



## **Green Campus Policy**

At Vivekananda College, Thakurpukur, we firmly believe in the principle that “Nurturing Nature, Nurturing Ourselves.” Situated on the southern fringes of Kolkata, our campus's activities directly impact the surrounding green zone. Since 1950, environmental sustainability has been a core focus of our initiatives, resulting in a campus with a significant green area. This area includes landscaping, a medicinal garden, lawns, and a playground, serving as a habitat for a diverse range of grasses, herbs, shrubs, trees, birds, insects, and other species.

We pledge to protect and improve our environment by maintaining a Green Campus, promoting Energy Conservation, and ensuring overall Environmental Sustainability.

### **Preamble**

In line with its objective of “Nurturing Nature, Nurturing Ourselves,” Vivekananda College (Autonomous) is dedicated to developing, protecting, and sustaining a clean and green campus. We are committed to integrating environmentally friendly practices and education to foster eco-friendly systems. This Green Policy applies to all faculty members, staff, and students, ensuring a collective effort towards maintaining and enhancing our green campus.

### **Policy Purpose and Objectives**

Vivekananda College supports and encourages awareness campaigns, seminars, workshops, and other interactive sessions to achieve the following goals:

- **Environmental Awareness and Education:** Develop a foundational knowledge and understanding of the environment and its inter-relationships with human beings.
- **Sustainability and Conservation:** Inculcate the importance and practice of environmental sustainability and conservation among students and staff.
- **Environmental Issues Awareness:** Spread awareness regarding various environmental



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aspects and issues.

- **Skills Development:** Equip students and staff with the skills to tackle environmental challenges and problems.
- **Ethical and Social Values:** Promote social values, moral ethics, and brotherhood in harmony with environmental quality.
- **Effective Green Campus Implementation:** Facilitate the adoption and implementation of Green Campus, Energy, and Environment sustainability practices.
- **Waste Management:** Promote the principles of **reduce, recycle, and reuse** to minimize waste.
- **Plastic-Free Campus:** Eliminate single-use plastics within the campus to create a 'Plastic Free Campus'.
- **Environmental Audits:** Conduct regular audits for annual assessment of our environmental policy implementation and utilize feedback from auditing agencies for continuous improvement.
- **Resource Conservation:** Ensure the judicious use of all resources to preserve them for future generations.
- **Eco-Friendly Innovations:** Encourage and support innovative eco-friendly solutions to address environmental challenges.
- **Biodiversity Enhancement:** Promote the conservation and enhancement of campus biodiversity, including landscaping, medicinal gardens, lawns, and habitats for various species.
- **Energy Efficiency:** Implement measures to enhance energy efficiency and promote the use of renewable energy sources.
- **Sustainable Practices in Curriculum:** Integrate sustainability and environmental awareness into the curriculum to educate and engage students in sustainable practices.
- **Community Involvement:** Engage the college community, including students, faculty, and staff, in sustainability initiatives and practices.

## Environment Initiatives

- **Water Conservation:** Implementing a rainwater harvesting system.
- **Waste Management:** Collaborating with agencies for proper disposal of solid, liquid, and e-waste.
- **Cleanliness Drives:** Regularly organizing cleanliness drives.
- **Tree Plantation:** Conducting frequent tree plantation drives.
- **Plastic-Free Campus:** Installing signage to enforce the ban on plastics.
- **Pedestrian Pathways:** Creating pedestrian-friendly pathways.
- **Solar Energy:** Installing solar panels to promote the use of renewable energy and reduce the campus's carbon footprint.

## Audits

- The college conducts annual Green Audit, Environment Audit, and Energy Audit by external agencies.



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- Recommendations from the green audit report are implemented in a timely manner for the benefit of stakeholders and society.

### Awareness Initiatives

- **Workshops and Competitions:** Regularly organizing workshops, competitions, and awareness programs on environmental issues both on and off campus.
- **Student Societies and Departmental Activities:** Promoting environment-centric activities through Eco Club and departmental initiatives.
- **Plastic Ban Campaigns:** Conducting campaigns to enforce the ban on plastics within the campus.

### Process and Procedure for Implementation of Policy

- **Action Plan Development:** A detailed action plan will be created to identify areas for improvement within the scope of the policy.
- **Circulars and Notifications:** Issuing timely circulars and notifications to ensure awareness and compliance.
- **Signage Display:** Installing signage to promote the implementation and scope of the policy.
- **External Collaborations:** Signing MoUs with external agencies for waste management, recycling, and other environmental sustainability requirements.
- **Policy Review and Amendment:** The policy will undergo periodic reviews and amendments as necessary through appropriate committees and administrative orders.

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