

- Request your *khateeb* to deliver at least one *khutbah* during Ramadan on the Islamic imperative to conserve and protect the environment and perform socially beneficial deeds.

- Plant trees and vegetable gardens, and remember that planting a tree is a continuing charity ("Sahih al-Bukhari," hadith no. 2195, "Sahih Muslim," hadith no. 1553).

- Participate in civic activities, volunteer at homeless shelters and community social projects, collect items for food pantries, invite others to community and home dinners and don't forget the Muslim inmates in nearby jails.

### **PUBLICATIONS AND WEBINARS**

ISNA Green Initiative's widely referenced "The Green Masjid Project," available online at ISNA Green Initiative – Islamic Society of North America, contains specific guidance for environmentally friendly practices. Every year we conduct webinars to raise awareness and provide guidance and direction.

### **ENERGY CONSERVATION PROMOTION**

Many scientists contend that the burning of fossil fuels is the major cause of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere and a primary driver of climate change. In the U.S., roughly 80% of our energy comes

(<https://isna.net/isna-green-initiative/>). This historic partnership, launched at ISNA's 2020 annual convention, seeks to enable over 2,700 mosques and 300 Islamic schools nationwide to reduce their buildings' energy, water and operating expenses, as well as emissions, and pursue other sustainable initiatives.

In addition, we have partnered with GreenFaith and, in 2020, celebrated Faith Climate Action Week together with Interfaith Power and Light, which coincided with the Green Ramadan campaign.

### **ONGOING EFFORTS**

- Become Eco-friendly. A mosque or Islamic center may earn an ISNA-certified environmentally friendly status by attaining a comprehensive set of achievements and measurable accomplishments. We are developing standards to help them do so.

- Green Architecture. These comprehensive standards will help Muslim communities that undertake future building projects make them eco-friendly.

- Environmental Justice. Climate change disproportionately impacts Black, Latino and Native American communities, which are the least responsible for global warming. Power plants, transfer stations, ports, superfund sites and mining operations for fuel resources place a significant environmental burden on the neighboring — and usually low-income — communities. But despite being directly and disproportionately affected by such facilities, they are rarely included in the discussion and decision-making processes.

For example, Blacks made up only 14% of Michigan's population, and yet the state's most heavily polluted zip code is 84% Black. ISNA's Green Initiative team plans to work closely with these communities to push this issue into the public's consciousness and to find ways to engender real solutions and justice for them.

- Protecting and Preserving the Environment. As both the Quran and Hadith emphasize these two activities as being central to Islam, our community's leaders must assume a leading role in adopting the relevant practices. Ideally, we suggest that our mosques and Islamic centers become spiritual centers that strengthen our faith and role models of community care and outreach programs, along with champions of the environment and protectors of the natural world. *ib*

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