Waste Management & Disposal Policy

Preamble

Atmiya University is committed to sustainable development and environmental stewardship. The Waste Management and Disposal Policy aligns with the principles of JeevanVidya, emphasizing harmony with nature, and promotes practices to minimize, manage, and responsibly dispose of waste. This policy integrates the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) with innovative waste management techniques to create a cleaner and healthier campus environment. It is aligned with the UN-SDGs 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, ensuring responsible waste management and sustainability across all university activities.

In addition, the policy ensures compliance with relevant laws and regulations of the Government of India (GoI) and the Government of Gujarat (GoG) related to waste management. The framework adheres to key regulations such as the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016; E-Waste Management Rules, 2022; Biomedical Waste Management Rules, 2016; and other applicable environmental laws. The policy supports the principles of constitutional provisions under Articles 48A and 51A(g) concerning environmental protection, contributing to a sustainable and legally compliant waste management system.

Objectives

1. To minimize the generation of waste and promote resource conservation.
2. To ensure proper segregation, handling, and disposal of waste in compliance with environmental regulations.
3. To create awareness and encourage participation in sustainable waste management practices among all stakeholders.
4. To foster research and innovation in waste management technologies.

Scope

This policy applies to all types of waste generated by Atmiya University, including solid, liquid, Air, biomedical, and e-waste, across academic, administrative, and residential facilities.

Key Policy Provisions

1. Waste Collection and Segregation

- **Provisions of Segregated Bins**:Waste segregated at the source to facilitate recycling, composting, and proper disposal.

+91 281 2563445 admin@atmiyauni.ac.in www.atmiyauni.ac.in

- **Campus-wide Awareness**:Awareness campaigns organized to promote waste segregation practices among faculty, staff, and students.

2. Solid Waste Management

- **Organic Waste**:Organic waste like food scraps and flower waste converted into nutrient-rich compost for natural farming.
- **Paper Waste**:Used paper repurposed into multifunctional items such as sheets, filter paper, file folders, envelopes, and card sheets.
- **Agricultural Waste**:Agricultural waste transformed into sustainable products like hand-made bouquets, photo frames, garlands, and pen stands.
- **Plastic Waste**:Plastic waste converted into reusable products like bags, packaging materials, and other items.

3. Liquid Waste Management

- **Effluent Treatment**:Treatment of laboratory and chemical wastewater carried out to prevent contamination.
- **Wastewater Recycling**:Recycled wastewater reused for irrigation, landscaping, and cooling purposes.
- **Rainwater Harvesting**:Infrastructure established to harvest rainwater for campus use.

4. Biomedical Waste Management

- **Segregation**:Biomedical waste segregated into leak-proof, color-coded containers as per guidelines.
- **Training**:Regular training provided to ensure safe handling and disposal of biomedical waste, minimizing environmental impact and health risks.
- **Authorized Disposal**:Biomedical waste disposed of through authorized vendors.

5. E-Waste Management

- **Repurposing Components**:Components from outdated equipment repurposed for further use.
- **Recycling and Refurbishment**:E-waste subjected to recycling programs to extend the lifecycle of electronic devices and reduce landfill contributions.
- **Authorized Disposal**:E-waste disposed of through authorized and registered recyclers.
- **Practical Learning**:Students provided opportunities to gain hands-on experience in handling and managing e-waste through workshops and practical sessions.

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6. Air Pollution Control

- **Tree Plantation**:Trees planted across the campus to help mitigate air pollution.
- **Pollution Control Systems**:Systems such as wet scrubber, fume hoods, fume cupboards are implemented to capture and remove harmful& toxic fumes, vapors, and particles from laboratories.

Implementation Strategies

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- **Awareness Campaigns**: Regular workshops and seminars for educating the university community on waste management practices and sustainability.
- **Monitoring and Audits**: Routine audits to track waste generation, segregation, and disposal efficiency, ensuring compliance and continuous improvement.
- **Collaboration with Experts**: Partnerships with environmental agencies and experts to enhance best practices and ensure adherence to regulatory guidelines.
- **Procurement & Commissioning of Resources**: Necessary resources – Unit Operations & Process – Instrument & equipment, Machinery, Incinerator, Testing & Monitoring apparatus etc. procured and updated to support efficient waste management.
- **Sewage Treatment Plant (STP):** A Sewage Treatment Plant established to treat and recycle wastewater for non-potable uses, reducing external water dependency and supporting sustainability.

Review and Amendments

This policy reviewed annually by **GPCB Recognized Environmental Audit& Consultancy Cell** of the universityto incorporate advancements in waste management technologies and address evolving campus needs.

Atmiya University's Waste Management and Disposal Policy demonstrates its commitment to environmental responsibility and sustainable practices. By minimizing waste, maximizing resource recovery, and educating stakeholders, the university strives to lead by example, fostering a culture of harmony with nature and responsible waste management, in line with national and state regulatory frameworks.

Registrar
Atmiya University
Rajkot

+91 281 2563445 admin@atmiyauni.ac.in www.atmiyauni.ac.in