IHM SISTERS OF MONROE, MICHIGAN SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION Services



Learn how to "green" your home or office

The sustainable renovation of the IHM Motherhouse has drawn hundreds of guests annually for tours. Architects, developers, educators, students, environmental agencies, business and civic organizations, government officials, builders, social action groups and religious communities have enjoyed learning about the Green House. Experience our two-hour educational tour showcasing our environmentally responsive renovation.



THE TOUR

The tour begins with a short video, *The Blue Nuns Go Green*, featuring the sisters' vision of sustainability and the story of the actual renovation of the 376,000-square-foot Motherhouse. Next, visitors take a guided tour of sustainable features such as:



- the gray water system
 - energy-efficient geothermal heating and cooling system
 - green products used for flooring, paint and drywall

After the indoor tour, visitors may want to explore these outdoor sustainable features:

- restored meadow savannah, native trees and wildflowers
 - constructed wetland
 - organic garden
 - vegetated swales
 - contemplative landscapes with pathways linking spirituality and nature

Along the journey, visitors explore the Green Room exhibit and the Gift Shop or spend a few quiet moments in Chapel. Resource materials on sustainability are available.

TO SCHEDULE A TOUR

If you or your group would like to schedule a tour, please contact Sharon Venier at 734-240-9754 or by email at svenier@ihmsisters.org.

COST

\$12 per person\$5 per student

IHM Sisters Today

We, the IHM Sisters of Monroe, are Catholic women bound together in faith. We follow a call rooted in our founders' mission – to respond to the world's most pressing needs. As the needs of the times change, so we adapt our ministries.

Today's challenge is unprecedented in scope. Human progress has come at the expense of the entire community of creation.

The cry of our times compels us to embrace a spirituality of kinship that includes all living beings. We recognize the interdependent nature of all members of the Earth community and understand that justice for the Earth is inseparable from justice for those who are poor and excluded.

We serve God as disciples of Jesus. We work for the common good. We question decisions and behaviors that devastate and divide the community of Earth. We minister as educators and caretakers of the Earth and of one another.

Today we are called to speak for the voiceless, to celebrate the diversity within our unity and to educate for citizenship on our planet.

