12.2.3 Policy on Disposal - Hazardous Material

2024-2025

AASTMT is dedicated to the proper management of hazardous waste disposal as part of its commitment to sustainability, safety, and environmental responsibility. Through its Consumption and Recycling Policy, the institution provides clear guidelines for handling, storing, and disposing of hazardous materials in alignment with national and international safety standards. Hazardous substances must be stored in designated, secure cabinets, such as those for flammable materials, with strict enforcement both before and after use to mitigate risks, protect human health, and prevent environmental contamination. These measures not only ensure compliance with safety regulations but also reflect AASTMT's dedication to reducing waste, reusing resources, and minimizing environmental harm. By integrating these practices into its operations, AASTMT reaffirms its role as a forward-thinking institution, striving to balance operational needs with environmental stewardship and community well-being. The Medical and Biohazardous Waste Disposal Program, presented first below, is the procedure in force for hazardous waste in AASTMT laboratories and clinics; the Consumption and Recycling Policy that follows is the umbrella policy, and Section 6 sets out its hazardous-waste commitments.

Medical and Biohazardous Waste Disposal Program

AASTMT's Medical and Biohazardous Waste Disposal Program applies in all laboratories and clinics. Hazardous waste is segregated into chemical, biological and medical streams and stored in designated containers, and biological waste is sterilised by autoclaving before disposal. AASTMT works with Nahdet Misr, an accredited national waste disposal company, for the collection and safe disposal of hazardous materials, and each handover is supervised by AASTMT staff to verify safe containment and proper documentation.



Medical and Biohazardous Waste Disposal Program on Sustainable AASTMT webpage

CONSUMPTION AND RECYCLING POLICY

1. Introduction

AASTMT recognizes the growing global challenges arising from the excessive pressure on natural resources, escalating greenhouse gas emissions, rising sea levels, pollution, and inefficient waste management. These environmental issues threaten both present and future generations, underscoring the urgent need for responsible consumption and effective recycling practices. In alignment with its Environmental Change and Social Responsibility Policy, AASTMT is committed to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals by promoting a culture of sustainability across all its campuses and operations. The Consumption and Recycling Policy reflects this commitment by emphasizing waste reduction, resource efficiency, and responsible material use.

Through this policy, AASTMT aims to minimize environmental impact by prioritizing waste prevention, reusing materials whenever possible, and ensuring proper recycling and disposal in compliance with environmental regulations. By fostering awareness and sustainable habits within its community, the University seeks to create a cleaner, safer, and more resilient environment for future generations.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all AASTMT employees, students, and contractors who are involved in handling, managing, or storing any form of waste, including hazardous and non-hazardous materials. It establishes the framework for ensuring that all waste management activities prioritize recycling, reuse, and responsible disposal in line with the university's sustainability objectives.

Recycling must be integrated at every stage of the waste management process—beginning with proper segregation and collection, followed by safe processing and reuse wherever feasible. A designated responsible person or unit shall oversee the recycling and disposal of materials to ensure compliance with environmental standards and the adoption of the most sustainable methods available.

By embedding recycling practices into daily operations, this policy aims to minimize environmental impact, promote resource efficiency, and support AASTMT's broader commitment to sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

3. Aims of the Policy

The AASTMT policy considers end-of-life disposal costs and environmental impacts when making acquisition decisions involving the construction of new or renovated facilities.

AASTMT adopts the waste hierarchy: prevention, preparation for re-use, recycling, other recovery and, as a last resort, disposal. AASTMT applies processes, methods and activities that comply with environmental legislation and best practice, in order to reduce the overall waste produced and to prevent waste wherever possible. AASTMT also measures and weighs the waste it generates, to track it and to identify the best ways to reduce or recycle it.

4. Procedures

The Waste Treatment Progressive System and Stages Incorporates:

Prevention

- Using less material in design; keeping items in use for longer; using less hazardous material.
- Reduce landfill waste and boost the usage of reusable, biodegradable, and recyclable materials.
- Promote awareness and training programs to encourage responsible consumption and waste minimization across all departments.

