## **Measuring Your Carbon Footprint**

Global climate change is driven by the insulating effects of molecules containing carbon, primarily carbon dioxide, in the Earth's atmosphere. The level of carbon dioxide has been increasing due to the intense burning of coal, oil and natural gas that supports the industrial world. Your personal carbon footprint is the amount of carbon dioxide, measured in pounds, that you are responsible for putting into the atmosphere due to your use of energy. Amazingly, a two person household in the United States is responsible for generating about 25,000 pounds of carbon dioxide in a year! The UUFM Green Sanctuary committee will offer



the Fellowship a chance to measure your carbon footprints using a reliable web tool. It is easy to do. All you need to know is your average electricity and heating bills along with the usage and gas mileage of your cars and how you dispose of household waste. Once we all know our carbon footprints we can work together or individually to reduce them. Watch for the instructions in the new year. Meanwhile if you want to learn more about carbon footprints check out <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon\_footprint</u>.