



GREEN CAMPUS POLICY

1. Introduction:

Holy Cross College has a long and continuing affinity with nature and is recognised as a "Clean and Green Campus." On campus, the college encourages environmentally friendly, sustainable methods. By offering a variety of possibilities, the college redefines its environmental culture and instils environmental consciousness in teachers, students and all the stakeholders.

2. Perspective

Through efficient waste management and the use of the 3Rs—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle—the policy aims to create a community that is resource-efficient, ecologically sound and prosperous. The college promotes environmental consciousness and nature conservation among its student body and the wider public.

3. Goals

- To increase the amount of green space on campus and outside
 - To continuously improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the use of all resources, including energy and water
 - To enable a plastic-free campus
 - To raise awareness among all stakeholders and the local community to seek the adoption of environmental good practices and reduce negative effects on the environment
 - To reduce the amount of paper used in administration by adhering to the e-governance policy.
 - To continuously increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of all resources, such as water and electricity, and to lower the quantity of waste generated by recovering and recycling waste wherever feasible.
 - To periodically carry out energy and environmental audits.
 - To guarantee the prudent use of environmental resources to satisfy the requirements and ambitions of the current and future generations; • To preserve and protect ecological systems and resources on campus.
- To consistently increase our contribution to climate protection and global resource conservation
- To collaborate with all stakeholders and the local community to promote awareness and encourage the adoption of environmentally friendly practices in order to minimise any negative effects on the environment.



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4. Green Campus Committee

- Principal (The Chairman)
- Office Superintendent
- Bursar
- Dean – Academic Affairs
- Co-ordinators of Eco club and Green Audit Committee
- IQAC Co-ordinator
- Dean of student affairs
- Dean of Extension Activities
- NSS Programme Officers
- Student representatives (Student Council members)
- Heads of the Departments

5. Campus Green Initiatives

By encouraging staff and students to take part in various activities, the institution promotes eco-friendly behaviours that raise awareness and safeguard the environment both locally and globally. This helps to keep the campus clean and green.

5.1. Restricted Entry of Automobiles

To reduce air pollution and encourage sustainable, eco-friendly transportation options within the campus, the college limits the entry of private automobiles to reduce carbon emissions and minimize traffic congestion. External visitors and guests will be issued permit cards for controlled access to the campus.

5.2. Promotion of Bicycles and Battery-Powered Vehicles

To encourage eco-friendly transportation modes such as bicycles and electric vehicles, the college will provide incentives and facilities for the use of bicycles and battery-powered vehicles (e.g., bike racks and charging stations). Special events like "**No Vehicle Day**" is organized to raise awareness and promote sustainable transportation choices.

5.3. Pedestrian-Friendly Pathways

To prioritize the safety and convenience of pedestrians within the campus, the college designs and maintains pedestrian-friendly pathways throughout the campus to encourage walking as the primary mode of transportation. This initiative aims to reduce reliance on motorized transportation, thus minimizing the environmental impact.

5.4. Ban on Single-Use Plastics

To minimize plastic waste and promote sustainable alternatives, the college prohibits the use of plastic bags, plastic files, and other single-use plastic items within the campus.



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Use of paper, jute and cloth bags and files are encouraged as alternatives. The college also promotes the use of recycled materials and sustainable products.

5.5. Landscaping and Greenery

To enhance the green cover of the campus and contribute to biodiversity, the college maintains and develops a variety of gardens, including an entrance garden, green spaces around buildings, and trees offering shade throughout the campus. **Vertical Gardens** are installed on building walls to further enhance the aesthetic and environmental quality of the campus. The **Botany Department** manages a **Herbal Garden** featuring medicinal plants for educational and research purposes.

5.6. Infrastructural Initiatives

The institution supports switching to clean green energy sources like solar energy for the energy consumption to reduce the consumption of power generated by non-renewable resources. The college pledges to reduce energy consumption by using sensor based smart electronic appliances and energy-efficient electrical appliances that minimise inefficient waste.

5.7 Rainwater Harvesting

Rainwater collection is used by the college to raise groundwater levels. This method aids in the recharge and replenishment of groundwater. As it recognises the value of every drop of water, the college consciously gathers rainwater. The college has created a practical strategy that collects and stores rainwater in a number of pits. The rooftops are kept up adequately to prevent undesired debris from combining with the rainwater that enters the well.

5.8. Paperless Office

The college office uses digital platforms including Google Classrooms, WhatsApp Groups, and email to present all notices and information. Furthermore, there is high-speed Wi-Fi available on campus. Other strategies to try to reduce paper use include using cashless transactions, reusing one-sided paper for notes, sketches, rough work, and rough prints, and using multi-user printers at the college office's central administrative areas. Public address systems also help reduce the amount of paper used for announcements and circulars. The teachers have also experimented with e-assignments and other skill-based assessments, such as group discussions and presentations, as alternatives to paper-based testing. Staff and student grades, attendance, feedback, and other information are entered into ERP.

