

"Dissemination of Education for Knowledge, Science & Culture"

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**VIVEKANAND COLLEGE,
KOLHAPUR**

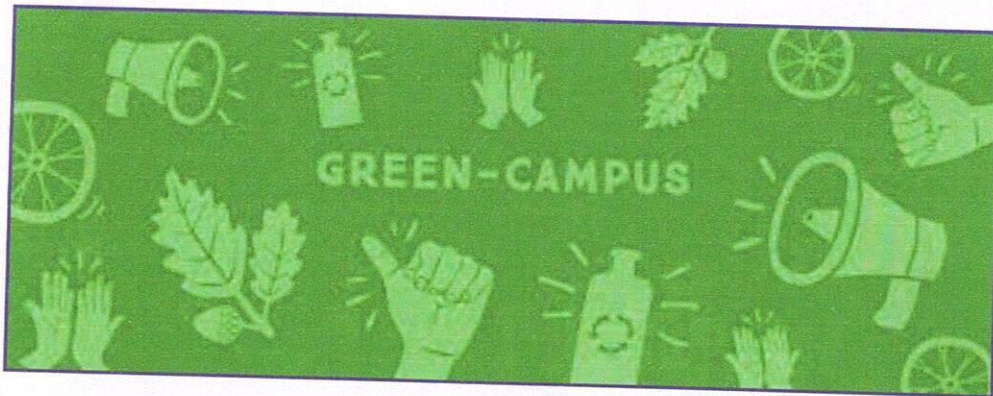


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(EMPOWERED AUTONOMOUS)

Internal Quality Assurance Cell

**Eco- Friendly Campus and
Environmental Policy**



ECO-FRIENDLY CAMPUS AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Introduction:

Vivekanand College acknowledges its duty to promote environmental sustainability and aims to establish a green campus that exemplifies eco-friendly practices. This policy details our dedication to reducing our environmental impact, preserving natural resources, and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility among students, teachers, and staff. We ensure that students be ecologically literate and act in accordance with global welfare and sustainable development, as part of our commitment to their holistic development. The college guarantees compliance with the Green Campus and Environment Policy.

Objectives:

- To reduce water consumption and encourage water conservation techniques across the university.
- To conserve and improve green areas on campus to support biodiversity and ecological equilibrium.
- To incorporate sustainability principles into academic programs and extracurricular activities to educate and empower the campus community.
- To develop collaborations with nearby communities and organizations to promote environmental sustainability outside of university boundaries.
- To promote awareness and literacy on E-Waste management.
- To advocate for the preservation of the ecology and biodiversity on the college campus.
- To raise awareness among all stakeholders about sustainable and eco-friendly living.
- To conduct annual audits on environmental, energy, and green practices.

Policy for a Plastic-Free College Campus:

United Nations Environment Programme reports that one million plastic bottles are purchased every minute and one trillion plastic bags are utilized globally each year. Plastic, being non-biodegradable, persists in landfills indefinitely. Reducing, reusing, and recycling plastic is the solution in this scenario. Vivekanand College Campus has established the following policy.

Plastic-Free College Campus Policy:

1. Disposable plastic is prohibited on the college grounds.
2. Faculty and students are encouraged to practice plastic waste reduction, reuse, and recycling.
3. The faculty is dedicated to informing students about the "Plastic Free College Campus" Policy.
4. Faculty and students are urged to refrain from using plastic and opt for eco-friendly alternatives such as paper bags and cloth bags.
5. Programs are organized to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of plastic usage.
6. The college has entered up a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with agencies that collect plastic garbage from the campus and process it for recycling.
7. Plastic cups, glasses, and utensils are not allowed in the college campus and Hostel Mess. Instead, paper cups and straws are utilized.
8. Every college department must gather the plastic garbage used in laboratories and staff rooms and deposit it into the designated large plastic waste bins located at the plastic waste pick-up point on campus.
9. A group of environmental activists has been established to promote and advocate for the "Plastic Free College Campus" goals and objectives among students, encouraging them to adhere to the policy.

Guidelines for Faculty and students:

Guidelines for students and teachers (both teaching and non-teaching) about a "Plastic Free College Campus."

1. Avoid using disposable plastic on the college campus.
2. Anyone caught using or transporting single-use plastic bags or cups will face a fine of Rs. 50.
3. Avoid using disposable plastic pens. Opt for refillable pens.
4. Opt for paper bags over plastic ones.
5. Refrain from using plastic cups and glasses. Utilize disposable paper cups and glasses.

6. Avoid purchasing plastic mineral water bottles and instead to bring your own reusable water bottle instead.
7. Plastic debris must not be discarded on the college campus.
8. Dispose of plastic waste in the designated rubbish bins located across the college campus.

Energy conservation and sustainable energy sources:

- Install energy-saving features including LED lighting, motion sensors, and energy-efficient appliances in campus buildings.
- Investigate options for renewable energy production, such as solar panels or wind turbines, to decrease dependence on fossil fuels.
- Teach students and staff about energy saving practices and promote changes in behaviour to lower energy usage.

Conserving water:

- Install water-saving fixtures and establish leak detection and repair initiatives to reduce water wastage.
- Raise awareness about water conservation through educational initiatives and signage across the campus.
- Integrate water-conservation techniques into landscaping and irrigation systems by using indigenous and drought-tolerant vegetation.

Minimization of waste and recycling:

- Establish an extensive waste management program incorporating source reduction, recycling, and composting.
- Install recycling bins and composting facilities strategically throughout the campus and encourage correct trash segregation and disposal.
- Promote the decrease of single-use plastics and disposable things by implementing programs like reusable water bottle campaigns and sustainable eating choices.

Ecological areas and variety of living organisms:

- Conserve current green spaces and encourage the development of new green places for leisure, rejuvenation, and environmental conservation.
- Integrate indigenous plant species into landscaping plans to promote local biodiversity and provide habitat for wildlife.

- Implement a campus garden or green roof initiative to involve students in experiential education on sustainable agriculture and urban greening.

Education and involvement in sustainability:

- Incorporate sustainability themes throughout the college curriculum across several fields, allowing students to delve into environmental challenges and remedies.
- Conduct workshops, seminars, and field trips on sustainability and environmental conservation for students, professors, and staff.
- Support and encourage student-driven sustainability projects and clubs that empower students to make a difference on campus and in their communities.

Collaborations with the community:


- Engage with local government agencies, NGOs, and community groups to tackle environmental issues and advance sustainability efforts in the broader community.
- Engage in community clean-up programs, tree planting campaigns, and other environmental restoration initiatives to make a beneficial impact on the local environment.
- Collaborate with other educational institutions and groups to share effective strategies and insights in order to encourage joint efforts towards a more sustainable future.

Conclusion:

Vivekanand College, Kolhapur (Autonomous) is dedicated to establishing a sustainable and environmentally responsible green campus. Through implementing this policy and collaborating with the college community and external partners, our goal is to inspire good change and contribute significantly to the health and well-being of our planet.


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