

The Standard, Maldives

# Environmental Policy

# Policy Statement

We, at The Standard Huruvalhi Maldives, are conscious of global environmental issues and acknowledge our responsibility towards the environment. While the well-being of our guests remains at the forefront, we commit ourselves to carrying out operations in a sustainable manner, taking every step to minimize operational impact on and preserve the environment wherever we operate.

**In delivering this commitment, The Standard Huruvalhi Maldives, will endeavor to:**

- Meet or exceed applicable environmental legislation, environmental standards, and best practices.
- Energy consumption and related emissions are monitored daily and analyzed monthly, quarterly, and annually for review, with the objective of energy consumption & related emissions by 2% or more in relation to the energy consumption & resultant emissions specified in the annual plan for the financial year.
- Value and preserve the natural heritage of our property, thus enabling our guests to enjoy an authentically local
- Promote efficient use of materials and resources across our property, especially water and energy.
- Work diligently to minimize our waste stream by reusing, recycling, and conserving natural resources—particularly energy and water conservation.
- Reduce water consumption by 15% in guest villas and staff accommodation by using a new mechanism.
- Set sound environmental and social objectives and targets, integrate a process of review, and issue progress reports on a periodic basis.
- Continually identify opportunities for improvement in our environmental management.
- Promote awareness and educate our colleagues on environmental issues and sustainable working.
- Engage our guests, our colleagues, suppliers, contractors, and the local community in our initiatives to preserve the environment and consider their opinions and feedback when setting our environmental programs and procedures.
- Conduct an environmentally preferable purchase.
- Participate in efforts to improve environmental protection at local and national levels.

# Objective

This policy is intended to guide our property towards sustainable management.

## 1. ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

- We will maintain awareness among our colleagues on environmental issues, the preservation of local cultures, and the necessity for everyone to act in a responsible manner.
- We will communicate to our colleagues the environmental practices that need to be implemented at the workplace as well as other simple environmentally friendly measures that they can apply in their everyday lives.
- We will encourage our colleagues to participate in and support environmental initiatives.
- We will communicate our environmental commitment to guests and give them the option to support us in our green efforts.
- We will extend awareness of environmental issues and best sustainability practices to the local community.

## 2. ENERGY

- Reducing energy consumption will help reduce environmental impact and, at the same time, lower energy costs. To minimize energy consumption, we will:Take steps to make our workplace more energy efficient.
- Reduce the use of fossil fuels and opt for renewable energy sources.
- Maintain our machinery and equipment in good working condition.
- Prioritize the use of energy-efficient technologies, including low energy appliances and LED lighting.
- Ensure optimal use of plants and machinery.
- Use timers, sensors, and other devices that regulate energy consumption.
- Make use of solar energy wherever applicable.
- Reduce the loss of energy, for example, by using insulated pipes to carry hot or chilled fluids.
- Set objectives for limiting consumption, regularly monitor progress, and improve processes.
- Implementation of a solar power project throughout the resort.

### 3. WATER

With global warming, particularly in the Maldives, sources of freshwater are very scarce and limited to a few natural wells. Water conservation is therefore becoming essential, and as a responsible company, we will:

- Using sea water, a free resource, to generate water for the entire resort.  Reduce water losses by regularly checking for leaks.
- Ensure the efficient use of laundry equipment.
- Sensitize both our colleagues and guests to the responsible use of water.
- Offer guests the option of reusing towels and sheets.
- Limit the use of de-salinated water by
- Capturing and using rainwater wherever possible
- Using recycled greywater for irrigation
- Set targets for minimizing water consumption, monitor, and analyze periodically.
- Continually find ways to reduce water consumption.

### 4. WASTE

We generate waste that constitutes a major pollutant, affecting both the environment and public health. We will do our utmost to avoid, recycle, and reuse in order to reduce its impact on the environment. Our waste management plan will include the following:

- Limit the use of disposable packaging for resort supplies whenever possible.
- Use compostable and biodegradable products and materials whenever the option is available.
- Limit individual packaging of hygiene products in bedrooms.
- Organize the sorting and separating of recyclable waste. 
- Collect and recycle cooking oil for permitted uses.
- Compost our garden's green waste for nutrient-rich natural fertilizer.
- Organize recycling of materials such as paper, cardboard, glass, plastic packaging, metal cans, ink cartridges, restaurant organic waste, etc.
- Liaising with third-party recycling companies such as Parley for Oceans and Secure Bag, Waste Management Corporation Limited (WAMCO)
- Engage in projects with the local community for the reuse of recycled materials.
- Safely dispose of hazardous wastes such as batteries, electrical and electronic devices, fluorescent bulbs and tubes,
- Organize and/or support the clean-up of the surrounding environment.