5.9. Management of e-waste

Programs are held to raise awareness about reducing e-waste and disposing it off in an environmentally responsible manner. Waste from the institution has been disposed off appropriately. For recycling, the e-waste is delivered to e-waste businesses. On campus, e-waste management programs are handled at the departmental and societal levels. Defective printers,



computers, and other equipment are disposed of by departments and sold as junk. The UPS batteries are refreshed and the printer cartridges are changed. Enough money has been set aside for system modernisation.

5.10. Solid waste management

The 3Rs—Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle—are used at the college. Waste paper produced on campus is gathered, separated, and recycled. Reducing the use of packaged foods, encouraging the reuse and recycling of non-biodegradable items, and hosting workshops on solid waste management are some of the measures done to raise awareness among the student body. Before being sent to the Municipal Corporation, solid waste is separated into categories that are biodegradable and non-biodegradable as part of the Swachh Bharat goal. There are dustbins for disposing of dry garbage in every department and classroom. By separating dry and wet garbage from the appropriate dustbins, the campus is kept hygienic and ecologically sustainable.

5.11. Handling Liquid Waste

Watertight fittings are maintained by the college. In order to save water, there are more Indian-style toilets than Western-style ones. To quickly stop any water leaks from faucets, pipelines, tanks, toilet flushes, etc., support personnel are assigned. The lesson taught to the pupils is that saving water also saves their future. The hazardous liquid comprising chemicals is sent to the laboratory hazardous chemical waste disposal unit. Different water percolation methods allow the laboratory waste liquid to seep into the soil. The way this percolation pit works is comparable to how a rainwater collection system works. River sand is added to the pit after gravel or pebbles for better percolation. The administrative team is careful to monitor how often the water tanks need to be cleaned. Each stakeholder is aware of the proper and effective usage of water.

5.12. Dim and Dip Day Initiative

A monthly observance of "Dim and Dip Day" shall be implemented as a sustainable energy conservation measure. For thirty minutes, all non-essential electrical appliances, including lights and fans, will be dimmed or switched off across the campus to minimize energy usage and promote environmental awareness. This initiative aims to instil a sense of responsibility among students and staff regarding resource conservation and supports the college's commitment to achieving a greener campus. The Dean of Students will oversee the execution of this initiative. The energy savings achieved through this initiative will be documented and used for awareness campaigns.



5.13. HCIICT

The Holy Cross Innovation and Incubation Council (HCIICT) has made remarkable strides in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship since its inception. The student startup “HAC BIODIGESTOR” received ₹800000 under the Innovation Voucher Program and National Innovation Contest, while the team "Tinkererz" won ₹75,000 in the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2022, earning a copyright for their software model. Student Startup “Smartified Dustbinology” received Rs.100000 under Tamilnadu Student Innovators Award. Two teams, "Future Successors" and "Guardians Crew," were selected for the SIH 2023 Grand Finale, highlighting the institution's commitment to nurturing student innovation. With 640 IIC student members, 63 faculty mentors, 27 pre-incubation units, and a robust support system, HCIICT continues to empower individuals to transform ideas into impactful ventures.

HCIICT's state-of-the-art infrastructure includes the HCIICT Maker's Space. Incubation and Pre-incubation facilities of HCIICT provides innovative ventures on paper recycling process, fresh organic Mushroom value added products, 3D designing and development with animation techniques, AI based Web and Mobile applications, Smart technologies for Prototype Development and Entrepreneurial Development skill training with mentorship support. HCIICT Supported 68 startups at prototype and product levels. Registered 254 ideas and PoCs under the YUKTI portal. Guided structured innovation processes involving brainstorming, prototyping, and solution feedback.

6. Implementation Strategy

6.1. Green Campus Committee

- The **Green Campus Committee** has been established to oversee the implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of this policy.
- The committee consists of key stakeholders, including faculty, staff, students, and administrators.

6.2. Regular Audits

- The committee conducts regular **audits** to monitor progress in achieving the objectives outlined in this policy.
- Audits assess areas such as waste management, energy consumption, resource utilization, and compliance with sustainability goals.

6.3. Training and Awareness Programs

- The college organizes **training and awareness programs** for students, faculty, and staff to promote sustainability and environmental conservation.
- These programs cover topics such as energy efficiency, waste management, sustainable transportation, and eco-friendly practices.



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6.4. Research and Innovation Support

- The college encourages and supports **research and innovation** in the field of sustainability and eco-friendly technologies.
- Faculty and students are given opportunities to explore and implement sustainable solutions on campus.

7. Review and Revision

- This policy is reviewed and revised annually or as needed.
- The **Green Campus Committee** is responsible for reviewing and updating the policy to ensure its continued effectiveness and relevance.

8. Responsibilities

8.1. Green Campus Committee

- Oversee the implementation of the Green Campus Policy.
- Conduct regular audits and provide recommendations for continuous improvement.
- Ensure alignment of campus activities with sustainability goals.

8.2. Faculty and Staff

- Participate in sustainability training and awareness programs.
- Promote and adopt eco-friendly practices in their respective departments.
- Support research and innovation in sustainable technologies.

8.3. Students

- Participate in sustainability initiatives and training programs.
- Adopt and promote eco-friendly practices both on and off-campus.
- Support and contribute to research and innovation in sustainability.

Principal
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