

# THE GREEN MASJID PROJECT

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# Acknowledgment

Many of the pictures used here are through the courtesy of internet, though some of them are from my own camera

# GREEN (SABZ) MASJID - BALKH



# GREEN MASJID – BURSA, TURKEY



# UNKNOWN







# ECOLOGICAL BALANCE SHEET

- Human activities consume resources and produce waste
- Human population and consumption of resources have increased astronomically
- Non-renewable resources including energy and productive land (forests, pastures, cropland, fisheries etc) are dwindling fast
- *It now takes the Earth one year and six months to regenerate what we use in a year*



# PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT

- BOTH QURAN AND HADITH EMPHASIZE PROTECTING AND VALUING THE ENVIRONMENT AS A CENTRAL COMPONENT OF FAITH.
- QURAN AND HADITH ARE RICH IN PROVERBS AND PRECEPTS THAT SPEAK OF ALLAH'S DESIGN FOR THE CREATION AND THE RESPONSIBILITY GIVEN TO HUMAN BEINGS TO KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT IN GOOD ORDER.
- *MASAJID AND ISLAMIC CENTERS MUST TAKE A LEADING PART IN CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION OF DWINDLING NATURAL RESOURCES.*



# SOME QURANIC VERSES

- He it is that made you inheritors in the earth
  - Fatir 30 (translation)
- But waste not by excess: for Allah loves not the wasters - An'am end of 141 (translation)
- Consider the water which you drink. Was it you that brought it down from the rain cloud or We ? If We had pleased, We could make it bitter. Then why do you not give thanks ?
  - Waqi'a 68-70 (translation)

# SOME AHADITH

- If a Muslim plants a tree or sow the seeds, and then a bird, or a person or animal eats from it, it is regarded as a charitable gift (sadaqah) from him -Anas bin Malik (Bukhari)
- He who cuts a lote tree (without justification), Allah will send him to hell fire –Abdullah ibn Habashi (Abu Dawood)
- Never waste water even if you have a river flowing at your door -----?

# IDEAL GREEN MASAJID ???

- Spiritual centers strengthening faith of Muslims
- Role model for community care and outreach programs
- Inclusive, safe, secure, women and children friendly, and respectful of the neighborhood
- *Mosques that also follow environmental preservation principles and create an oasis of calm and sustainability in an urban environment by being eco-friendly*



# ECO MOSQUE

Cambridge, UK – design with zero carbon print



# A GERMAN MOSQUE DESIGN

## TWO MINARETS EQUIPPED WITH TURBINES



# Hamburg eco-friendly mosque





# THE GREAT MOSQUE OF DJENNE (MALI)

## Largest Mud Brick Building on Earth







- ALMOST ALL MASAJID IN US ARRANGE COMMUNITY DINNERS IN RAMADAN AND AT MANY OTHER OCCASIONS
  - A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF FOOD IS WASTED
  - PLASTIC BOTTLES, STYROFOAM PLATES, CUPS, AND ALUMINIUM CANS GO IN THE TRASH
- NOT MANY MASAJID HAVE ANY
  - ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMS
  - WATER CONSERVATION EFFORTS
  - RECYCLING PROGRAMS

LET US PLEDGE TO MAKE A CHANGE



Big changes Begin  
With small steps!





Recycle  
Reduce  
Reuse



Recycle



Reduce



Reuse

# **REDUCE, RECYCLE, REUSE, RETHINK**

- Water
- Food
- Energy
- Plastics
- Aluminum cans
- Other recyclable items

# **WATER MANAGEMENT**

- **Minimizing waste**
- **Installation of sensory taps (faucets) , especially in Wudu areas**
- **Efficient toilet water system**
- **Re-use water**



# AVOID WATER WASTAGE



# SENSOR OPERATED FAUCETS





# ATTACHMENT TO EXISTING FAUCET

## AUTO-SPOUT

**"Makes any existing faucet Automatic!"**  
**DIY, Hygienic, Safe & Save Money.**



Touch-Free



Infrared Sensor



Drip-Free



ADA Compliant

RS-2008C  
(CHROME)

*Battery Operated (AAA 1.5V x 4)  
Auto / Manual Button (for continuous water flow)  
Auto-Detect Sensor Range (5-25cm)  
Digital Temp. Display Screen ("T" type)  
Various Finishings (selectable)  
Patented (Taiwan, USA, China, Japan, Europe...)*



ETC Japan Nontoxic FDA Approved

# WATER USAGE COMPARISON

Up to **70%** water saving!

