Woodfrys Farm Environmental & Sustainability Charter



Last reviewed: 01/02/2023

Next Review: 01/03/2024

Mission statement

We are passionate about protecting our environment and mitigating the impact of climate change and this is something that is at the heart of who we are as business owners, but also part of how we wish to run our business. By taking steps as individuals and as a business to reduce or minimise our carbon footprint, by taking good care of the land in our stewardship, and by working with other businesses who feel similarly, we hope to enact positive steps to improving our site, and the local area, whilst contributing to the global effort to reduce the impacts of climate change.

Responsibility

The company directors are responsible for ensuring the charter is implemented and regularly reviewed. Staff or volunteers will have a responsibility to support and deliver the charter where relevant to their role.

Policy Aims

We will continue to:

Incorporate environmental factors into business decisions.

Monitor and improve environmental performance.

Grow and develop our knowledge and awareness of environmental issues to help inform our business choices.

Look to improve and reduce our environmental impact

Seek ways to engage our customer base and local audience in green issues, providing opportunities for people to play a more engaged role by taking part during their stay or in annual events such as tree planting.

Specific commitments

Office Management

We will run a paperless office wherever possible, only printing paperwork where it is required for legal records.

Any stationary supplies will be sourced from environmentally friendly and efficient product wherever possible.



Office furniture will be sourced second-hand in the first instance, only reverting to purchasing new if not possible to secure second-hand.

We will monitor our email / website cloud storage, deleting content on an annual basis to reduce carbon footprint of cloud storage associated with our business.

Energy & Water

Lights and electrical equipment will be switched off when not in use. Energy saving lightbulbs and products will be used. Shop equipment will be regularly defrosted to maintain working condition and serviced when necessary.

Heating will be provided via wood fuel sustainably harvested onsite, using coppicing, and woodland regeneration practices. Ash will be returned to the soil as a conditioner.

Water usage is monitored to minimise risk of leaks.

Rainwater harvesting from the barns is a future opportunity to be explored when funds permit.

Solar opportunities will be explored and installed when funds allow.

Rubbish

We will provide a range of recycling onsite for our customers

- Batteries
- Metal scrap / gas cannisters
- Glass / Tins / Paper / Cardboard / Paper / Hard plastics
- Food composting (cooked, raw & bones)
- New (2024) soft crinkly plastics
- New (2024) tent recycling (partnership with Doodles One)

For the farm we will actively try and reduce rubbish and increase recycling

- Purchased small baler 2023. Purchased natural twine for baler instead of standard baler twine.
- Sourced farm recycling (via FWAG) for plastic wrap / feed bag / tree tubes

We will only use licenced and appropriate organisations to dispose of waste.

Transport & machinery & fuel use

Make it easy for visitors to visit by greener transport means through provision of up-to-date information on our website.

Highlight local places to go & events via event board to minimise onward travel of visitors from site.



Minimal mowing in place for campsite and wider farm area to minimise fuel use / enhance wilder areas.

Run one vehicle, one tractor, one mower. Explore shifting to electric kit, e.g chainsaws as solar introduced.

Maintenance and cleaning

Active recycling & repurposing policy, reusing what we can when we need to build / create new.

Secondhand purchasing as a priority if we need to source additional materials.

If materials do have to be purchased new, seek local supplier e.g local timber merchant.

Environmentally cleaning products only in use.

Investment in site biodiversity

Establish new hedges / plantations / orchards throughout the farm for shade, shelter and to create safe passage throughout the farm, using natural regeneration, or planting (with native, sustainably sourced species)

Minimal mow techniques to allow long flowering seasons

Good grazing to protect soil health

Use of local composts to promote plant growth

Install bird boxes / log piles / create rough edges into fields.

Manage water cress when required for stream health

Maintain ponds and ditches in our ownership.

Suppliers

Where we source products e.g for our shop, we will do so with an environmental focus for example sourcing the majority of our external food range from our local area (20 miles), and growing as much as possible onsite.

Where we do source from further afield, we will review the environmental credentials of the suppliers e.g seeking to work with Certified B Corps, or companies with an sustainability policy.

We will hold stock to minimise repeat orders, reducing transport impacts.

Monitoring



We will review the policy annually and update it with our achievements, and set new goals for the year (s) ahead.

We will take part in external schemes which help us measure our environmental impact (e.g Dorset Sustainable Business Award).

Investment

We will invest profits to supporting the achievement of our environmental and sustainability goals.

Activity & Progress Tracker (Farm & Campsite)

Date	Action Taken / Planned
2020	Implemented Countryside Stewardship set aside areas to protect from grazing
	and leave them to rewild.
	Planted 3500 trees (new hedges), and 30 orchard trees. Mapped existing and
	new orchard plantings to record species. Tree count: 3530
2021	Installed composting toilets (to replace portaloos used in 2020
	Organised commercial waste collection service to include recycling (plastics,
	tins, paper, card, glass) and composting.
	Purchased compost caddy's and provided to all campers to encourage
	composting of food waste
	Free supply of bio-degradable dog poo bags to all campers with dogs.
	Established hot composting process
	Breakdown and scrapping of old caravans, with materials sent off for recycling
	Minimal mow approach adopted as recommended by Greener Camping club. Only pitches and paths mown, with grass left to grow long. Estimate 50% reduction in mowing.
	Introduced range of free environmentally friendly products for campers (Handwash, biodegradable wipes, washing up liquid)
	Glamping unit set up, with majority of materials recycled from the farm to create field kitchen
	Planted Greener Camping trees (circa 150) plus willow & gifted trees planting: Tree count:3880
2022	{Campsite grew from 5 pitches to 10)
	Added battery recycling for campers
	Increased range of free environmentally friendly products for campers to use
	with Faith in Nature products for showering



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	Any kit that had to be purchased for Glamping unit, focusing on purchasing UK / green / eco products where possible e.g recycled rug / recycled pans. Sustainably sourced cotton for bedding and towel sets.
	Updated website with better public transport information to help people get to site. Introduction of walkers / cyclists first night discount.
	community planting event (15 people attended) Planted Greener camping club trees (circa 200) plus willow plantings Tree count: 4352
2023	Introduced metal recycling for gas cannisters / other metal waste onsite
	Orchard Audit – Review of existing planting, recording where we have had some losses that need replacing (deer damage)
	Purchased(proper) twine to replace plastic baler twine for use when haymaking
	Identified a recycling stream for plastic baler twine / baler wrap & tree guards via FWAG. Now collecting together and storing as we need a minimum weight to recycle
	New shop onsite retailing our own meat, with a local supplier range, as well as an eco-range (refills / eco products) Food mile tracking begun.
	Creation of Komoot Trails to highlight local walking & biking routes. Welcome pack for glamping unit & campsite to showcase local places to eat, see & go
	Began establishment of market garden, started selling salad
	Community tree planting event (November 11 ^{th)} Eco-kids tree planting event (2 nd December)
	(Highlight – some of our campers returned to plant trees and also gifted us more trees to plant)
	Tree count: 4352
2024 Plans	Further increase of recycling options to extract steel / aluminium / Crinkly plastics
(Campsite 5	
year anniversary)	Review & expand local supplier range in shop?
anniversary)	Baler twine / baler wrap recycling when FWAG scheme opens (July?)
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2024 Great Big Green Week event – free farm tour with a focus on nature friendly farming, low food miles, and low impact camping. (June)

Community Tree planting event Eco-kids tree planting event

Get quotes for solar installation on barns

Aim to hit more than 5000 trees (begin planting new hedge down middle of Mill-Hollow?)