

Auckland Zoo Environmental Policy

1) Intent of Policy

To provide clarity on the overall intentions and directions of the Zoo with regards to the environment.

2) Objectives

To provide clear guiding principles under which Auckland Zoo can define its objectives and activities for sustainability and to form the basis of the Zoo's Environmental Management System.

3) Policy

a) Auckland Zoo and its staff acknowledge its environmental responsibilities and commit to reducing our overall environmental impacts through the ecologically considerate management of our operations. Auckland Zoo will work towards sustainability and reduce its 'ecological footprint'. It will use its natural resources in a way that does not lead to their decline, thus meeting the needs of the present without compromising future generations. Auckland Zoo will serve as a leader by example, using green practices in all aspects of its operations and by demonstrating methods by which visitors can adopt sustainable lifestyles.

b) Striving for continual improvement and prevention of pollution through the annual review of this policy and the setting of new objectives and targets for each financial year.

c) Being legally compliant with all legislative requirements that apply to our business and control both the internal and external environmental aspects and impacts of our operations.

d) Auckland Zoo will define our objectives and activities for sustainability under a set of eight guiding principles presented by World Zoo and Aquarium Conservation Strategy (WZACS) following from recommendations made at the 1992 Rio de Janeiro Earth Summit. Under these eight guiding principles, Auckland Zoo will:

- (i) Use environmentally sound waste management
 - Minimise the total production of waste
 - Manage Separation of waste at source to encourage maximum re-use and recycling
 - Minimize the risk of polluting
- (ii) Be energy efficient
 - Maximise energy efficiency in all on-site and off-site operations
 - Try to reduce travel-related energy consumption
 - Efficiently maximise the use of energy which is produced and distributed, especially from renewable resources
 - Apply the three R's – reduce, reuse, recycle – wherever possible
- (iii) Use natural resources responsibly

Use products that embody the most efficient and least environmentally damaging use of renewable resources

Apply the three R's

Ensure that animal acquisitions and dispositions are not only sustainable environmentally but also ethically acceptable

(iv) If you pollute, you pay

Support the general principle that the polluter should not pass on to others the cost of cleaning up pollution

Apply the principle in Auckland Zoo as a measure of good practice

(v) Put local consumption first

Maximise the proportion of goods and services that come from local providers with acceptable environmental practices

Reduce the environmental impact of transportation wherever feasible

(vi) Contribute to equitable development

keep in mind that sustainable development requires a reduction in the differences of living conditions across the world. Auckland Zoo will contribute by:

Conducting activities that contribute to this ideal

Supporting conservation projects that embody this general principal

Adjusting purchasing policies and practices to help

(vii) Apply the Precautionary Principle

Obtain and analyse as much information as possible before making a decision

When in doubt, put in place measures to reduce environmental impact

(viii) Encourage public awareness and participation

Use Auckland Zoo's educational resources to help people understand why changes are important and what they can do personally to live in a more sustainable manner

Set an example for other businesses in Earth friendly operations

e) Responsibility for managing and monitoring the policy is with the Green Team and Environmental Representatives. This policy is subject to review and reconsideration by the Zoo Director. This policy takes effect 10/05/06.

f) This policy is communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of Auckland Zoo including all contractors

g) This policy is available to the public through the Auckland Zoo web site.