



Environmental Policy and Best Practice

Footprint Ecology is run by committed conservationists. We recognise the links between biodiversity conservation and sustainability and as a company we are committed to minimising our environmental impact as well as helping others to do so. We also share our knowledge and enthusiasm to help others enjoy and appreciate the world around them. We have set ourselves the following objectives:

Travel

- We will give strong consideration to where we work and employees' home addresses to minimise travel distances
- We will use cars in an environmentally responsible way, minimising car use and when using cars, ensuring we use fuel-efficient vehicles maintained properly to ensure fuel and emissions are minimised.
- On an annual basis we aim to review the mileage and fuel consumption of vehicles / transport used. Where car use is a part of a contract, the client will be charged an additional small cost which will be used, by Footprint Ecology, to make a positive contribution to reducing ours (or others) carbon footprint.
- We maintain a ride2work scheme for Footprint employees to help purchase cycle equipment.

Best Practice

We are careful to select the people we work with and:

- We provide a service that is independent and unbiased, basing our work entirely on sound science
- We tend not to work for developers or private companies, and when we do, we are careful to check that their aims are compatible with ours.
- All our work complies with the Code of Professional Conduct of the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management

Office Products & Sustainable Procurement

We choose companies and suppliers whose ethical policies match ours and carefully source environmentally-responsible products.

- All paper, card, envelopes that we use are 100% made from recycled paper.
- Scrap paper and envelopes are re-used when possible
- Paper use is kept to a minimum by printing only when necessary

Other

We advocate sustainability in all our work. We are continually updating and developing environmental awareness in our staff.

- All waste paper, cardboard, plastic and metals are recycled, food waste is composted.
- All new computer equipment purchased by the company has low energy requirements and has energy efficient certification (Blue Angel, Energy Star or similar).
- Food and drink purchased by the company is, as far as possible, locally sourced, organic and, where appropriate, fairly traded.
- We communicate the organisation's Environmental Policy to customers, suppliers, staff and the public, seeking consultation wherever possible
- We use an ethical bank, to ensure that Footprint has no links with companies connected, for example, with the arms trade, oppressive regimes or genetically modified organisms.
- Where we have control over our utility provider, we use electricity only from renewable sources

We annually review this Environmental Policy in pursuit of continual improvement.

D. Liley, director, July 2008.