



St Mary's Eaton Socon  
THE CHURCH ON THE GREEN

Creation Care  
Loving, caring, supporting



Green Horizons 1 - one of a series of fact sheets

## PERSONAL CARBON FOOTPRINTS

Measuring our personal carbon footprint is a crucial step in understanding our impact on the environment. By assessing our daily activities, we can identify ways to reduce our carbon emissions. Several people from our congregation have asked to be pointed in the right direction - we hope this leaflet will help.

Your carbon footprint includes four main areas:

- Home e.g. gas and electricity for heating and lighting
- Transport e.g. car use
- Food
- "Consumption" - everything else we do and buy

To these four, we all have to add an amount that the government emits for us e.g. health care, defence etc.

Google search for personal carbon footprint calculators come up with many hits. We suggest these are two worth trying:

1. **WWF** (<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk>) - fun to use, easy and quick. The calculation of the final figure is the result of clever calculations, which result from the collaboration of several academic organisations. WWF also offer a carbon footprint app for your phone (<https://www.wwf.org.uk/myfootprint>).

2. **Climate Stewards** (<https://www.climatestewards.org/offset/>) is an offshoot of A Rocha which organises Eco Church. This calculator adds up for a household, rather than just yourself. It asks for more numbers from you (including how much electricity and gas your house uses, details of any flights etc), so it takes more time and effort. However, it may be more accurate than the WWF one. And it offers you the option of buying carbon offsets to help compensate for your carbon footprint!

Interestingly, when one of us tried both of the above, results were almost the same - only a 1% difference.

If you have a go, do let us know how you get on and how it changed your lifestyle, if it did!



Climate  
Stewards



FOOTPRINT  
CALCULATOR

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Our group reports to the PCC. We have a page on the Church website [www.eatonsocon.org/creation-care](http://www.eatonsocon.org/creation-care), and a group on the Church Facebook page. We would be pleased to hear your views and suggestions - please email to [creationcare@eatonsocon.org](mailto:creationcare@eatonsocon.org) or leave a voicemail message on 01480 352154 (Church office).