15.4.2 Policy on Plastic Waste Reduction

2024-2025

AASTMT has a policy on reducing plastic waste on its campuses. The Consumption and Recycling Policy, published on the AASTMT website, recognises the harm that plastic waste does from production to disposal, including to the marine environment, and commits the Academy to reduce plastic use and waste on campus, cutting landfill waste and limiting plastic's harm to the marine environment. It commits AASTMT to reduce single-use packaging, to prefer reusable, biodegradable and recyclable materials, to provide recycling stations across campus and to measure and weigh its waste. The AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy also commits the Academy to reduce plastic use on campus and to eliminate single-use plastics from all campus facilities by 2027.

AASTMT Consumption and Recycling Policy

The policy on responsible consumption and recycling, published on the SDG 12 page. It commits AASTMT to reduce plastic use and waste on campus, cut single-use packaging, provide recycling stations and measure and weigh its waste.



Consumption and Recycling Policy

Read our 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

https://aast.edu/en/sdg/goals.php?unit_item=1212&page_id=121200012

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy Climate, Ocean and Land

The Academy's overarching environmental policy. It commits AASTMT to reduce plastic use on campus, implement strict waste management protocols and phase out single-use plastics from campus facilities by 2027.



AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy Climate, Ocean and Land

Read our Policy

Description

The AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy is the Academy's overarching commitment to Climate Action (SDG 13), Life Below Water (SDG 14) and Life on Land (SDG 15). It sets out what AASTMT does across its campuses, training ships, research, teaching and partnerships to reduce its carbon footprint, protect the sea and the land, use resources wisely and manage waste safely. It states five commitments, the current baseline, targets to 2030 with named owners, and the AASTMT policies, plans and guidelines that put each commitment into practice.

https://aast.edu/en/sdg/goals.php?unit_item=1215&page_id=121500008

Reducing plastic waste on campus (Consumption and Recycling Policy, Version 5, last review 2025, next review 2027, all campuses)

The Consumption and Recycling Policy recognises the adverse effect of plastic waste, from production to disposal, and that plastic pollution can harm the marine environment, and commits AASTMT to reduce plastic use and waste on campus. The policy states that:

- AASTMT will continue to reduce plastic use and waste by investigating new products and services;

- AASTMT is to reduce single-use packaging, such as coffee cups, increase reusable packaging, and boost the use of reusable, biodegradable and recyclable materials to reduce landfill waste;
- AASTMT is to establish accessible recycling stations across campus, with regular collection and monitoring of recyclable materials, and to measure and weigh the waste it generates to find the best ways to reduce or recycle it;
- staff and students are encouraged to limit plastic and carton waste, and awareness and training programmes promote ways to minimise disposable items.

AASTMT Consumption and Recycling Policy

Single-use plastics phased out of campus facilities by 2027 (AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy, last review 2025)

The AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy published on the AASTMT ESG website, whose review table records its creation in January 2019, approval by the SDGs Workforce Committee and a last review in 2025, commits the Academy to "reduce plastic usage on campus and implement strict waste management protocols; eliminate single-use plastics from all campus facilities by 2027", and to implement colour-coded waste sorting, including a stream for plastics and metals, across all campuses by 2026. The current version of the policy (Version 6, October 2026) keeps the commitment to "reduce single-use plastics" and to phase out single-use plastics.

AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy (AASTMT ESG website); *AASTMT Environmental Sustainability Policy, Version 6*

Off-campus supplementary evidence: reducing single-use plastic on Alexandria's beaches (beach-sieving trial with Nahdet Misr, AASTMT news of 10 October 2024)

AASTMT reported that Nahdet Misr for Modern Environmental Services, in cooperation with AASTMT and under the auspices of Alexandria Governorate, had begun the trial operation of two sand-sieving machines on Alexandria's beach and hotel sands, within a project to remove marine debris safely and reduce single-use plastic consumption.



Beach-sieving machines on an Alexandria beach (photograph published with the AASTMT news of 10 October 2024).

AASTMT, Nahdet Misr launched a pilot project to clean up Alexandria's beaches