

Plastic Waste Handling Policy

Objective of the policy

- To reduce the usage of plastic inside the campus
- To provide an eco-friendly environment to the stakeholders
- To ensure proper disposal of non-reusable plastic waste

Introduction to the policy

Plastics are not inherently bad, and they have many redeeming ecological features. Many of the techniques we utilize in our designs involve targeted use of plastic products. Their durability and low maintenance reduce material replacement, their light weight reduces shipping energy, their formulation into glue products allows for the creation of engineered lumber and sheet products from recycled wood, and their formulation into superior insulation improves the energy performance of our structures.

Once plastic is discarded after its utility is over, it is known as plastic waste. It is a fact that plastic waste never degrades and remains on the landscape for several years. Mostly, plastic waste is recyclable, but recycled products are more harmful to the environment, as they contain additives and colours. The recycling of a virgin plastic material can be done only 2-3 times, because after every recycling, the plastic material deteriorates due to thermal pressure and its lifespan is reduced. Hence, recycling is not a safe and permanent solution for plastic waste disposal. It has been observed that disposal of plastic waste is a serious concern due to an improper collection and segregation system.

Harmful Effects of Plastics

1. Plastics are made from oil with a highly polluting production process. Plastics do not dissolve; they break down into microparticles that circulate in the environment. A single water bottle can take up to 1000 years to break down.
2. 83% of our drinking water contains plastic. Studies show that consuming plastic could lead to cancer, effects on hormone levels, and heart damage. Plastics have been found in the blood of even newborn babies
4. Over 600 marine species are affected by plastics. Nearly 45000 marine animals have ingested plastics, and 80% were injured or killed. Plastics can pierce animals from the inside or cause starvation, entanglement, loss of body parts and suffocation.
5. As plastics travel with ocean currents, an island of trash called the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" has been created. There are now many islands of trash in our seas.

Guidelines from Public Statutory and Non-Statutory Bodies/ Committees.

Swachh Bharat Mission, Ministry of housing and urban affairs, Government of India:

The Government of India notified Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016 on 18th March, 2016, superseding Plastic Waste (Management & Handling) Rules, 2011. These rules were further amended and named as 'Plastic Waste Management (Amendment) Rules, 2018'. Salient features of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules, 2016 are as follows:

- Carry bags made of virgin or recycled plastic shall not be less than fifty microns in thickness.
- Waste generators, including institutional generators and event organizers shall not litter plastic waste, shall segregate waste, and hand it over to an authorized agency.
- Local Bodies shall encourage use of plastic waste for road construction or energy recovery or waste to oil or co-processing in cement kilns etc.
- Local bodies shall be responsible for development and setting up of infrastructure for segregation, collection, storage, transportation, processing and disposal of the plastic waste either on its own or by engaging agencies or producers
- Ensuring that no damage is caused to the environment during this process

- Creating awareness among all stakeholders about their responsibilities; and ensuring that open burning of plastic waste does not take place

Importance and Implementation at KPRIET

Importance:

KPRIET is a green, eco-friendly campus with lots of trees surrounding the campus. To maintain this clean environment, reduced plastic usage and plastic management play a vital role. This helps us provide a healthy environment for the stakeholders.

Implementation:

- Removal of plastic carry bags and use of compostable carry bags
- Replacing plastic drinking straws with paper straws
- Replacing plastic spoons with wooden spoons
- Removal of plastic tea and water cups and replacement with paper and leaf cups
- Usage of plastic water bottles by faculty members and students to be banned, and they should be encouraged to use copper or stainless steel water bottles
- Replacement of flex boards with digital displays
- Biodegradable waste and non-degradable waste to be collected in two separate bins
- Conducting awareness programs for faculty members and students of KPRIET by the 5S team
- Insisting the Centre for Research and Development team to work on waste management
- Insisting the Centre for Product Development to give projects to the students on waste management

Responsible Statutory and Non-Statutory Bodies/ Committees at KPRIET

5S team
CFRD
CPD

Meeting Frequency

Once every 15 days

First Implemented on	First Revision on	Last Revision on
11.06.2018	19 July,2023	9 July,2025

Details of Policy Framing Committee

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