

EcoCare Assessment Tool: Frequently Asked Questions

How do I join the CCI EcoCare Scheme?

By completing the online [CCI EcoCare Assessment Tool](#). You will need to achieve a minimum score, but this is relatively easily attainable by anyone who is willing to start thinking about creation care.

Is CCI EcoCare a formal accreditation scheme? Will I be required to conduct further audits, etc?

No, CCI EcoCare does not have the capacity to visit or properly audit campsites. The scheme is based on trusting that you will complete the Assessment Tool truthfully. Our focus is on encouraging members to seek to improve their care of creation – not checking up on members to formally assess their compliance.

What are the benefits of joining the scheme?

You will get a CCI EcoCare certificate, which can be displayed in your campsite. You will also be able to use the CCI EcoCare logo on your website or literature. These could be useful when you are questioned by potential clients who want to know how "green" your venue is before deciding whether or not to book (and we anticipate that this sort of question is likely to become more common as people become increasingly environmentally aware). You will also become part of a community of people seeking to encourage one another in their care of creation, simply by joining the scheme.

Is there any cost involved in joining CCI EcoCare?

No, there is no cost to joining the scheme – although we do welcome voluntary contributions to help us cover the costs of running the scheme.

How is the Assessment Tool organised?

There are two introductory sections in which you will be asked questions about yourself and your ministry. There are then five main sections covering different areas of camp life:

- teaching & worship
- operations & energy
- water & cleaning
- food & waste
- land management.

Finally, there is a beliefs & commitment statement for you to read and respond to.

Why are there so many questions in the Assessment Tool?

We are aware that the number of questions means that it can take quite a long time to complete the Assessment Tool. However, each question is also an idea of something you might be able to implement on your campsite to improve your care of creation – so we have included lots of questions, as this means lots of helpful ideas. We recommend keeping the [PDF of the questions](#) to hand so that you can be constantly challenging yourself on what you could do next.

Why is there a [downloadable PDF](#)? Is this different from the [online Assessment Tool](#)?

The PDF is provided for you to download and look through before you fill in the online Assessment Tool. All of the questions in this PDF are exactly the same as those in the online tool – but it is helpful to be able to read through all the questions before trying to complete the Tool online, to ensure that you are ready to answer every question. Unfortunately, if you do not complete the whole of the online Assessment Tool in one go, your responses will not be saved.

We run camps but don't manage our own campsite – can we still join CCI EcoCare?

Yes, all CCI members can join the scheme, whatever your particular circumstances are. If you are not responsible for managing a campsite, you will fill in the Assessment Tool from the perspective of your Ministry Base and the camps you run. We will take this into account when assessing your score in the Assessment Tool.

We manage a campsite, but do not do programming or cater for camps – can we join?

Yes, all CCI members can join the scheme, whatever your particular circumstances are. If you do not provide programming, or catering, you can answer “Not Applicable” to the questions related to these areas when you fill in the Assessment Tool, and we will take this into account when assessing your scores.

How long is the certificate valid for?

Your certificate is valid for the remainder of the current calendar year (whatever month you join) plus two further full calendar years. We will then send you a reminder to renew your membership, and you will need to complete the EcoCare Assessment Tool again. We hope that you will aim to improve your score when it is time to renew your certificate.

What if English is not my first language?

We are working towards translation of the Assessment Tool into Spanish and French. If you need help with understanding the tool, please [get in touch](#) with us and we will see what we can do to assist.

How can I get more involved in CCI EcoCare?

If you are interested in getting more involved, we would love to hear from you. We are building a team of EcoCare Reps to help us by acting as advocates for creation care and promoting CCI EcoCare within your region. Please [get in touch](#)!

Any other questions?

If you have any other questions regarding CCI EcoCare and the Assessment Tool that are not covered here, please [contact us](#).