

# Waste Management Policy

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<b>Establishment:</b>	8 May 2012
<b>Last Amended:</b>	8 Oct 2014
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<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Principal in collaboration with HODs/ Director or Dean of School

## 1. Introduction

Marian College Kuttikkanam (Autonomous) - a premier institution of higher learning in Kerala, is well aware of the responsibilities towards environmental issues and wellbeing, the role in education, research, policy formation and information exchange necessary for a sustained environmental campaign and activities. The present *Waste management policy* reflects the College's commitment and stewardship towards environmental protection and sustainability. We have a clear vision towards the importance of sustainable approach in attaining environmental stability through reducing the ecological foot print of the College as a system. The College has developed a responsible waste handling culture within the campus with due emphasis on 'waste to wealth' approach. These approaches are in tune with existing Environmental laws and legislations laid down by the Government to attain a pollution free environment. Besides, '*respect, rethink, reduce, reuse, and recycle*' (5Rs) principle is also incorporated into the current policy statement. The policy envisages and facilitates the establishment of significant objectives, specific targets and appropriate action plans. Municipal Solid Wastes (Management and Handling) Rules, 1999, published under the notification of Government of India in the Ministry of Environment and Forests number S.O.783, dated , the 27<sup>th</sup> September, 1999 in the Gazette of India, Part II, section 3, Sub-section

(ii) forms the basis of this policy. Besides, it incorporates perception of various other environmental regulations like Water Act, Environmental Protection Act and National Environmental Policy of 2006.

## 2. Policy Statement

The College recognises the importance and necessity of a robust environmental setup as an integral component for the academic excellence as well as wellbeing of the system as a whole. In order to achieve this excellence, it is inevitable to fabricate, implement and sustain a policy statement for the college upon which an Environment Management System can work forward to attain sustainability.

- i. The college will adopt and appreciate the idea of **5Rs - Respect, Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** principle as an Operational Waste Management Plan in the campus. The College can adopt the approach of '**Waste to Wealth**' idea to convert its

biodegradable waste into compost, biogas and other useful products in preference to waste dumping and disposal.

- ii. The College will ensure the strict compliance with the waste regulations adopted and the waste generated in the campus shall be properly managed and handled in accordance with the compliance standards
- iii. It is inevitable to implement a legal requirement with regard to the handling, storage and disposal of hazardous waste categories to comply with the existing regulations as laid down by the government under environmental protection legislation.
- iv. The College shall plan and execute programme for the prevention, control and management of all types of environmental pollution in campus.
- v. The College will undertake best /healthy practices and green initiatives to trim down its ecological foot print through best possible sustainable and eco-friendly methods through the co-operation of students, teaching and non- teaching staff and community participation
- vi. It is advocated to review and upgrade the existing green protocol of the College on yearly basis.
- vii. The College shall conduct routine environmental audits covering various performance indices including energy, waste, carbon footprint, biodiversity and water.
- viii. The college shall frame an Environmental Management System for nurturing nature and document the campus ecosystem.

### 3. Policy Objectives

**The major objectives of the policy are:**

- i. To ensure that the environment management of the campus is in accordance with the set legislative requirements in order to attain environmental sustainability.
- ii. To safeguard appropriate waste handling and management giving emphasis to waste minimisation at source and scientific methods of waste disposal.
- iii. To develop a holistic waste management approach in the campus through the inculcation of environmental awareness, social responsibility, environmental sustainability.

- iv. To delineate roles and responsibilities of individuals, groups, and management towards effective waste management in the campus.
- v. To promote the idea of 'waste to wealth' by converting different types of wastes to various value-added products.
- vi. To deliver appropriate expertise and training to the students, staff, and other personnel in the campus regarding the importance and need of proper waste management.

#### **4. Administrative setup**

A well-defined administrative arrangement is inevitable for the successful execution of the framed policy. The responsibilities and institutional provisions for the policy are vested upon individuals under various administrative levels within the college.

##### **Executive Council**

- Principal
- Vice-Principal
- Member secretary
- Selected members from Academic council
- Department heads
- Executive engineer
- Outside expert

##### **Co-ordination Committee**

- Selected teachers of different departments
- Selected student leaders from different departments
- Cleaning staff heads and supervisors
- Technical and engineering groups of the College

##### **Working group**

- Supervisors
- Technical personnel
- Student groups (NSS, NCC)
- Green crew members

- Cleaning staff
- Hired cleaning staff (temporary)
- Supporting staff

The executive council consisting of the administrative officials of the college is responsible to take decisions and coordinate the waste management scheme of the campus. It is the responsibility of the council to ensure the compliance of the waste management policy by the college community. Moreover, the smooth execution of the set policy for the proper waste management system of the college also falls under its functional role.

The coordination committee is responsible to advice, guide and coordinate the execution of the policy by setting up various indicators, bench marks and performance indices for waste management in the campus. Ensuring the safety and legal compliances, monitoring and training provisions, duty allotments, investigation regarding complaints with regard to waste management within the campus, waste management and audit data archiving and monitoring are the responsibilities of the coordination team.

