

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (Autonomous)

Nagercoil - 629 004, Tamil Nadu, India

(Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli)

Accredited with A⁺⁺ Grade (CGPA 3.53 - V Cycle) by NAAC

ISO/QMS 9001:2015 & EOMS 21001:2018



WATER CONSERVATION POLICY

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1. Introduction

“Water is life’s matter and matrix, mother and medium. There is no life without water.” – Albert Szent-Gyorgyi Less than one percent of the Earth’s water only is easily-accessible freshwater. Therefore, water conservation and water quality have become global concerns, and these will continue to demand greater attention and continued efforts from everyone.

2. Policy vision

Water conservation and management policy of Holy Cross College encompasses the policies, strategies and activities designed to manage water sustainably to meet current and future needs in the campus. This policy ensures the water conservation and water harvesting by following the 3R principle - Reduce, Reuse and Recharge. It is the moral duty and social responsibility of each individual of the institution to conserve, augment and rejuvenate water resources available to the campus.

3. Policy Statement

The institution has clear guidelines to encourage suppliers, regulators, and consumers for water conservation. Water conservation measures can help planners and policy makers to identify obstacles and opportunities for managing conservation and increasing efficiency in sustainable water supply systems.

4. Policy Objectives:

To maintain a sustainable balance between demand, management and utilization of water and reduce water wastage through accurate water audit. To ensure awareness about the water conservation policy of the college among all staff and students and make them responsible to the success of the policy

- To have annual inspection of the campus septic systems.
- To prevent the seepage of pesticide and fertilizers into water systems.
- To ensure the quality of water by constant testing. Recharging & subsoil water tables.

3. Organization and Management

The responsibilities and organizational arrangements for the implementation and success of this policy lies with different categories of personnel within the College.

3.1 Advisory Board

Principal (Chairman)

IQAC Director

Co-coordinators of Crossian Centre for Environmental Studies

Co-coordinators of Eco-club and Green Audit Committee

Head of the Departments

Student Council members

3.2. Preventive Safety Management

The preventive safety management team members consisting of teaching and support staff members will regularly monitor the water fittings and water lines for any leakage or block and report the issue for timely action.

4. Action Plan

- Water conservation campaign and awareness talks to be conducted twice in a year to promote the importance of conserving water for future generations
- Fixing roof top pipes to collect rain water draining from the terrace and bring them to one common rain water harvest pit.
- Installing one or two water harvest pits for every block in the

campus as per the size of the building.

- Affixing sign boards to remind students not to waste precious water and be conscious of closing the taps immediately after use.
- Channelizing the water from air conditioners to pots and plants via drip tubes.

5. Rain water harvesting structures and utilization in the campus

The college has 11 rain water harvesting pits to capture and store rain water and recharge the ground water table. The trapped water in the water table is utilized through 5 bore wells and 1 open well. The catchment areas are open terraces, courtyards, unpaved grounds and roof tops. The ground water table in the campus has not seen any dip even in adverse climates. The students are made aware of the scope and operations of rain water harvesting and conservation techniques used in our campus. Steps are taken to rejuvenate the existing rain water harvesting system when repairs occur. The pits have the filter media of the right size and depth so as to improve infiltration. Rain water harvested directly into underground cemented tanks is used whenever needed.

6. Water Management Practices

- The college has continued to sensitize the youth and the neighborhood with catchy slogans, hoardings and pamphlets and organize a number of awareness programmes and campaigns on the importance of water conservation and the need for everybody's involvement in it.
- To promote water-efficiency practices, more than 400 trees are planted inside the campus leading to a natural way of water harvesting and recharge.

- Bunds are erected and tanks are connected to the well to recharge deeper aquifers.
- No water is let out of the campus.
- There is no water stagnation that becomes the breeding place for vector borne diseases

Water Conservation

Practices

- Use a reusable water bottle / cups to dining halls to decrease the amount of cups that need to be washed.
- Reduce the wastage of water by fitting proper valves and arrest the leakages
- Use “leftover” water from a drinking glass to water plants.
- To Water plants in the early morning / late evening to decrease the amount of evaporation.
- Recycled water can be used for gardening to minimize the usage of water.
- Rain water collected at the terrace should be either directed to the water harvesting pits or directed to the garden.
- World water day, World environment day should be celebrated to imbibe the importance of water conservation.


PRINCIPAL
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