



# Waste Management Policy

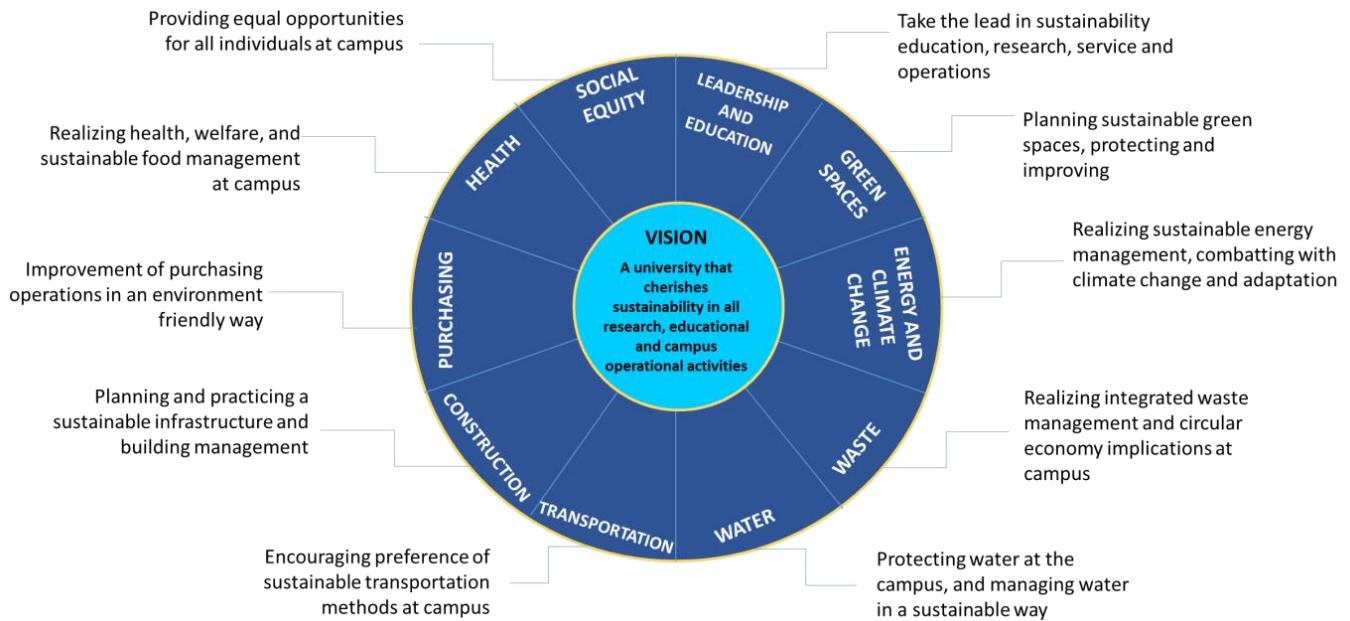
Bursa Uludağ University

---

# Bursa Uludağ University's Waste Management Policy

## Introduction

The Waste Management Policy is a part of the Bursa Uludağ University Sustainability Strategy. Bursa Uludağ University set the goals for sustainable development as follows:



## Goals of Bursa Uludağ University towards Sustainable Development

One of the goals of Bursa Uludağ University toward sustainability is “Realizing integrated waste management and circular economy implications at the campus”. As part of our ongoing “Zero Waste Project”, which has been initiated by the Turkish Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change as a national campaign, Bursa Uludağ University is committed to promoting waste as a resource, encouraging re-use and recycling in line with the waste hierarchy and meeting our legal duties under waste directives and zero waste policy of the country. The University will look to contribute to the circular economy

where practicable and will continue to implement a zero-to-landfill policy.

Zero waste regulation was published and started to be applied by public institutions in Turkey. The criteria to be awarded the Zero Waste certificate was set by the ministry. Bursa Uludağ University fulfilled these criteria, which are as follows:

- To get a certificate the institution should have a recycling program.
- The institution should record the waste generated and the portion recycled.
- The recyclable waste should be recycled by the institution, or the institution should have an agreement with the municipality to arrange for a

licensed recycling company to receive the recyclable waste collected by the university.

- The recycling amounts should be systemically entered into the nationwide waste monitoring system governed by the ministry.

Bursa Uludağ University fulfilled the criteria of the Zero Waste project and received the Zero Waste certificate. A special Waste Division was established to manage the recycling program within the campus.

Bursa Uludağ University is committed to reducing its environmental impacts through effective waste management and aims to divert most of the waste from landfill by applying this waste management policy. The University established a waste management unit to coordinate the waste management activities within the campus.