## *Water Usage Per Hand Wash*

### **Manual Faucet**

### **Auto Spout**



\_\_\_ 1 gallon \_\_\_

\_\_\_ .75 gallon \_\_\_

\_\_\_ .5 gallon \_\_\_

\_\_\_ .25 gallon \_\_\_

\_\_\_ 0 gallon \_\_\_

**0.65** gallons of water  
used per handwash



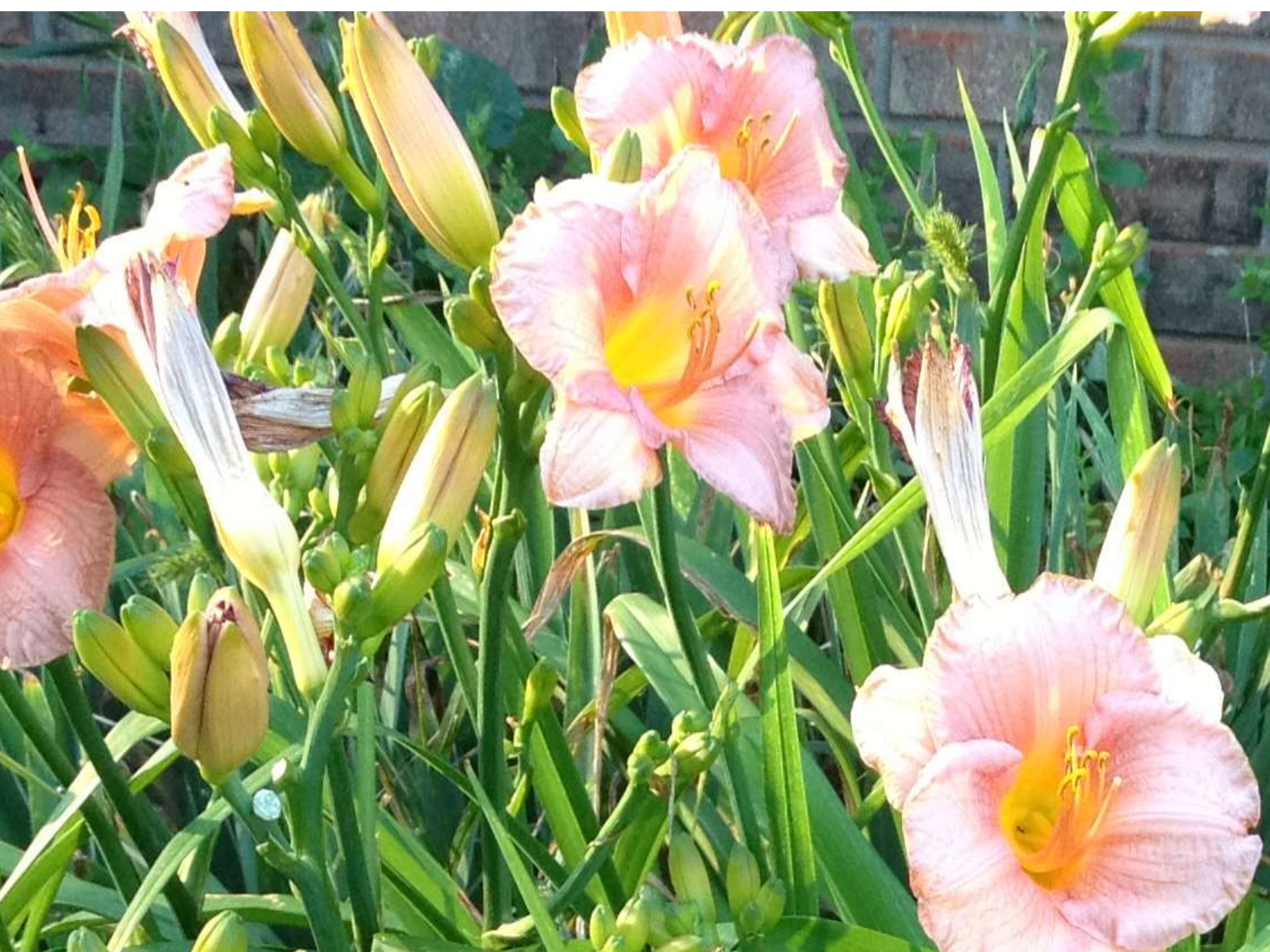
**0.20** gallons of water  
used per handwash



