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Tantia University

Policy title	Policy for Waste Disposal – Landfill
Effective date	16-01-2024
Next scheduled review	Three years after the effective date, or earlier if applicable rules change

The University recognizes that improper disposal of waste to landfills can contribute to environmental degradation, greenhouse gas emissions, pollution of soil and water resources, and the unnecessary loss of recoverable materials. The University is committed to minimizing waste sent to landfill through waste reduction, reuse, recycling, composting, and responsible waste management practices.

This Policy establishes a framework for the safe and environmentally responsible disposal of residual waste while promoting sustainable waste management across all campus operations.

Objectives

The University shall:

- Minimize the quantity of waste sent to landfill.
- Promote source segregation and proper waste handling.
- Maximize waste diversion through recycling, reuse, composting, and recovery.
- Ensure residual waste is disposed of through authorized and environmentally compliant landfill facilities.
- Maintain accurate records of landfill waste generation and disposal.
- Support national and local waste-management regulations and sustainability commitments.
- Foster a culture of responsible consumption and waste reduction among students, faculty, staff, and service providers.

Scope

This Policy applies to all University locations, including:

- Academic and administrative buildings
- Laboratories and workshops, libraries, and learning Spaces
- Student residences and hostels, Cafeterias, kitchens, and food courts

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- Sports and recreational facilities
- Construction and maintenance operations
- Campus events and activities

The Policy also applies to all contractors, vendors, service providers, suppliers, and other stakeholders operating on behalf of the University.

Definitions

- **Landfill Waste:** Waste that cannot be reused, recycled, composted, or recovered and is ultimately disposed of in an authorized landfill facility.
- **Waste Diversion:** The redirection of waste away from landfill through recycling, reuse, composting, repair, donation, or other recovery methods.
- **Residual Waste:** Remaining waste after segregation and recovery efforts have been undertaken.
- **Source Segregation:** Separation of waste at the point of generation into designated categories for appropriate treatment and disposal.

Guiding Principles

The University's landfill management approach shall be guided by the following principles:

a) Waste Prevention First

Preventing waste generation shall be prioritized over disposal.

b) Resource Recovery

Materials with recycling, reuse, or composting potential shall be diverted from landfill whenever feasible.

c) Environmental Protection

Waste management activities shall protect air, water, soil, biodiversity, and public health.

d) Regulatory Compliance

All disposal activities shall comply with applicable environmental laws and local authority requirements.

e) Continuous Improvement

The University shall continually seek opportunities to reduce landfill dependence through innovation, awareness, and sustainable procurement practices.

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Waste Segregation Requirements

To reduce landfill disposal, all waste generated on campus shall be segregated at source into designated categories:

- Organic waste
- Recyclable waste
- E-waste
- Hazardous waste
- Biomedical waste (where applicable)
- Residual landfill waste

Clearly labelled collection bins shall be provided across campus facilities. Improper mixing of recyclable or organic materials with landfill waste shall be discouraged and addressed through awareness and monitoring measures.

Landfill Waste Disposal Procedures

The University shall ensure that all residual waste destined for landfill is managed responsibly.

The University will:

1. Collect landfill waste through designated waste collection systems.
2. Store waste in designated collection points pending transportation.
3. Ensure landfill waste is transported by authorized waste-management agencies.
4. Dispose of residual waste only at legally approved landfill facilities.
5. Maintain records of quantities collected and disposed.
6. Monitor contractor compliance with environmental and safety requirements.

Open dumping, open burning, or unauthorized disposal of waste is strictly prohibited.

Waste Reduction and Diversion Measures

To reduce landfill dependency, the University shall implement initiatives including:

- **Recycling Programmes:** Promote collection and recycling of paper, cardboard, plastics, metals, glass, and electronic waste.
- **Composting Programmes:** Encourage composting of food waste, garden waste, and other biodegradable materials.
- **Reuse Initiatives:** Promote reuse of office supplies, furniture, equipment, and other reusable materials.

- **Sustainable Procurement:** Procure products with reduced packaging, recycled content, and longer service lives.
- **Digital Transformation**

Promote paperless communication and electronic documentation to minimize waste generation.

Roles and Responsibilities

The Sustainability Committee shall:

- Coordinate implementation of this Policy.
- Monitor landfill disposal performance.

Facilities and Maintenance Department

The Department shall:

- Manage waste-collection infrastructure.
- Coordinate transportation and disposal activities.
- Maintain landfill waste records.
- Support waste audits and inspections.

Campus Community

Students, faculty, staff, and visitors shall:

- Segregate waste appropriately.
- Minimize waste generation.
- Participate in recycling and waste-reduction initiatives.
- Report waste-management concerns when observed.

Contractors and Vendors

Contractors shall comply with all landfill-disposal requirements and support the University's waste-reduction objectives.

Monitoring and Performance Measurement

The University shall measure and monitor:

- Total waste generated.
- Quantity of waste sent to landfill.
- Quantity of waste recycled.

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- Quantity of waste composted.
- Landfill diversion rate.
- Waste generated per capita.

Awareness and Capacity Building

The University shall conduct regular awareness programmes to educate the campus community about:

- Waste segregation
- Recycling practices
- Composting initiatives
- Responsible consumption
- Environmental impacts of landfill disposal

Awareness activities may include workshops, campaigns, orientation sessions, competitions, exhibitions, and sustainability events.

Policy Review

The policy shall be reviewed at least every three years, or earlier if required by changes in law, technology or sustainability frameworks.

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