

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The Devon Wildlife Trust was established as a registered charity in 1962. It is the only organisation concerned with all aspects of wildlife conservation in Devon. With nature reserves throughout the county, DWT is closely involved in land and marine management, surveying, policy formulation and education.

DWT is an environmentally conscious organisation, which acknowledges the impact that our operations may potentially have on the environment. A clear objective of DWT is to minimise any of these adverse impacts. Each site owned or operated by DWT will strive to use the best available management techniques and will allocate the resources required to achieve our goals and to fulfil the following pledges:



1. Conserve Scarce Resources

We will improve our environmental performance by conserving scarce and precious resources.

2. Educate and train

We will educate, train and motivate staff to work in an environmentally responsible manner and to play a full part in developing new ideas and initiatives. New staff will receive induction in our environmental standards

3. Manage Property

We will maintain our buildings to the highest environmental standards

Whenever there is a new build or other building works are planned, DWT will specify the most sustainable construction



4. Land Holdings

We will undertake all land management with full consideration for the needs of sustainability. Our land management is always based on providing the best conditions for wildlife.

5. Use water responsibly

We recognise that water is an increasingly scarce resource which uses significant amounts of energy in its treatment. In all its activities, DWT will aim to minimise its use of treated water

6. Conserve energy

We will aim to minimise energy use and obtain energy from renewable sources where possible In the heating, lighting and running of our buildings.



7. Minimise the impact of transport

We recognise that staff travel and transportation of equipment is essential in carrying out our work. In undertaking these activities, we will seek to minimise the use of fossil fuels



8. Control waste

We will strive to reduce the quantity of waste produced by the organisation with priority given to waste reduction, reuse of materials and recycling. An effective purchasing policy will help us identify the products that result in the least waste.



9. Communicate

We will communicate our environmental policy to all those who have an interest in our work, including staff, volunteers, visitors, trustees, suppliers, contractors and other organisations



10. Pollution

We will prevent pollution and monitor the impacts our operations have on the environment. We will ensure that the appropriate emergency measures and controls are put in place should pollution arise



11. Monitor & evaluate

We will review all our activities, products and services annually to evaluate their impact. We will encourage contractors & suppliers to take a responsible attitude towards the environment



12. Comply with legislation

We will comply with all current legislation and other standards relevant to the work of DWT. We will continually monitor and update our practices to comply with changes in legislation

To meet our environmental pledges and reduce our impact on the environment, DWT has implemented an Environmental Management System (EMS). This develops objectives and targets to enable continual improvement in environmental performance whilst minimising environmental harm

DWT reviews this environmental policy annually and conducts regular audits of its environmental performance. The Directors have overall responsibility for all environmental matters. The Directors and Trustees give their full support to the implementation of this policy.

Last reviewed April 2020 Signed: Harry Barton, Chief Executive

