



AUXILIUM COLLEGE (Autonomous)

(Accredited by NAAC with A+ Grade with a CGPA of 3.55 out of 4 in the 3rd cycle)
Gandhi Nagar, Vellore – 6.

BEST PRACTICE-II

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ZERO WASTE CAMPUS

1. Title of the Practice

Zero Waste Campus

2. Objectives of the Practice

- To divert 100% of campus waste away from landfills, emphasizing the reduction, reuse, and recycling of materials.
- To establish guidelines for sustainable procurement, favouring products with minimal packaging and those made from recyclable or biodegradable materials.
- To implement educational programmes to raise awareness about waste reduction, proper recycling, and the overall importance of sustainable practices among students, faculty, and staff.
- To install and maintain recycling bins and collection points strategically across campus, ensuring easy access and proper waste segregation.
- To develop on-campus composting facilities for organic waste generated from canteens, mess, cafeterias and landscaping, turning waste into valuable compost.
- To establish partnerships with local waste management authorities to enhance recycling capabilities and explore options for waste-to-energy programmes.
- To promote the use of reusable items such as water bottles, coffee cups, and containers, discouraging single-use plastics.
- To organize and encourage environmentally friendly events and initiatives on campus, minimizing waste generated during such activities.
- To develop and implement policies that regulate waste reduction practices across campus, ensuring institutional commitment to sustainability.
- To integrate waste reduction and sustainability concepts into the curriculum, ensuring that students are educated about these practices as part of their academic experience.

3. The Context

Auxilium College excels as a Zero Waste Campus, where a commitment to sustainability transforms waste into opportunity, fostering a green and responsible educational environment. The College becomes a model for sustainable living and sets an inspiring example for other educational institutions and communities. The Campus adopts a holistic approach to waste reduction by implementing strategies such as waste prevention, recycling, composting, and reusing materials. This comprehensive strategy addresses various waste streams on campus. This involves strategically placed recycling and composting bins, well-designed waste collection systems, and facilities for processing and composting

organic waste. This best practice prioritize educating the campus community about the importance of waste reduction through awareness campaigns, workshops, and educational programmes among students, faculty and staff. The campus adopts sustainable procurement practices by sourcing products with minimal packaging, favouring reusable and recyclable materials.

4. The Practice

Auxilium College pioneers as a Zero Waste Campus, forging a sustainable path where waste reduction and environmental responsibility converge for a greener academic landscape. The College establishes and maintains a Zero Waste Campus as a best practice, contributing to environmental sustainability, community engagement, and the development of responsible and eco-conscious citizens. The regular activities that assess and enhance sustainability practices include Solid Waste Management, Liquid Waste Management/Sewage Treatment Plant, Vermicomposting, e-Waste Management, Solar Panel, Solar Lamp, Windmills, Biogas Plant, Rainwater Harvesting, Regular Green Audit, Energy Audit, Health and Hygiene Audit, Display Documentation of Flora and Fauna, Usage of Battery Vehicle, Maximum Use of LED Bulbs, and Pedestrian-Friendly Pathways. At our College campus, we proudly produce organic vermicompost manure and nutrient-rich organic fertilizers, through sustainable practices. This eco-friendly initiative harnesses organic waste to create a valuable resource. The vermicompost is thoughtfully utilized across our campus for diverse purposes, promoting soil health and sustainability. From enhancing our lush green landscape to supporting community gardens, the application of this compost aligns with our commitment to environmental responsibility.

1. The vermicompost produced on our College campus is made accessible to the community at a minimal cost, promoting sustainable practices and encouraging widespread adoption of organic fertilizers. By making it affordable, we aim to contribute to local agriculture and foster environmentally conscious choices.
2. All the liquid wastes of the College are subjected to treatment and the water is recycled for domestic use.
3. MoU is signed with Wileys Enterprises, Vellore to recover and recycle the e-waste collected.
4. Solid, Liquid and e-Waste Management serve as a tangible example of our dedication to reducing waste and fostering a greener, more sustainable learning environment.

5. Evidence of Success

A substantial decrease in the amount of waste sent to landfills, indicates effective waste reduction and diversion practices, adoption of innovative waste reduction practices, such as sustainable procurement, composting, and the utilization of renewable materials. Recognition through certifications

like Best Campus Amenities Award for quality maintenance and a eco-friendly environment to the stakeholders, and Best College Award for academic excellence and contribution to community development showcasing adherence to audit standards and a commitment to best practices. The establishment of International Eco club student chapter constituted by the Nature Science Foundation is considered as service extended to the noble cause of environmental protection and nature conservation. Engaging in the Nature Science Foundation, our students and faculty unite for environmental conservation, contributing to a shared dedication in preserving and nurturing our planet Earth. Successful partnerships with local waste management authorities, demonstrating a cooperative effort to enhance recycling capabilities contribute to broader community sustainability goals. Positive public relations and increased appeal to environmentally conscious students, faculty, and potential donors, enhance the College's reputation as a responsible and sustainable institution. Successful organization of events and initiatives with minimal waste generation, demonstrating the integration of zero-waste principles into the planning and execution of campus activities. Substantial reduction in the use of single-use items across campus, showcases a commitment to minimizing environmental impact. A positive shift in campus culture towards sustainability, with waste reduction becomes an integral part of the institution's identity to improve the campus culture. A Demonstrated commitment to long-term sustainability is evident through ongoing initiatives, continuous improvement strategies, and a resilient zero-waste culture within the College community. Auxilium College transforms into a Nature Nest Campus, blending academic pursuits with a green haven, cultivating an eco-friendly atmosphere for holistic learning and sustainability.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Resistance to change and lack of interest may hinder the adoption of waste-reduction practices among students, faculty, and staff. Complex logistics in waste sorting, collection, and processing can pose challenges, especially in large campuses with diverse waste streams. Installation and maintenance of recycling bins, composting facilities and waste collection systems to support waste diversion efforts needs to be taken care of with much interest and regular follow up may pose limitation. Collaborative efforts and partnerships with local waste management authorities, to improve recycling capabilities and explore waste-to-energy solutions.