



## Greening Your Synagogue, School, or Jewish Institution



Wittingly or not, your community makes daily choices about the stewardship of natural resources, as well as your operating budget. Energy Star, a program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, makes it easier. The Energy Star label on appliances and other products stands for superior energy performance – promoting financial stewardship and preventing air pollution. That is good for your congregation, the environment, and people everywhere.

Like most faiths, Judaism teaches stewardship of both natural and financial resources. With so many pressing and legitimate needs in your congregation or institution, does it make sense to pay higher energy bills? Of course not. And ineffective energy use also wastes the earth's precious natural resources, and causes needless pollution. With no-cost technical support from EPA's voluntary Energy Star For Congregations service, and small initial investments, you can reduce your operating costs while helping protect the environment.

Congregations that practice environmental stewardship can save 20-30% or more on their utility bills. And if all congregations saved energy, the environmental benefits would be huge! One survey calculated the potential energy and environmental savings if each of America's 269,000 congregational buildings conducted an energy efficient upgrade, and found:

- Congregations would save a combined \$ 573,292,829
- Total energy saved would be 15,856,449,150 kWh
- Total CO2 prevented would be 11,593,654,939 pounds or almost 6 million tons!

**Preventing 6 million tons of CO2 from polluting the air would be like taking a million cars off the street, or planting 1.5 million acres of trees!!!!**

***Hazon, The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL), and EPA/Energy Star would like to work with synagogues, Jewish day schools, or other Jewish institutions that are interested in reducing their energy consumption and overall ecological impact. To learn more, please contact:***

***1-888-STAR-YES, U.S. EPA -- [www.energystar.gov/congregations](http://www.energystar.gov/congregations)***

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***Healthy Building Network -- [www.healthybuilding.net](http://www.healthybuilding.net)***