

# Sustainability at SMC

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At Sydney Masonic Centre, we believe sustainability starts with everyday practice. We believe environmentally sustainable practices should be embedded into the operations of the service. Our service is committed to reducing our impact on the environment and protecting our environment to ensure a sustainable future. To achieve this, we have implemented the following measures:

- Electronic communication is used to reduce paper use within the office for contracts, event details, newsletters, billing and other communication needs.
- Ensure sustainable practices are incorporated into the daily routine. These will include:
  - Recycling paper and cups: All beverages served at our venue will be served in glasses, ceramic and recycled cups. We encourage our staff and delegates to use reusable cups as much as possible.
  - Refillable water stations and Water bottles: We encourage our staff and delegates to bring their own refillable water bottles or SMC can provide one. We also provide refillable water stations throughout the venue to promote hydration while reducing waste from single-use plastic water bottles.
  - Energy Conservation:
    - Turn off lights and switches when not in use
    - HVAC air-condition: We will optimise our HVAC aircon system to conserve energy and reduce carbon emissions. This will include setting temperature controls to reduce heating and cooling when not necessary, ensuring proper insulation, and regular maintenance.
  - Water Conservation: Using half flush on the toilet and using the automated turning off the water when not in use in toilets
  - Digital signage: We have replaced paper posters and flyers with digital signage that can be updated easily and reduces paper waste.

- Reducing the waste of leftover food: All leftover food from our venue will be donated to local food banks such as OzHarvest when deemed suitable and accepted to help feed those in need. We will also implement measures to reduce food waste, such as portion control and composting.

By implementing these measures, we hope to reduce our carbon footprint, conserve resources, and promote sustainability both within our venue and in the wider community. We will regularly review our policies and procedures to ensure that we are continuously improving our sustainability efforts.



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