# **Green Policy**

#### Introduction

SA Engineering college maintains a Clean and Green Campus where environmental friendly practices and education combine to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices in the campus and beyond the campus. The green campus concept offers the institution an opportunity to take the lead in redefining its environmental culture through instilling environmental ethics among students and staff. The Institute also promotes Clean and Green campus through adopting, practicing and promoting environmental friendly practices among students and staff to generate Eco-consciousness among them and in the world around them. The increasing human foot print on earth poses great environmental challenges that continue to grow over time. An unprecedented effort is required to alleviate the adverse effects that human activities have on the ecosystem, effects that in turn alter how we interact with the earth and with each other. Inclusion of all approaches to problem solving will be necessary to effect a meaningful change.

### **Scope of the Policy**

The Green Campus, Energy and Environment Policies will develop exciting new cocurricular and extracurricular practices that encourage students to take the lead in creating positive change. These initiatives call for a thorough review of all infrastructural, administrative functions from the standpoints of energy efficiency, sustainability and the environment.

The focus areas of this policy are:

- Clean Campus Initiatives
- Landscaping Initiatives
- Clean Air Initiatives
  - Smoking Free Campus
- Infrastructure
  - Solar Power Plant
  - Installation of Energy Efficiency Equipment
  - Water Conservation through Rainwater Harvesting System
- Waste Management processes
  - Solid Waste Management

- Liquid Waste Management
- E-Waste Management
- Awareness Initiatives
- Environment-centric Student Societies and Department Activities
- Green Audit
- Energy Audit
- Plastic-Free Campus

### **Objectives of the Policy**

- To protect and conserve ecological systems and resources within the campus.
- To ensure judicious use of environmental resources to meet the needs and aspirations of the present and future generations.
- To integrate environmental concerns into policies, plans and programmes for social development and outreach activities.
- To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practice and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- To continuously improve our contribution to climate protection and adaptation to climate change and to the conservation of global resources.
- To continuously improve the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water, and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced, recovering and recycling waste where possible.
- To make the campus plastic free

#### **Clean Air Initiatives**

We encourage our students and staff to use public transportation. We encourage carpooling to college, an activity that will control air pollution and strengthen social interaction. The entry of automobiles inside the campus is restricted to discourage the use of private vehicles.

Our campus is also located near the Southern Ridge, an area identified as the Green area of Chennai, Tamil Nadu. For this reason, we feel responsible to maintain our green cover. The abundant natural landscape not only cleans the air on campus but also becomes an extension of the green lungs of the city.

In compliance with the framework provided by the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) 2007-2008, the college prohibits smoking and the use of other tobacco products. Our institute adapted various tobacco related policies provided by the State Government to achieve the tobacco free campus environment. As a step in this direction, smoking and use of tobacco in and around the campus is strictly prohibited. The antismoking committee of the college ensures enforcement of the antismoking policy

#### **Conduct Green Audit**

The college aims to regularly conduct a Green Audit of our college campus to assess our strengths and weaknesses to further our goals of long-term sustainability. A green audit is a useful tool to determine how and where most energy or water or resources are being used. The college can then consider how to implement changes and make savings. It can determine the type and volume of waste. Recycling projects or waste minimization plans can be adopted. It will create health consciousness and promote environmental values and ethics. It provides a better understanding of the impact of eco-friendly practices on campus. Green auditing will promote financial savings through reduction of resource use. It is imperative that the college evaluate its own contributions toward a sustainable future.

### **Conduct Energy Audit**

An Energy Audit to be conducted as and when required to further reduce its carbon footprint. The importance of reducing energy consumption cannot be overstated. The energy audit, with its specialized tools will identify wastage of energy. Such an inspection often reveals several different flaws which cause a loss of significant amounts of energy which the college will not be able to detect. These flaws often have easy and affordable solutions and provide significant savings.

## **Plastic-Free Campus**

SA Engineering College has been observing most of its duties in terms of solid waste management since its inception. In view of the Government of India's resolution to ban all single use plastics due to the hazardous impact of plastic use and pollution, the college administration strictly bans the use of single use plastics in its premise to make it a 'Plastic Free Campus'.