



Pagan Solidarity Alliance

Community Safety & Building Guide

Creating Sacred, Resilient Spaces in Uncertain Times

Purpose:

This guide supports individuals and groups in building **safe, resilient, and connected Pagan community spaces**. It blends practical safety strategies with the spirit of mutual care, sovereignty, and sacred connection.

I. FOUNDATIONS OF SAFE COMMUNITY

Circle Within Circles Model

Build your community in layers:

- **Inner Circle** – Trusted core (planning, mutual aid, deeper ritual)
- **Middle Circle** – Known members (regular gatherings, classes)
- **Outer Circle** – Public-facing (education, outreach, open events)

Trust is built gradually. Access is earned through relationship.

Core Community Agreements

Establish early and revisit often:

- **Confidentiality** – What is shared here stays here
- **Consent** – No photos, tagging, or sharing without permission
- **Respect** – No harassment, coercion, or discrimination
- **Safety First** – Members follow agreed safety practices

II. PERSONAL & GROUP SAFETY PRACTICES

For Individuals

- Use first names or magical names only
- Limit sharing of personal details (address, workplace, routines)
- Trust intuition—disengage from anything that feels unsafe
- Keep a trusted contact aware of your location at gatherings

For Organizers

- Share locations privately (never fully public posts)
- Rotate meeting spaces when possible
- Have a designated safety point person

- Create entry/exit awareness (who comes and goes)

Situational Awareness

- Notice unusual behavior (probing questions, urgency, disruption)
- Watch for attempts to gather personal data
- Avoid escalation—prioritize calm disengagement

III. DIGITAL SAFETY & COMMUNITY SPACES

Best Practices

- Use **private or moderated platforms**
- Separate public info from member-only details
- Avoid posting identifiable group photos without consent
- Use encrypted communication when possible

Suggested Structure

- Public page → general info only
- Private group → event coordination
- Inner group → leadership & sensitive discussions

IV. BUILDING STRONGER TOGETHER

Grow Through Relationship

- Invite gradually (friend-of-friend model)
- Build trust before expanding
- Encourage one-on-one connection

Anchor in Shared Purpose

Strong communities are built on what they *do*:

- Mutual aid (food, transport, emergency help)
- Skill-sharing (gardening, crafts, safety knowledge)
- Ritual and seasonal gatherings
- Emotional and spiritual support

V. INTERFAITH & ALLIED CONNECTIONS

Why It Matters

Isolation increases risk. Connection builds resilience.

Who to Connect With

- Progressive faith communities
- Interfaith organizations
- Civil liberties groups
- Local mutual aid networks

How to Begin

- Focus on shared values
- Start with low-risk collaborations
- Build trust before visibility

VI. SAFETY PLANNING BASICS

Before Gatherings

- Share location privately
- Confirm attendance list
- Identify exits and safe areas

During Gatherings

- Assign a quiet safety monitor
- Keep group awareness without tension
- Address concerns calmly and discreetly

If Issues Arise

- De-escalate, do not engage
- Document if safe to do so
- Remove or distance from disruption
- Follow up with affected members

VII. SPIRITUAL PROTECTION & GROUNDING

Integrate spiritual practice with practical safety:

- Ground and center before gatherings
- Set collective intention for protection
- Maintain energetic boundaries
- Close gatherings intentionally

Protection is both energetic and practical.

VIII. GROWTH WITH INTEGRITY

- Start small (2–5 committed people)
- Build trust and consistency
- Expand slowly and intentionally
- Prioritize depth over size

IX. COMMUNITY SAFETY AFFIRMATION

We gather in trust.

We protect one another in word and action.

We honor consent, privacy, and sovereignty.

We build not only community—but sanctuary.

X. EMERGENCY & SUPPORT NOTES (Fill-In Section)

Emergency Contact: _____

Trusted Community Contact: _____

Meeting Location Notes: _____

Exit/Safety Plan: _____

BUILDING COMMUNITY WITH THE GREATER NON-PAGAN COMMUNITY

A healthy Pagan community becomes stronger—and safer—when it is seen not as isolated or oppositional, but as a **constructive, compassionate, and engaged part of the broader human community**. The most effective outreach is rarely argumentative; it is relational, visible through service, creativity, education, and mutual care.

Here are activities a known Pagan community could organize or participate in to build bridges and genuine community connection with the wider public:

COMMUNITY SERVICE & MUTUAL AID

Food & Basic Needs

- Community food drives
- “Blessing pantry” or little free pantry projects
- Cooking meals for shelters or disaster relief
- Winter coat and blanket collections
- Hygiene-kit assembly events

These demonstrate visible compassion and create natural partnerships with churches, civic groups, and nonprofits.

Community Gardens & Sustainability

- Public herb or pollinator gardens
- Seed-sharing libraries
- Native plant restoration projects
- Composting and sustainable living workshops
- Tree planting and river cleanups

Pagans are often naturally aligned with ecological stewardship, which resonates broadly across communities.