RE-USE

- Preparing for re-use: cleaning, repairing and refurbishing.
- Reduce single-use packaging, such as coffee cups, and increase the use of reusable packaging.

Recycle

- Turning waste into another substance or product, including compost for the soil.
- Anaerobic digestion (conversion to biogas for power generation) and incineration with energy recovery.
- Establish accessible recycling stations across campus and ensure regular collection and monitoring of recyclable materials.

Disposal

- Reduce disposal to a minimum, and send hazardous materials only through licensed contractors to authorised hazardous-waste facilities.
- Track disposed items through a third party that records their quantity and disposal cost.
- Ensure all disposal methods comply with environmental laws and safety standards to minimize ecological and health risks.

Ethical Sourcing of Food and Supplies

AASTMT provides healthy food, including vegetarian options, to students, staff and residents across its campuses and student housing. Food and catering services are sourced against the following criteria:

a. Catering operators and food suppliers must hold a valid food-safety certification (ISO 22000 or HACCP), presented before contract award and at each renewal.

b. Local and seasonal produce from Egyptian growers is preferred, to reduce transport emissions and support the local economy.

c. Catering contracts include fair-labour clauses: compliance with the Egyptian Labour Law, no child or forced labour, and safe working conditions for catering staff.

5. Policy Statement

The AASTMT seeks to implement ethical and sustainable practices on all of its campuses. Therefore, the AASTMT has taken crucial measures to implement these practices, such as ecological practices and corporate social responsibility. Through the exchange of information within the Academy's supply chain, these food ethics and practices enable AASTMT to ensure the transparency of information about all suppliers.

- **Trusted suppliers**

  To accomplish supply chain transparency, one of the primary goals of AASTMT is to identify the most reliable and reputable partners who share the same ethical practices, objectives, and data. To accomplish ethical and sustainable practices, the first step is to identify the most suitable suppliers.

- **Secure Relationships**

  The interaction with suppliers is the second step to keep secure relationships between partners and to reduce the risk. AASTMT is seeking to build a platform and application to increase communication and share important information. That would give the suppliers and partners access to the internal systems they need based on their roles within the ecosystem, sustainability practices, and the food ethics of AASTMT.

- **Tracing the food supplies**

  AASTMT traces the origin of its food supplies through supplier certificates (certificates of origin and food-safety certificates), which are checked at delivery and kept with the delivery inspection records before food is accepted on campus.

- **Evaluation of the process**

  AASTMT is monitoring the overall processes between its partners to guarantee healthy and sustainable food for students, staff, and Residents. Based on this monitoring, errors must be fixed, and corrective action must be taken.

  AASTMT complies with guidelines, legislation and best practice to limit the risk of immediate and future pollution or harm to health when carrying out its operations.

6. Actions

- AASTMT operates a coordinated waste-management system across all its campuses that oversees the segregation, collection, recycling and disposal of every waste stream the Academy generates.
- AASTMT has stopped the use of single-use plastics on campus, replacing them with a mix of alternative materials, and has stopped the sale of bottled water on campus.
- AASTMT recognises the harm caused by plastic waste from production to disposal, including pollution of the marine environment, and works to reduce plastic use and waste on all its campuses. The following measures are in place for staff and students:

- Single-use plastic catering items (food packaging, disposable coffee cups and cutlery) have been replaced with compostable alternatives in all AASTMT food outlets.
- AASTMT continues to reduce waste by reviewing new products and services that lower plastic use and plastic waste.
- AASTMT segregates hazardous waste at source by stream: chemical, biological, medical, electronic waste, batteries and fluorescent tubes. Each stream is collected by a licensed contractor (Nahdet Misr), a handover record is signed for every collection, and the waste is treated and disposed of in line with the Egyptian Waste Management Law No. 202 of 2020.
- AASTMT manages all hazardous-waste activities under its control, as far as reasonably practicable, so as to minimise harm to human health and the environment.
- AASTMT has procedures that enable staff to meet their duty of care for hazardous waste, and monitors these procedures to ensure compliance.
- AASTMT runs awareness and training programmes for students, staff and contractors on sustainable waste management, recycling and the safe handling of hazardous materials.
- AASTMT records the weight of waste generated, recycled and sent to landfill across its campuses and reports these figures annually.