# EFFICIENT TOILET WATER FLUSH SYSTEM







# WHY GREENING OUR RAMADAN

- EVERY YEAR CONSUMERS IN RICH COUNTRIES WASTE ALMOST AS MUCH FOOD (222 MILLION TONS) AS THE ENTIRE FOOD PRODUCTION OF SUB-SAHARA AFRICA
- FORTY PERCENT OF AMERICA'S FOOD SUPPLY ENDS UP IN DUMPSTERS
- PLASTICS TAKE 25-30% OF OUR LANDFILLS
- IN THE US, 1500 PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES ARE USED EVERY SECOND
- STYROFOAM:
  - CONTAINS STYRENE (POTENTIAL CANCER AGENT PER EPA)
  - TAKES A LONG TIME TO DEGRADE. IMAGINE IF A COMPANION OF PROPHET MUHAMMAD (PBUH) USED A STYROFOAM CUP IT WOULD NOT HAVE DECOMPOSED YET.



# ADOPT RECYCLING



# BOTTELED WATER



# BOTTLED WATER

- AVERAGE AMERICAN DRANK 29 GALLONS OF BOTTLED WATER IN 2011
- ABOUT 70% OF WATER BOTTLES ARE NOT RECYCLED AND END UP IN LANDFILL OR INCINERATED
- TAKES A LONG TIME TO DECOMPOSE
- COSTS LOT OF MONEY TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND THUS TO TAXPAYERS



# The Facts about

# Bottled Water\*



PEBBLE IN THE POND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY  
WWW.PEBPOND.COM

**Bottled water costs between \$0.25 and \$2 per bottle.**

**Tap water costs about 1/8 of 1¢ per gallon!**

**Consumers pay up to 10,000 times more per unit volume for bottled water than for tap water.**

**In 2005 Canadians used about 60 litres of bottled water per person, per year with sales worth \$652.7 million.**

**Only 1 in 5 water bottles are ever recycled.**

**The remaining bottles contribute to the 3 billion pounds of plastic waste per year!**



**90% or more of the cost of bottled water goes to things other than the water itself -- bottling, packaging, shipping, marketing, retailing, and profit.**

**Worldwide, 17 million barrels of oil are used in the production of plastic water bottles each year. That's enough to fuel 1,000,000 cars for one year.**

**40% of all bottled water is tap water taken from taxpayer-supported municipal water sources.**

**Two of the largest bottled water sellers, Coca-Cola and Pepsi use municipal water.**

**22% of bottled water brands have shown chemical contaminants at levels above those permitted by strictly regulated tap water.**

\* Info: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/background/consumers/bottled-water.html>  
<http://www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/bw/bwinx.asp>  
<http://www.groovygreen.com>

# BOTTELED WATER VS TAP WATER



VS



tested for **e. coli**



required to provide **source**



required to produce  
**quality reports**



can still be distributed  
when **tap water standards**  
are **not met**





# WASTE FROM BOTTLED WATER









# ENERGY CONSERVATION

- Energy efficient lights and appliances
- Auto temperature control systems
- Monitoring and reducing energy consumption
- Improved insulation
- Solar panels, passive heating

# ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTS



- Standard incandescent bulbs waste 80-90% of their energy on heat
- LED and CFL's use much less energy and are long lasting
- Save energy cost

# SOLAR ENERGY PANELS

## HOW A SOLAR SYSTEM WORKS

- 1 Solar panels
- 2 Inverter
- 3 Switch board
- 4 Electricity meter
- 5 Electricity mains grid





# SOLAR PANELS



# FIRST SOLAR MOSQUE IN USA

- Mosque Foundation – Bridgeview, IL
  - Became the first solar mosque in July 2008
  - Joint project with Faith in Place (a non profit group helping religious organizations in energy conservation in Illinois)
  - Grant from Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation and rebate from State of Illinois

# FINANCING MODELS FOR NON-PROFITS TO GO SOLAR

- SOLAR POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS (solar PPA's) FOR NON-PROFITS
- COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY (PACE) TAILORED FOR NON-PROFITS
- CROWD FUNDING FOR SOLAR PROJECTS (financed by community members who receive return on their investment)

Source: Renewable Energy.World.Com





# INVOLVE CHILDREN



EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN  
IS A KEY INGREDIENT IN THE  
RECIPE TO SAVE OUR EARTH!

# GREEN CHILDREN

- Ecological projects as part of religious teaching curricula
- Litter picking, clean up, and even cleaning of the surrounding area
- Eco stationary
- Recycling projects



# APPRECIATING NATURE



# WORKING TOGETHER



# WORKING TOGETHER







# PLANTING OF TREES AND SEEDS

- If the hour (the day of resurrection) is about to be established and one of you was holding a palm shoot, let him take the advantage of even one second before the hour is established to plant it (Al-Albani)
- If a Muslim plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, it is regarded as a charitable gift (sadaqa) for him (Bukhari)

# TREES AND COMMUNITY GARDENS

- ALLOCATE GARDEN SPACE FOR VEGETABLES, FRUIT AND HERBS
- PLANT TREES AND LANDSCAPE
- INVOLVE YOUNG MUSLIMS IN GARDENING PROJECTS
- EDUCATE THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS ABOUT GARDENING
- SHARE THE PRODUCE WITH FOOD BANKS







# Islamic Center of Evansville









# GETTING INVOLVED TOGETHER





# COMMUNITY GARDEN





# PLANT FLOWERS – BEAUTIFY SURROUNDINGS

**Don't say No to  
flowers**



Islamic Reflections- FaceBook Page- Xenia

**Abu Huraira reported Allah's Messenger (may peace  
be upon him) as saying: He who is presented with a  
flower should not reject it, for it is light to carry and  
pleasant in odour.**

**Sahih Muslim Book 027, Number 5600**





# RECYCLE





# RECYCLE AND AVOID NON-DEGRADABLE MATERIALS

- PROVIDE RECYCLE BINS
- DO NOT USE PLASTIC OR FOAM CUPS AND PLATES FOR DINNERS
- USE WASHABLE OR QUICK-DEGRADABLE CUPS AND PLATES
- REMIND THE COMMUNITY REGULARLY THROUGH POSTERS AND OTHER MEDIA ABOUT THE VALUE OF RECYCLING

# CHALLENGE

- RAISE AWARENESS
- EDUCATION
- ADAPTATION
- **BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION**  
–**BIGGEST CHALLENGE**













# 10 Things Every Eco-Mosque Should Have





- Green Architecture – energy efficiency, sustainable materials
- Efficient lights and appliances, insulation, solar panels
- Water management and conservation
- Recycling program and waste management
- Trees and community garden

- Food management in Ramadan and community dinners
- Litter clean ups – inside and in outer community
- Eco-children
- Reuse or donate
- Educational workshops about preserving and protecting the environment

