



General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts

Donna M. Shibley, President



Environment 2020-2022

Position Open for Chairman

Questions – contact Jen Nowak, Dean of Chairmen, 413.596.5504 | jwnowak@charter.net

The GFWC Environment Community Service Program encourages us to become stewards of the earth by working to preserve the world's resources, protect wildlife and domesticated animals, live sustainably, and beautify our communities and enjoy nature. Environmental degradation is cumulative, and many scientists warn that we are at a tipping point. There is no time like the present to act. Here are some suggestions your clubs can do right here in Massachusetts to make our community a better place to be.

- Get your members familiar with the **Mass Audubon** by visiting www.massaudubon.org and learn about saving birds and other local wildlife. A wide variety of suggestions and opportunities are listed on the website. Invite a speaker to your next meeting.
- Become a member of **The Monday Campaign - Meatless Monday**. This is an international campaign that encourages people to not eat meat on Mondays to improve their health and the health of the planet. Look online for great meatless recipes.
- A great way to conserve water is to use **rain barrels** to collect rainwater from your roof. This water can be used to water gardens or lawns, wash cars, fill swimming pools or any outdoor cleaning. Share information with your clubs and communities on how to set up a rain barrel collection system.
- **Recycling** is finally to new norm. Create a flyer for your community of where and how to recycle items that are not collected on the regular trash collection. Used items like: batteries, computers, air conditioners, mattresses, paint cans, and appliances all have special instructions – find out the answers and share them locally.
- Find a corner in your town and take care of it! Most communities give organizations an opportunity to **"Beautify"**, it can be a traffic circle, bike or walking trail rest stop, or a town common bench area. Many times, a signage comes with your club taking on the responsibility. This is a great way to get your club recognition while making a common area pleasing to the public.
- A Massachusetts favorite is to **recycle** by donating **gently used items**, such as: clothing, accessories, shoes, household items, toys and more. Each community has many choices of who can use these items. Pick the organization that needs your support, domestic violence shelters, after school programs, church thrift shops, or international organizations.

For many more ideas check out the *2020-2022 GFWC Club Manual* on the [GFWC Massachusetts](#) web site by going to the **ABOUT** tab click on **What Do We Do?**