The working group is responsible to perform the set routine activities of managing waste which includes, waste handling, segregation and disposal. Operational organisation of waste management system in the campus, onsite decision making and routine analysis, compiling waste handling data and statistics notes, recycling, collection and handling etc. fall under the responsibilities of the working group.

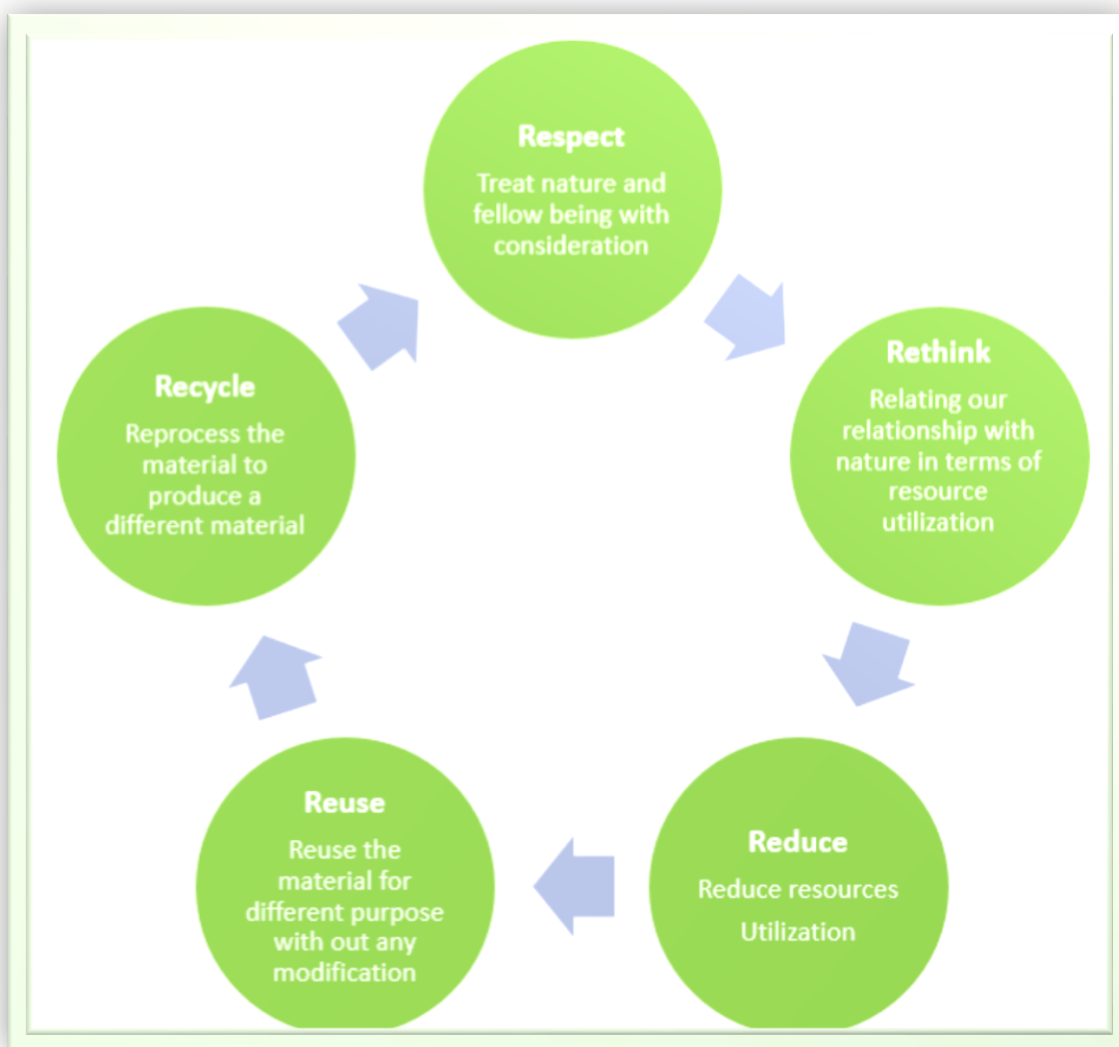
## 5. Action plan

The concept of environmentally sustainable waste management system based on the principle of 5Rs – *respect, rethink, reduce, reuse, and recycle* is emphasised in the policy. Considering the environment with due respect is given priority in the action plan that reflects the attitudinal response of individuals. The idea of rethink inculcates the possibilities of thinking or relating our relationship and commitment with our environment and the possibilities of minimising resource utilisation. The central idea of reduce, reuse and recycle is mandatory to reduce resource utilisation and consumption.

Moreover, it is considered mandatory to follow, report and monitor waste handling and management of the campus in a sustainable and systematic manner and steps will be taken to

attain maximum waste reduction in the campus. The produced waste will be handled and managed as per the existing regulations and proper waste disposal methods. Special care is given to the hazard waste category. Proper placing of waste collection bins, segregation at source and waste storage will be done.

Adequate awareness programmes, campus wide campaigns and Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities will be conducted to generate general cognizance on proper waste management in the campus. Regular waste auditing and monitoring activities will also be carried out.



**The Sustainable Waste Management System based Action Plan for Marian College**