Disaster & Emergency Preparedness

- Mutual aid response teams
- Cooling/warming shelter support
- Emergency preparedness classes
- Community resilience fairs

Position the group as:

“Neighbors helping neighbors.”

EDUCATION & CULTURAL OUTREACH

Public Educational Workshops

Offer approachable, non-threatening educational topics such as:

- Herbal traditions
- Seasonal folklore
- Meditation and stress reduction
- Nature spirituality
- Historical traditions and mythology
- Gardening by moon phases
- Traditional crafts

Host at:

- Libraries
- Community centers
- Metaphysical stores
- Parks departments
- Adult education programs

For those with experience, offering classes to local law enforcement on Paganism (suggested reference “The Law Enforcement Guide to Wicca by Kerr Cuhulain) often improves relationships throughout the community.

Interfaith Participation

Participate in:

- Interfaith panels
- Religious freedom events
- Shared prayer or peace gatherings
- Community discussions on ethics and compassion

Focus on:

- Shared humanity
- Freedom of belief
- Cooperation rather than theological debate

Open Seasonal Celebrations

Family-friendly public celebrations can be powerful bridge-builders:

- Beltane Maypole dances
- Samhain ancestor remembrance
- Winter solstice candlelight events
- Harvest festivals

Include:

- Music
- Food
- Craft activities
- Educational booths

These work best when framed culturally and communally rather than as exclusive ritual spaces.

ARTS, CULTURE & CREATIVITY

Public Arts Participation

- Booths at art walks and festivals
- Pagan artists' markets
- Poetry nights
- Mythology storytelling evenings
- Drum circles and folk music gatherings

Art often opens doors that ideology cannot.

Historical & Cultural Preservation

- Cemetery cleanup projects
- Folklore documentation
- Traditional craft preservation
- Historical lectures on local folk traditions

This connects Paganism to broader cultural heritage.

SOCIAL & RELATIONAL COMMUNITY BUILDING

Community Potlucks & Hospitality

One of the oldest and strongest forms of alliance-building.

Ideas:

- Seasonal community meals
- "Neighbors and newcomers" dinners
- Interfaith potluck nights
- Community tea circles

Breaking bread together lowers fear remarkably quickly.

Supportive Public Presence

Volunteer visibly at:

- Pride events
- Environmental festivals
- Cultural fairs
- Civic cleanups
- Charity walks

Consistency matters more than scale.

INCLUSION & ADVOCACY

Safe & Inclusive Space Initiatives

Offer:

- LGBTQ+ affirming gatherings
- Neurodivergent-friendly events
- Accessibility-aware rituals
- Quiet sensory spaces

A community known for kindness and inclusion becomes trusted over time.

Educational Advocacy

Without becoming combative:

- Support religious freedom education
- Participate in civics discussions
- Teach consent and healthy boundaries
- Promote anti-bullying initiatives

Focus on values rather than partisan conflict.

YOUTH & FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Family-Friendly Events

- Nature scavenger hunts
- Seasonal craft days
- Storytelling around folklore and mythology
- Community picnics
- Gardening projects for children

Parents often judge communities by:

“Do my children feel safe and welcomed here?”

LOCAL CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Participate in Existing Community Structures

Encourage members to join:

- Library boards
- Volunteer fire departments
- PTA groups
- Community gardens
- Historical societies

- Neighborhood associations

Quiet civic participation builds long-term trust and visibility.

PRACTICAL SKILL-SHARING

Many communities are hungry for real-world skills and human connection.

Host workshops on:

- Herbal first aid
- Food preservation
- Candle-making
- Meditation
- Budget-friendly gardening
- Home preparedness
- Stress management
- Conflict de-escalation

This positions the community as useful, grounded, and caring.

DIGITAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Positive Online Presence

Share:

- Educational posts
- Seasonal reflections
- Community service projects
- Nature photography
- Public events
- Mental wellness resources

Avoid:

- Constant outrage posting
- Exclusivity language
- “Us vs. them” framing

People are drawn to communities that radiate steadiness and warmth.

KEY PRINCIPLE: BE KNOWN FOR WHAT YOU BUILD

Communities gain trust when the public associates them with:

- Helpfulness
- Stability
- Creativity
- Compassion
- Wisdom
- Reliability

The goal is not merely visibility.

It is becoming recognized as:

“Those are the people who show up, help out, and care deeply about the wellbeing of the community.”

Suggested Areas for Long-Term Community Presence

Area	Example Activities
Environment	Gardens, cleanups, pollinator projects
Education	Workshops, library talks, folklore
Arts	Music, poetry, festivals
Service	Food drives, mutual aid
Wellness	Meditation, stress reduction
Family	Seasonal celebrations, crafts
Interfaith	Panels, peace vigils
Civic	Volunteerism, local boards

A Pagan community that becomes woven into the everyday life of its region gains something extremely valuable:

- resilience,
- allies,
- trust,
- and a living place in the cultural fabric of the wider society.

That is how communities endure across generations.