**THERE IS NO  
PLANET**

**B**



**WHEN THE EARTH DIES, WHERE WILL YOU LIVE?**

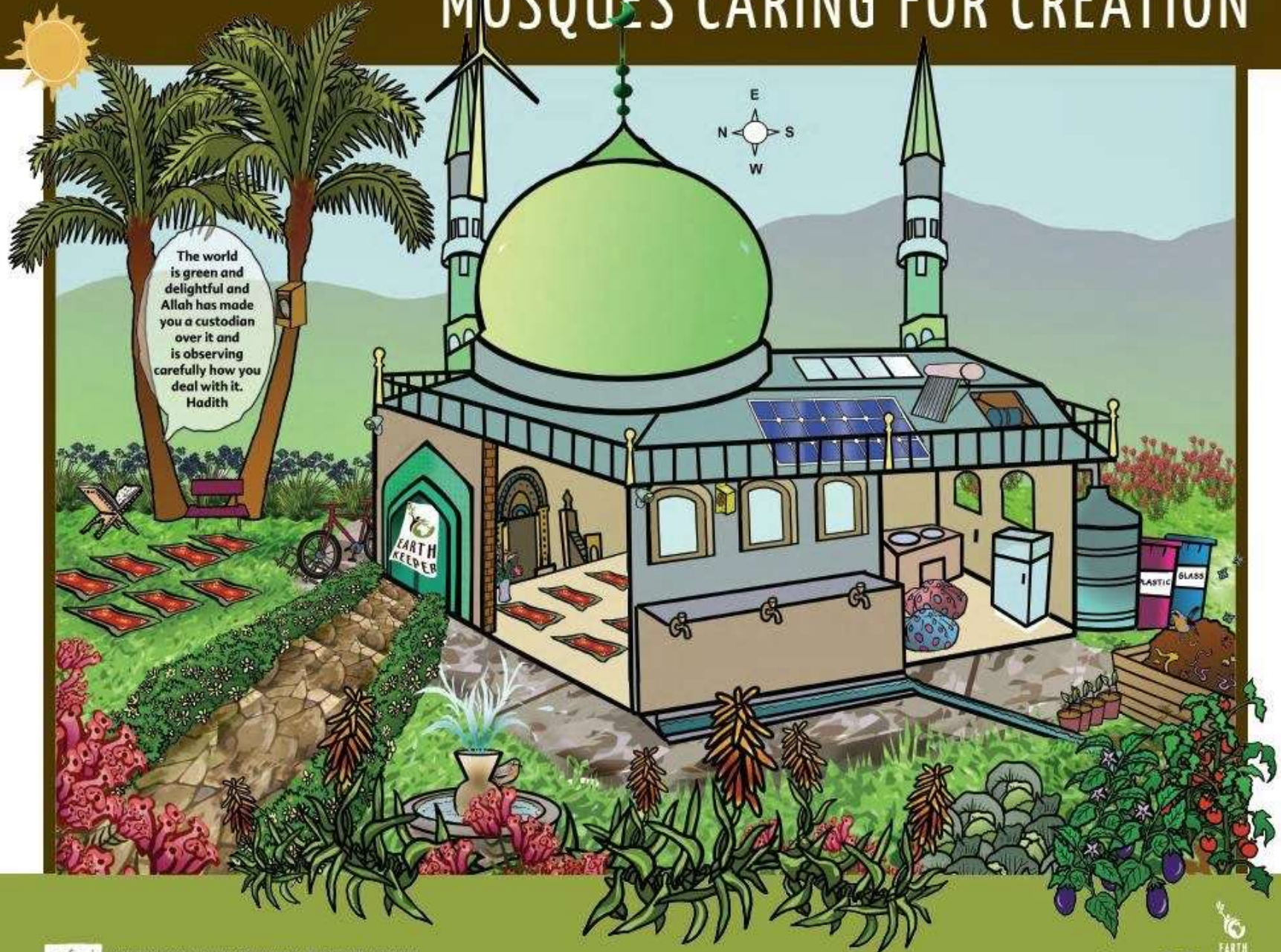


"Do not cause any disruption on earth after it has been so well ordered." -Qur'an 7:56

AZIZAH



# MOSQUES CARING FOR CREATION





# ***THANK YOU***

