

## Waste Management

SXCS values environmental resources and tries to adopt sustainable measures in all its processes. To this end, the College ensures reduction of hazardous and non-hazardous liquid, solid and electronic waste generation, increased recycling in all possible areas and usage of waste wherever possible. The College has a comprehensive Waste Management Policy that forms a part of the College's sustainability framework and helps support the nation's effort towards climate change mitigation and social responsibility. It is committed towards implementing an effective and responsible waste resource management process that meets legislative, regulatory, and best practice legislation and guidance.

### Purpose

The Waste Management Policy aims to ensure that the College manages waste issues in line with the prevention of pollution and always adheres to the compliance of environmental legislation. Zero waste (energy, water, solid, air) is the target for all activities in the College.

### Objectives

In line with the sustainability vision of India, it is committed to the following actions to achieve Zero Waste-to-Landfill status:

- Conserving natural resources and minimizing the volume and possible environmental harm of waste generation and disposal.
- Making use of natural or renewable materials, wherever possible.
- Follow the waste management hierarchy-Avoid, Reuse, Recycle,

Energy recovery, and Treatment & Disposal.

- Ensuring safe and secure handling, organization and transportation of the waste generated in the premises.
- Training students and staff members on all aspects of waste management relevant to their roles.
- Encouraging and supporting suppliers who do not have similar policies and practices, but are partnering with the College, to adopt the same.

### **Procedure**

The College has a robust and comprehensive recycling infrastructure. All staff members and students are encouraged to help recycle as much waste as possible. The Waste Management Policy also includes the need to consider end of life disposal costs and environmental impact when making procurement decisions. Such considerations are included during the construction of new buildings or refurbishments inside the premises.

#### **I. Waste Management Compliance**

All the faculty members, administrative service staff and students are required to be informed about the appropriate procedures for waste management. The awareness of waste management process is also imparted, as deemed by the College practices, to ensure that waste generated is managed, stored, and disposed safely in line with the mandates as per law and College policy. The College has built a compost maker in its premises for collecting and composting food waste. This unit is maintained effectively. It is properly operated and kept free of insects, rodents, and vermin.

Collection Containers are placed in general usage areas like main hallways for students' use. They have been strategically placed in central locations near high student population areas or intersections where they can be easily seen and accessed. This includes

areas near main entrances so students entering and exiting have quick and easy access. Recycle bins are separately provided for cans and bottles, paper, batteries, and general non-recyclable waste materials. The staff offices in the reception/office areas and cabins have a clearly marked container for recyclable paper products, placed near the regular waste container. The computer labs with printers and/or copiers and Examination Centre have a clearly marked container for recyclable paper products to be collected daily or as required by housekeeping staff services. These containers are placed near the copier/printers for easy access. The Vending machine areas have appropriately marked recycling containers for bottles, cans, paper materials, and general waste.

### **Waste Minimization**

Waste generation is prevented or minimized wherever possible. The College encourages its staff members - both teaching and non-teaching as well as its students to minimize plastic waste by using reusable bottles or glasses for drinking water. Students are requested to make use of the Water Coolers installed in all the floor levels as far as possible. The College has taken concrete steps to reduce, reuse and recycle plastic items, particularly bottles as well as disposable coffee cups and single use-lunch boxes. The catering section in the College is also instructed to provide non-disposable items at events and functions and to use glassware wherever possible in place of plastic items.

### **Health and Safety**

Waste generated is to be stored in compliant and suitable containers in the designated locations prior to disposal from all floor levels, classrooms, faculty staff rooms, administrative service rooms and the catering area. Waste containers are to be securely closed and sealed wherever necessary, to prevent the release of waste from the container. Waste and recycled material removed from the College is to be handled and transported by persons or service providers who are licensed and authorized to do so.

## Reduce and Reuse Management

The various offices in the College and faculty members are encouraged to consider the use of

- Shared resources such as networked copiers, scanners, and printers.
- Minimize paper wastage.

### **This can be accomplished through strategies such as:**

1. Minimize excess mailing and junk mailing by
  - a. Actively removing names from unwanted mailing lists for campus emails by encouraging official use of WhatsApp for short information and messages between staff members.
  - b. Minimizing multiple subscriptions by sharing and distributing commonly used literature such as magazines, journals, etc. within department groups and offices.
2. Implement double-sided copying and printing as a campus standard and a requirement for document submissions for CIA's, draft scholarly papers, draft proposals, etc.
3. Minimize printed matter in favour of electronic/digital documents
  - a. Bulletins/Notices are to be distributed electronically and posted in respective notice boards rather than being printed and broadly distributed.
  - b. Student notices and information to be disseminated through ERPStudent Login and SXC Student MobileApps.
  - c. Limit printing needs to actual requirements for distribution and eliminate significant printing overruns, and toner usage.
4. Occasionally, unrepairable equipment may be sold to outside contractors by the IT-Department when other options have been exhausted.

## II. Recycling Management

The College enables the safe disposal of various items such as metal and aluminium cans, plastic bottles, glass, food-waste, batteries, E-waste responsibly.

The computer systems to be upgraded on a regular basis and the old working computer systems to be recycled are sent to other sister institutions situated in rural areas.

Rain water harvesting is effectively conducted to use all the rain water collected at different points, to meet direct usages and ground waterrecharges.

## III. General Waste Segregation and Recycling

Recyclable materials are to be segregated at the point of disposal. Non-recyclable materials go through the same process of separation, as the following items are currently disposed of in the General Waste bin:

Single-use juice cartons with lids

- Crisp & chips packets
- Candy bar wrappers
- Cling films of food and lunch rolls
- Bubble gums/biscuits wraps
- Tetra packs
- Polystyrene covers

**The following materials are recycled on a regular basis as per the Waste Management Policy:**

- One sided paper, Cardboards, Books - re-using single side printed paper for notes and to-do lists, used as scrap paper.
- Disposable paper cups - recycled to Municipal authorized Waste Collection Agents.
- Light bulbs, batteries, electrical wires and equipment, oil cans, paints, and solvents-Recycled to Municipal authorized Waste

Collection Agents.

- Furniture and low configuration computers are donated to other sister institutions.

#### **IV. Rain water Harvesting/ Recycling**

The Rainwater Harvesting System established in the College is an example of its proactive approach towards environment conservation. Sustained efforts are taken by the College to harvest and store the rainwater wherever possible inside the premises. The system set-up includes Rooftop Rainwater Harvesting and Ground rainwater harvesting which uses pipes to divert water to the gutters. The gutters then divert the rainwater to the main pit behind the building where it is stored and re-used for gardening and toilet water purposes.

#### **V. Monitoring and Auditing**

The College has appointed a waste contractor to collect the waste that is disposed of and recycled daily. The staff-in-charge monitors this collection daily. Regular audits of the waste minimization & recycling is conducted by the Eco club staff-in-charge along with students.

#### **VI. Awareness and Training**

To ensure that all students, teaching and non-teaching staff member occupants of the College, are made aware of waste management and recycling-

- A general listing of the types of recyclable materials are to be placed in the container and affixed to the outside of the container.
- All containers for collecting recyclables are to be boldly marked for their purpose.
- All students shall receive an information page in orientation/welcome packages that highlight the campus waste reduction and recycling policy.

- The Principal's Office will assist in the development of signage and literature to raise campus awareness of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Policy as well as these guidelines.

### **Conclusion**

The institution promotes eco awareness and eco-friendly practices among its students and staff at every given opportunity. As an ongoing process various researchers, environmental activists and Government officers are invited to provide talks and share possible best practices that can be embraced by the institution. Further, there is a constant search for betterment of the existing processes and value system on a continued basis