



PARAMEKKAVU COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

THRISSUR AFFILIATED TO UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT. U.O. No. 2436/2013/CU
(Managed by Sree Paramekkavu Educational, Cultural and Charitable Trust)

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BEST PRACTICE – 2

TITLE

Building a Sustainable Campus

OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE

- Raise awareness about the role of campuses in promoting sustainable practices.
- Reduce energy and water consumption.
- Promote waste reduction.
- Embrace sustainable practices as a shared responsibility across the campus community.
- Opportunities for students to learn about sustainable practices.
- Practices such as minimum waste and conservation of biodiversity.
- Pursue self-sustainability in areas of power, water, and cleanliness.
- Foster a sustainable campus culture through collaborative efforts.

THE CONTEXT

Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science fosters a deep connection with nature, treasured by both staff and students. The campus features playgrounds, lawns, and biodiverse gardens, blending beauty with functionality. Creating a green campus at a college involves a comprehensive commitment to sustainability of campus life. The college also emphasizes community and student engagement through awareness campaigns, supporting student-led sustainability groups, and organizing events and workshops to foster a culture of environmental stewardship. Through these combined efforts, the college not only reduces its environmental impact but also educates and empowers its community to embrace and advocate for sustainable practices.

THE PRACTICE

Green Campus Policy

The Green Campus Policy of the college envisions a Clean and Green Campus where environmentally friendly practices and education combine to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices on the campus and beyond the campus. Whenever any important function happens in the college, there is a culture of planting a sapling in college premises. A garden is set up on the college premises and maintained properly by Nature club. On the way to

college, a medicinal garden known as 'Vidyavanam' is established up. The project began in 2022 and currently consists of 41 plant species. Agricultural activities are initiated by NSS volunteers in the college.

Green Environment

Paramekkavu College Of Arts and Science dedicated to fostering a green environment and maintaining a clean campus, aligning with the goals outlined in our sustainability plan.

Green Audit

Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science, conducting a green audit for assessing various aspects of the campus's environmental performance, including energy use, water use. The primary goal is to identify areas where the college can improve its sustainability efforts, reduce its carbon footprint, and enhance the overall environmental health of the campus.

Green Activities

Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science prioritizes green initiatives, celebrating World Environment Day with sapling planting. NSS actively safeguard flora and fauna, engaging students in green efforts.

Energy Use and Conservation

As a part of energy conservation Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science implied LED bulbs and LED tubes throughout campus. There are 195 LED tubes and 176 LED bulbs. LED lights contain no toxic material and are recyclable. To help the students, it enhances focus and concentration, reduces fatigue and eye strain, creating a pleasant ambiance and embracing energyefficiency. Energy use and conservation at Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science are integral components of the institution's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. The college has implemented various measures to reduce energy consumption and promote efficient use of resources.

Rainwater Conservation

Rainwater conservation is done through the collection of rainwater from the open terrace. After filtration water allows to go through the pipe and is collected in the well of the campus.

Solid Waste Management

Paramekkavu College Of Arts and Science committed Solid waste management in maintaining a clean and sustainable campus environment. Effective waste management involves the systematic collection, transportation, and disposal of waste materials, as well as the implementation of recycling and composting programs. Colleges can reduce their environmental footprint by promoting the segregation of waste at the source, ensuring that recyclable materials such as paper, plastic, and metal are separated from organic waste. Educational initiatives can raise awareness among students and staff about the importance

of reducing waste, reusing materials, and recycling.

E-Waste Management

Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science is committed to responsible e-waste management, recognizing the environmental and health impacts of improper disposal of electronic devices. We have established a comprehensive e-waste collection and recycling program to ensure that obsolete or damaged electronic equipment is handled safely and sustainably. Collection bins are strategically placed across the campus for convenient disposal of items such as computers, mobile phones, batteries, and other electronic gadgets.

Water Conservation and Management

Water conservation and management in Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science play a vital role in promoting sustainability and ensuring the efficient use of this precious resource. Colleges also implement rainwater harvesting systems to capture and store rainwater for non-potable uses like irrigation. Educational programs aimed at raising awareness among students and staff about the importance of water conservation can lead to behavioural changes that further reduce water consumption. Regular maintenance of plumbing systems to fix leaks promptly and the use of water-efficient appliances in campus facilities also contribute to conservation efforts. Rainwater conservation is done through the collection of rainwater from the open terrace. After filtration water allows to go through the pipe and is collected in the well of the campus.

Restricted Use of Automobiles

Paramekkavu College of Arts and Science has implemented a policy of restricted automobile use on campus to promote a healthier, more sustainable environment. This initiative aims to reduce carbon emissions, decrease traffic congestion, and create a safer and more pedestrian friendly campus. The college encourages students, staff, and visitors to use alternative modes of transportation such as walking, cycling, and public transit.

EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS

- This project has reduced the college's carbon footprint
- Over 60% of students and faculty use bikes as their primary mode of transportation, significantly reducing the campus's carbon emissions
- Initiatives: Plastic elimination, water conservation, renewable resource use, eco-friendly communication.
- World Environment Day Celebrations: sapling plantations, rainwater harvesting.
- Emphasis on awareness and training for sustainability efforts.

PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED

Problems Encountered:

1. Lack of funding
2. Limited resources and infrastructure
3. Resistance to change from students, faculty, and staff
4. High initial costs for sustainable technologies
5. Difficulty in measuring and tracking progress
6. Limited knowledge and expertise in sustainability
7. Inadequate waste management systems
8. Insufficient energy-efficient systems
9. Limited access to alternative energy sources
10. Difficulty in engaging stakeholders

Resources Required:

1. Financial resources (grants, funding, etc.)
2. Sustainable infrastructure (solar panels, recycling facilities, etc.)
3. Expertise and training in sustainability
4. Energy-efficient technologies (LED lighting, etc.)
5. Water conservation systems
6. Waste management systems (recycling, composting, etc.)
7. Alternative energy sources (wind, geothermal, etc.)
8. Green spaces and landscaping
9. Sustainable transportation options (electric vehicles, bike-share programs, etc.)
10. Educational resources and materials (workshops, training programs, etc.)
11. Stakeholder engagement and participation
12. Policy and regulatory support