

14.4.2 Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Waste

2023–2024

AASTMT Recycling Policy (Subject to Frequent Updates)

The Waste and Recycling Policy of AASTMT aligns with the University's Environmental and Social Responsibility policies, aiming to reduce environmental impact through waste prevention, reuse, recycling, recovery, and proper disposal. It emphasizes minimizing waste, including single-use plastics, by encouraging reusable items and sustainable practices among staff and students. The policy considers life-cycle costs for new constructions and upgrades and promotes compliance with environmental laws and best practices. AASTMT has established comprehensive waste management and recycling systems, focusing on reducing plastic waste in catering, events, and daily operations. Initiatives include replacing disposable plastics with compostable alternatives, providing reusable cups, and installing water stations to decrease bottled water waste. The policy also addresses hazardous waste management, ensuring it is handled safely to prevent harm to health and the environment. Overall, AASTMT remains committed to ongoing waste reduction efforts and adopting innovative solutions for sustainable waste management.

[AASTMT recycling policy](#) on AASTMT webpage

Sustainability Achievements

AASTMT has recognized the harmful impact of plastic waste, from production to disposal. Plastic pollution greatly harms aquatic life, prompting the College to cut down on plastic use and waste locally. Initiatives include replacing single-use plastics in dining services with compostable options across all food outlets and providing reusable cups to staff during onboarding to reduce disposable cup waste. Reusable cups are available for purchase at campus retail outlets, with discounts to encourage their use, promoting a shift from single-use cups through a small surcharge for disposables. For conferences and events, reusable glassware is used to eliminate plastic waste from bottled water. Additionally, water stations have been installed around campus to promote bottle reuse and lessen reliance on packaged water. AASTMT remains committed to ongoing waste reduction by exploring new products and services that support decreased plastic consumption. The College has also put in place a waste segregation system with labeled bins across campuses, as demonstrated here at Abu-Qir Campus.

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