



CCTF Environmental Policy

Here at Carney Carr Therapy Farm we plan to be as environmentally friendly as possible. We welcome support, participation and suggestions from our guests as to how to continue to improve our environmental policy and protect the environment.

We consider sustainable farming practices like water conservation, energy efficiency (solar where possible) waste reduction etc. We also consider the environment in therapeutic activities like encouraging learners to connect with nature, being with the animals, going on walks etc. Through more hands on activities like crafting, small building projects etc, we try to use more natural materials. We do engage with staff, volunteers and learners and we also communicate through our socials about our environmental practices and commitments.

Our overall aim is to reduce our impact on the environment by:

- **Reduce waste and disposal.** We recycle reuse and minimise where we can. For example we reuse plastic plant pots, cardboard, egg boxes. We compost when and where possible. We make trips to the recycling depot when possible. We also dispose of waste according to the correct duty of care standards.
- **Compost.** We use our own compost wherever possible.
- **Being energy efficient.** We use energy efficient solar lighting outside as we are not connected to the mains in some of the outer areas.
- **Water.** We capture rainwater when and where possible for the plants and growing crops.
- **Environmentally friendly products.** We always aim to use products that are animal and environmentally friendly. When possible, we go for locally produced products too.

- **Protect natural habitat.** We have decided that we are to keep our small pond for this reason so we can protect natural habitat (we get a lot of frogs and pondlife) so we opted to reposition the ducks for this purpose. We have created bug houses and bird boxes around the area.
- **Bat boxes.** On the refurbished barn, we have placed bat boxes.
- **Bees and nature.** We aim to encourage bees and use wildflower beds on any areas of land we are not using.

Implementing Strategies

Engaging the Community

Environmental policies are most effective when they involve collective effort. We aim to engage our staff, volunteers, and learners to participate in sustainable practices. In the future we aim to host workshops or educational activities about environmental conservation which can inspire others to take similar actions. Social media and other communication channels can be leveraged to share commitments and progress.

Hands-On Activities

Farming often involves crafting, building, and maintenance projects. Incorporating natural materials into these activities can reduce environmental impact and encourage creativity. For example, using reclaimed wood for fences or natural fibres for crafts reflects a commitment to sustainability. We do this on a regular basis with our learners.

Monitoring and Compliance

We aim to regularly monitor the effectiveness of our environmental practices. We stick to compliance with local regulations, such as disposal standards and duty of care requirements. Trips to recycling depots and proper waste disposal is routine.

Benefits of an Effective Environmental Policy

Enhanced Soil Health

Composting organic waste and minimizing chemical fertilizers improve soil structure and microbial activity, leading to healthier crops and long-term agricultural viability.

Biodiversity Conservation

By protecting habitats and encouraging wildlife, we contribute to the preservation of species essential to the ecosystem, such as pollinators, amphibians, and birds.

Economic Savings

Using renewable energy, recycling materials, and conserving resources can reduce operational costs over time, making farming and our business more efficient and sustainable so we can give back to communities.

Community and Reputation Building

Adopting an environmental policy we aim to build further trust within the community which in turn will enhance reputation.

Conclusion

Environmental policies for CC THERAPY FARM are not just a responsibility—they are an opportunity to create a harmonious relationship between agriculture and nature. By conserving resources, protecting habitats, and engaging communities, we can ensure our practices contribute positively to the planet. These efforts pave the way for a more sustainable future, benefiting both current and future generations to come.

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