

Environmental Policy

(February 2021)

The Wilderness Trust:

- Acknowledges the connection between the climate and other environmental crises and the threat of current and future homelessness, disease, food and water shortages and poverty for millions of people around the world, as well as the major damage being caused to our natural eco-systems.
- Recognises its responsibility to reduce its carbon and environmental footprints and formally commits itself to being an environmentally responsible charity.
- Recognise the importance no matter how small, of the impact of our activities on the environment and that there is a need to constantly consider ways in which we can conserve energy and minimise waste in all activities that we undertake. The environmental policy is defined by the Board of Trustees and provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets.

The Wilderness Trust maintains a publicly available environmental policy that is available either on request. This policy is communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of the organisation.

The Wilderness Trust recognises its obligation to comply with all relevant environmental legislation. In order to fulfil this commitment, we will:

Waste Management

- Minimise the waste generated by its activities. We will reuse or recycle material and will purchase reusable and/or recycled material wherever possible, taking into consideration quality and price.

i) Reduction

- Avoid unnecessary printing and duplication, reducing margins and headers where appropriate for routine/internal documents.
- Use both sides of paper whenever possible when printing and copying.
- Circulate written material electronically wherever possible.
- Avoid the use of plastic wallets in files.
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ii) Reuse

- Use blank sides of printed paper for notes and drafts.

- Re-use building materials, use natural materials taken from the site or use materials which have been recycled. Wherever possible we will use locally sourced and/or sustainably produced building materials.

iii) Recycling

- Ensure that recycling collection bins for paper, glass, plastic, tins, textiles and food are provided at all workplaces.
- Return printer cartridges and toners for reuse.

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iv) Disposal

- Reduce the amount of general waste that is sent to landfill through increased recycling rates.

Energy Conservation

- Ensure that all unnecessary lights and electrical equipment are switched off and that no appliances are left on standby overnight.
- Consider the energy efficiency and power saving features of all new purchases.
- Continually reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and incorporate long term strategies for energy efficiency into planning and development
- Encourage and facilitate environmentally friendly modes of transport by staff and volunteers

Pollution

- Ensure that new buildings and structures are as sustainably built as possible and that they are designed so that their use will not have a negative impact upon the environment.
- Avoid (wherever practical), the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes.

Water

- Raise awareness among its staff and members of the need to reduce the consumption of fresh water and will encourage the adoption of water saving measures.
- Collect and use of rainwater where practicable to water indoor and outdoor plants.
- Water saving devices to be fitted in toilets.
- Promote the use of tap water and water filter jugs for drinking water, rather than purchased bottled water.

Maintenance and cleaning

- Minimise its environmental impact through a workplace risk assessment to ensure that:-
 - All equipment is regularly serviced to ensure maximum efficiency and longevity.
 - Cleaning materials are biodegradable wherever practicable.
 - Cleaning materials do not contain harmful solvents.

Purchasing and Finance

- Reduce unnecessary consumption, support ethical trading and the local economy and to maximise the positive benefits of its financial activities. The following factors are taken into consideration wherever practicable when making purchasing decisions, while also having regard to the organisation's Financial Policy and Procedures:

- Purchase fair trade goods
- Purchase locally
- Purchase environmentally sustainable goods
- Avoid products that have been tested on animals
- Give preference to bulk purchases
- Give preference to goods with returnable or reusable containers
- Give preference to eco-designed products
- Give preference to goods with recycled content
- Give preference to goods that are returnable for remanufacture
- Avoid pollutants; select natural or biodegradable products
- Avoid products with excessive packaging

Environmental Management Awareness

- Actively promote the principles of organic farming and sustainability and encourage the production of local food for the local community
- Promote environmental management policies and practices at every level and in every area of the Farm's activities
- Increase awareness of environmental responsibilities amongst staff
- Participate with other local/national organisations to promote environmental credentials

Legal requirements

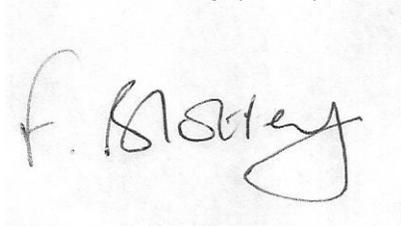
We are committed to compliance with applicable legal and with other requirements to which The Wilderness Trust subscribes that relate to our impact on the environment and our environmental aspects.

To ensure the organisation maintains its awareness for continuous improvement, the environmental management system is regularly reviewed and is subject to annual audit.

The policy will be subject to annual review and will be communicated regularly to all staff and made available to all interested parties.

Signed on behalf of the Wilderness Trust:

Frances Blockley (Chair)



Dr Kevin Blockley (Treasurer)