7. Objectives

Waste should be prevented or minimised wherever possible. AASTMT encourages staff, students and employers to limit plastic and carton waste, and raises awareness of ways to reduce disposable items.

8. Review Program

Document Control	
Policy title:	Consumption and Recycling Policy
Date created:	May 2019
Approving body:	SDG workforce committee
Version:	5
Last review date	2025
Next review date:	2027
Policy owner:	• Material Affairs and Logistics department, • Facilities, Maintenance department, • Nutrition Affairs Management
Lead contact:	• Head of Facilities and Logistics Department, • Head of the Facilities at the Facilities and Maintenance Department, • Director of the Department of Nutrition Affairs
Approval Signature	Dean of Scientific Research and Innovation

You can read our Consumption and Recycling Policy on AASTMT website.

More activities are applied and practiced in the AASTMT.

Medical Waste Disposal Procedures Within the Arab Academy

On 17 November 2024, AASTMT published the hazardous-waste disposal procedure applied in the teaching laboratories of its College of Pharmacy, including the organic chemistry, biochemistry and microbiology laboratories. Liquid chemical waste (organic solvents, acids and bases) is collected in designated, labelled bottles in each laboratory and then transferred to larger containers, broken glass is stored in separate containers, biological waste is sterilised by autoclaving, and reactions that release toxic vapours are carried out in fume hoods. All hazardous waste is handed over to Nahdet Misr, a certified waste-management company, for environmentally responsible disposal, and each handover is supervised by AASTMT staff to verify safe containment and proper documentation.





Medical waste disposal procedures within the Arab Academy on AASTMT webpage

Medical Waste Disposal Procedures (PDF document) on AASTMT webpage

Supporting: AASTMT Hosts Workshop on Responsible Ship Recycling with Global Marketing Systems (GMS)

On 4 November 2024, the Department of Marine and Offshore Engineering at the College of Engineering and Technology held an online workshop entitled “Responsible Ship Recycling – Innovations and Best Practices” in collaboration with Global Marketing Systems Inc. (GMS), one of the world’s largest ship-recycling companies. The session was delivered by Dr. Anand Hiremath, Chief Sustainability Officer at GMS, and Eng. Kiran Thorat, Trader at GMS Dubai. Ship recycling involves the controlled removal of hazardous materials from end-of-life vessels, and the workshop addressed the technical and regulatory practices required to carry this out safely and responsibly.



Responsible Ship Recycling: Innovations and Best Practices on AASTMT webpage

Supporting: Enhancing Healthcare WASH Standards Through GAHAR–AASTMT Collaboration

On 24 November 2024, the General Authority for Healthcare Accreditation and Regulation (GAHAR) and AASTMT signed a cooperation protocol to build the capability of medical professionals and support healthcare facility accreditation. The joint programme trains participants to apply WASH standards in medical settings, covering safe water supply, wastewater management, hygiene practice and pollution control — all of which govern how clinical and hazardous waste streams are handled. Graduates receive an AASTMT diploma together with the EGYCAP credential from GAHAR.



Enhancing Healthcare WASH Standards Through GAHAR–AASTMT Collaboration on AASTMT webpage

Supporting: AASTMT Workshop on the Future of Shipbuilding and Green Ship Recycling

On 7 October 2024, AASTMT hosted a workshop on “The Future of Shipbuilding and Green Ship Recycling” at Al-Farsi Hall, bringing together academic staff, industry professionals and students to discuss environmentally responsible approaches to ship demolition and material recovery. The workshop examined the regulatory framework for green ship recycling under the Hong Kong Convention and the EU Ship Recycling Regulation, along with best practices for managing hazardous materials such as asbestos, heavy metals and ozone-depleting substances found in end-of-life vessels.



AASTMT Workshop on the Future of Shipbuilding and Green Ship Recycling on AASTMT SDG 12 webpage