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Tantia University

Policy title	Sustainable Use, Conservation and Restoration of Land
Effective date	04-02-2025
Next scheduled review	Three years after the effective date, or earlier if applicable rules change

This policy reflects Tantia University's commitment to the conservation and restoration of land, soil health, native vegetation, and biodiversity across its campus, agricultural farms, and field sites. It promotes sustainable land use, conservation of campus parks and green spaces, prevention of land degradation, and integration of environmental responsibility into education, research, and community outreach.

Scope

This policy applies to all land, terrestrial ecosystems and related activities under the University's ownership, management, control or operational influence. It covers all campuses, the Research Farm, gardens, hostels, hospital grounds, plantation areas and land used for field programmes, teaching, research, extension and community engagement.

The policy is applicable to all students, faculty, staff, contractors, service providers, visitors and other persons undertaking activities on behalf of or in association with the University.

Ecosystem or land type	Where	Condition and role
Campus green areas and parks	Main campus, hostels and hospital grounds	Planted and landscaped green spaces that provide shade, cooling, recreation and habitat value.
Research Farm and agricultural fields	Faculty of Agriculture	Cropped land used for teaching, research trials, demonstrations and sustainable agricultural practices.
Soil and water of the surrounding district	Farms across Sri Ganganagar district supported by the Soil and Water Testing Laboratory	Irrigated and dryland farming areas where soil salinity, alkalinity and nutrient conditions influence agricultural productivity and land health.
Forests, hills and wild land visited	Field sites accessed through study visits, surveys and academic programmes	Land not owned by the University; its protection is supported through responsible visit practices, environmental safeguards and adherence to local rules.
Shared village and community land	Villages where the University works with farmers, local bodies and community groups	Common land, farm boundaries and local landscapes managed collaboratively with communities through awareness, advisory and sustainable-practice initiatives.

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The policy promotes sustainable land management across campus operations, agricultural teaching and outreach, field-based learning and community partnerships. It supports the conservation, restoration and responsible use of terrestrial ecosystems through education, research, operational practice and stakeholder engagement.

Policy Statements

Trees, forests and green cover: No tree will be felled without written approval of the Maintenance Committee. Each tree removed will be replaced by at least ten saplings of native, locally suited species. A tree register will record species, location, planting date and survival, with a target of 80 per cent survival after three years. Plantation drives will continue every year.

Drylands, soil and restoration: The University will protect soil and use water wisely. It will base fertilizer use on soil and water tests; use organic manure, compost and vermicompost; not burn crop residue, leaves or garden waste; restore degraded saline, sodic or acidic patches using test-based lime and gypsum advice; plant windbreaks and green belts to reduce dust and erosion; and use drought-tolerant landscaping, drip irrigation, rainwater harvesting and treated water for gardens where permitted.

Agricultural land: The Research Farm will demonstrate balanced fertilization, crop diversification, integrated pest management and minimal chemical use, and will share its results with farmers.

Forests, mountains and wild land: When University groups visit forests, hills or other wild land, they will follow forest and wildlife rules, stay on permitted routes, take out all waste, collect no plants or animals, and consult the Forest Department or local managers before the visit.

Planning and construction: Before new buildings or major works, the University will survey trees and soil, keep existing native trees where possible, protect and reuse topsoil, and keep open and green space in the plan.

Community and partners: The University will work with the Forest Department, village councils, ecology institutes and farmers on shared land, and will advise farmers through its Soil and Water Testing Laboratory.

Governance

The University's Maintenance Committee is responsible for maintaining the tree register, monitoring tree-related records, and reviewing and approving requests for tree felling in accordance with the policy.

Reporting & Review

The University will conduct an annual land and green audit to assess tree plantation, tree loss and survival rates, species diversity, green cover, and Research Farm soil-testing results. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) will present the findings to the IQAC Committee and publish a summary on the University website. The policy will be reviewed every three years or earlier, as required by changes in legislation or environmental conditions.

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