## Waste Management Objectives

The University is committed to:

- Complying with all legislative requirements in line with our ZERO WASTE certification, including hazardous waste materials.
- Using furniture reuse schemes for clearances and refurbishment work to reduce our waste production.
- Reducing the amount of unnecessary single-use plastic within the campus. Increasing the number of drinking water fountains within the campus.
- Developing a program to increase the amount of food waste collected from student and colleague areas.

- Ensuring that sufficient training schemes and awareness programs are in place for our colleagues and students to help us meet our waste management targets.

- Monitoring and reporting on waste production and disposal routes on a monthly basis.

## The Policy Principles: Waste Management Hierarchy

All staff, students, contractors, and visitors have a personal responsibility to ensure the waste they create is dealt with in accordance with this policy. Chief consideration must be given to applying the waste management hierarchy to all activities across the university.

- Reduce: Only order/purchase/use the number of materials required
- Reuse: Retain materials that can be reused onsite or by others
- Recycle: Segregate to maximize the value of material for recycling
- Recover: Energy from waste will be recovered where facilities allow
- Dispose: Last resort

The Zero Waste Management Team will ensure appropriate procedures and waste management processes are in place as applicable for the principal waste streams (e.g. municipal waste, hazardous waste, e-waste, inorganic waste, and recyclable waste). Certification of appropriate disposal (in the form of a waste transfer note) will be obtained by the zero waste

management staff when waste is removed by a contractor. All contractors removing waste must be registered with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change to carry/broker waste, and the proposed waste management site will need to be licensed.

Waste should be prevented or minimized wherever possible and must be stored, carried, processed, or disposed of in accordance with the principles of duty of care. Waste must be stored in compliant and suitable containers and locations pending their disposal. Waste containers must be securely sealed to prevent accidental spillage or leakage. Segregation of waste must occur on-site to prevent contamination and mixing of materials to maximize the opportunity for recycling. Waste is not to be stored in plant rooms, service risers, or any other location not intended for waste collection. Waste and recycling removed from the university must only be transported by persons or service providers that are authorized to do so. Audits of waste will be carried out throughout the year by a range of university staff as part of local procedures and Zero Waste accreditation.

## Hazardous Waste Management Policy

Toxic wastes of the university are collected by licensed companies. Every year Bursa Uludağ University makes a contract for the management of hazardous wastes. Management of (solid/liquid/gaseous) hazardous waste is directed by the waste division of the university. The hazardous wastes are collected by the laboratories within the campus. The waste

management company is called when a certain amount of hazardous waste is gathered to take the waste. The company takes the hazardous waste and treats it appropriately according to the regulations.

Waste Management Hierarchy rules are valid for hazardous waste management within the campus.

Waste batteries are collected separately in special containers at the campus. TAP (The Foundation for Waste Battery Collection authorized by the government) distributes the containers and receives collected waste batteries from the campus to be sent to the recycling center that is licensed for battery recycling. All batteries collected by TAP are brought to this facility to be recycled.

## Organic Waste Management Policy

Most of the campus's organic waste is collected from dining halls, canteens, and cafes. Organic waste is collected in separate containers in all the buildings on the main campus. University has a contract with Bursa Metropolitan Municipality to send the organic wastes to the sanitary landfill operated by the municipality. District municipality sends trucks to receive the organic waste collected by the university and takes this organic waste to the sanitary landfill. At the sanitary landfill, organic waste is converted into biogas with anaerobic decomposition. This biogas is then collected and converted into electricity that is directly connected to the grid.

Waste Management Hierarchy rules are valid for organic waste management within the campus. Food waste should be

collected separately for reuse/recycle options such as animal feed production, compost, and/or biogas production.

## Recycling at the Campus

Bursa Uludağ University supports a paperless system to reduce paper in the daily workplace. All departments within the campus use an electronic document management system and e-signatures are used as part of this system.

Recyclable bins are used in all the campus buildings, and systemic training programs are applied to recycling.

Zero waste representatives are determined within the campus by the staff of the university. They are responsible for the department-level management of recyclable waste.

All of the markets and restaurants on the campus are within the zero-waste project system. One obligation for this is reducing the use of single-use plastic waste. Those commercial enterprises within the campus apply a fee for plastic bags to the customers as part of this reduction campaign.

In order to collect recyclable wastes such as paper and plastic, which are among the most common wastes on campus, special containers have been placed for this type of waste at many points both inside and outside the campus.