## **5. GREEN PROCUREMENT (ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING)**

Green procurement, or environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP), is the practice of procuring products and services that are less harmful to the environment (land, air, and water) and all species that depend on the environment for survival. Green products are those that are produced with less harmful materials or that, upon usage or consumption, would have a minimal impact on the environment.

We will carry out EPP whenever green options are available while giving due consideration to guests' satisfaction, company standards, and reasonable costs. Our green purchasing measures will include the following:

- Encourage and favor eco-friendly and power-efficient products.
- Prefer recycled, compostable, and biodegradable products.
- Buy seasonal and locally produced goods as much as possible and thus avoid transporting energy. Buy in bulk to reduce packaging waste.
- Favor organic fertilizers and less harmful cleaning agents.
- Prefer eco-friendly designs and eco-labeled products.
- Prefer to purchase from a source that is less polluting or uses clean technology.
- Encourage and prefer vendors who use recycled packaging. Explore the possibilities of further reuse and/or recycling with the vendor.
- Green the supply chain by seeking vendors who share our values and have an environmental management system in place.

## 6. DESTINATION PROTECTION

The natural environment is one of the primary attractions for leisure visitors. In order to develop sustainable tourism, we will:

- Ensure the protection of the natural and cultural values of the area while developing and creating recreational facilities and activities for our guests.
- Participate in efforts to restore habitat whenever possible.
- Promote local food, entertainment, culture, and cottage industries.
- Engage with local people when developing cultural attractions.
- Offer guests souvenirs of local nature and making that are made of eco-friendly products.
- Provide guests with a list of environmentally friendly products and local souvenirs that they may shop for.

## 7. CONSERVATION OF MARINE LIFE AND REEFS

The ocean and reefs are home to numerous sea creatures and plants, many of which are fragile and endangered. We will take every possible step towards the conservation of marine life and the protection of our reefs. Measures taken by our property will include:

- Ensuring wastewater is not discharged into the ocean
- Using ecological or organic fertilizers
- Sensitizing our team members and guests about the negative environmental impact of littering on the beach and in the sea.
- Ensuring all trash is properly disposed of and no debris is left hanging on the beach.
- Educating our guests and working with service providers to ensure that snorkeling and diving activities are conducted responsibly and do not negatively impact our coral reef.
- Encouraging and supporting the clean-up of the marine and coastal environment.
- Keeping boats clean and in proper working condition in order to minimize noise pollution
- Plant trees, as they reduce runoff into the oceans and contribute to reversing the warming of our planet and the rising temperatures of our oceans.
- Keeping the IUCN Red List and national conservation list of species with habitats in areas affected by its operations at levels of extinction risk.
- Monitor populations of endangered marine species, including sea turtles, manta rays, and whale sharks, in collaboration with local NGOs such as the Olive Ridley Project, Manta Trust, and the Maldives Whale Shark Research Programme.

## **8. BIODIVERSITY AND PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE**

Biodiversity boosts ecosystem productivity because each species, no matter how small, has an important role to play. In order to protect biodiversity, we will:

- Reduce our use of insecticides, weed killers, and fungicides.
- Use organic fertilizers.
- Use environmentally friendly products for cleaning.
- Buy sustainably harvested seafood and agricultural products.
- Water plants in a rational way.
- Use indigenous plants for landscaping and minimizing light and noise.
- Ensure that invasive alien species are not introduced into our gardens and landscapes.
- Not display or sell products made from threatened or protected plant and animal species.
- Participate in ecological restoration initiatives in the local area.
- Not detain any captive wildlife on property grounds, except for wildlife breeding farms, rescue, or reintroduction, according to law and best practices.
- Protect land-based and marine wildlife and do not disturb them in any possible way. The

Standard Huruvalhi Maldives complies, as far as reasonably possible, with this policy.

