

ENVIRONMENT POLICY



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Environment Policy

Statement of Policy

Aryabhata College's mission is to identify ways to create awareness in society and amongst its stakeholders regarding environmental issues, while simultaneously building environmental consciousness at both individual, as well as community level. The College aims to maintain a green, clean, and eco-friendly campus. It intends to encourage projects and initiatives on waste management, water conservation, landscape, afforestation, clean energy resources, energy consumption reduction and climate change mitigation.

Aims and Objectives

- To promote resource efficiency.
- To create a plastic-free, smoke-free campus.
- To initiate joint effort with students and staff members to create awareness about resource conservation.
- To encourage projects that are in accordance with environmental assessment, and which benefit current and future stakeholders.
- To promote eco-friendly initiatives like composting, clean fuel and renewable resources.
- To introduce and develop curricular and extracurricular practices that encourage students to inculcate environment-friendly habits in their daily lives.
- To create awareness about a green and clean campus among the stakeholders.
- To conduct audits for recommendations and continuous improvement.
- To develop a policy for e-governance with the intent to reduce the use of paper.

Scope

In due recognition of an educational institution's significant role in the creation and maintenance of environmental consciousness in society, Aryabhata College outlines the following initiatives and practices:

- Integrated Solid Waste Management involving waste prevention, recycling, composting and safe disposal of dry waste, food waste, horticultural waste, hazardous waste and e-waste.

- Rainwater Harvesting System and RO Water Recycling to facilitate water conservation.
- Installation of Solar Power Plant, along with other energy efficient equipment.
- A Plastic-Free Campus to be achieved through a strict ban on the use of single-use plastic, in accordance with the government's efforts to ban all single-use plastic.
- Green Cover Enhancement to balance the concrete built-up area.
- Landscaping to enhance the overall aesthetic appeal of the premises and to create a sense of space.
- Regular Green, Energy, and Environment Audit.

Action Plan

Aryabhata College intends to follow the enlisted steps to accomplish its specific environmental goals:

Integrated Solid Waste Management

1. Equip its workers with the necessary skill-set to collect, segregate and manage waste on campus.
2. Sensitize students, teaching and non-teaching staff regarding sustainable waste management practices, and involve them in the process.
3. Install twin dustbins at strategic points to facilitate segregation of dry and wet waste at the individual level.
4. Undertake composting practices to manage food and horticultural waste generated.
5. Encourage the use of natural fertilizers and manure for supporting plants.
6. Ensure safe disposal of hazardous and e-waste through authorized agencies.
7. Reduce, reuse and recycle paper waste generated by the College.
8. Undergo waste-audit at regular intervals.
9. Create awareness amongst all stakeholders of the College by motivating them to actively participate in regular cleanliness drives organised by NSS and NCC.

Water Conservation and Management

1. Encourage the following practices on campus in order to facilitate water conservation
 - a) Rainwater harvesting
 - b) Regular check for possible leakages.
 - c) Use of RO-recycled water for watering plants and trees.

2. Sensitize students about the importance of water conservation through regular awareness programmes.
3. Ensure 24*7 availability of clean drinking water on campus through the installation of RO facility.

Energy Conservation Practices

1. Install energy efficient lights in corridors and washrooms.
2. Facilitate the use of energy efficient equipment in laboratories, classrooms, and canteen.
3. Install a solar power plant to meet the energy requirements of the College in a sustainable manner.
4. Encourage students and staff to use public transport.
5. Work with energy-efficient building designs that facilitate natural lighting, cross-ventilation, thereby minimizing energy demands on the premises.
6. Create and maintain open spaces to allow them to function as a comfortable teaching-learning space during favourable weather conditions, thereby reducing dependence on artificial lights.
7. Create climate and environmental consciousness amongst students and staff by regularly organizing seminars, debates and activities.

Green Campus Initiatives

1. Develop an extensive green cover and identify areas to landscape to enhance overall aesthetic appeal.
2. Develop a herbal garden to expand the knowledge of students and staff.
3. Prohibit entry of vehicles beyond a certain point to protect the existing green cover.
4. Landscape the two entrances and the region in front of Kusumpur Block by creating small embankments of rose, hibiscus and other flowering plants.
5. Organise awareness campaigns to increase stakeholder's awareness of their environmental duties.
6. Conduct regular plantation drives through NSS and College Garden Committee; ensure active student involvement and participation to foster a spirit of learning with responsibility towards the environment.

Importance of Audit

A well-designed and efficiently implemented environmental audit greatly assists an institution in understanding the impact of its actions on its immediate, as well as global environment. This, in turn, allows the institution to make informed choices that promote a sustainable approach to development. Furthermore, regular environmental audits help ensure legislative compliance of various activities undertaken by the institution, enhance resource efficiency in turn increasing annual savings, as well as help keep alive a conversation around environmental concerns amongst its stakeholders. Timely audits serve as a reminder of the significant role that each member plays in tackling the emerging environmental issues.

Aryabhata College intends to pursue a programme of continuous improvement in its objectives, procedures and practices. The College shall review the policy on a regular basis to evaluate continued relevance and to monitor compliance.

