

# THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## Guidelines for Sustainable O’Camps and Promoting the University’s Green Guidelines to Freshmen

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### I. Guidelines for Organizing Sustainable O’Camps

The Chinese University of Hong Kong has always been committed to building an environment-friendly, sustainable campus, and, with the support of our students, significant achievements have been made. O’ Camps provide good opportunities for new students to get to know our green campus and to play an active part in building a sustainable campus. Hence, **the organizing committees of O’ Camps and other students concerned are requested to take note of the following guidelines when planning for and organizing the O’ Camps:**

#### Energy Conservation & Carbon Reduction

- **Avoid energy wastage.** Implement measures to minimize electricity use (e.g. by paying appropriate amount of AC credits, reminding freshmen to switch off electrical equipment when leaving rooms , etc.)
- Within campus, take the stairs instead of the lifts and walk instead of taking the shuttle buses as far as practicable.

#### Waste Reduction

##### *Reduce*

- **Garbage reduction!** Say ‘no’ to toys that are environmentally-harmful or create hard-to-clean garbage like: crackers with paper streamers, helium balloons, confetti and glitter.

- **Go electronic!** Use e-means for presentations at meetings. If documents must be printed, consider using recycled paper. Reduce handouts, use e-flyer for promotion and adopt e-registration.
- **Reusable dishware!** Where possible, request the caterer to provide reusable dishware and cutlery for meals.
- **Encourage participants to BYOB** (bring your own bottle) to minimize consumption of disposable bottled/individually packed beverages. There are many publicly accessible water dispensers or locations that offer free potable water. Check '[Guidelines for a Greener and More Sustainable Campus](#)' below.
- **Smart ordering:** Check with the caterer prior to ordering meals to find out which dishes are most popular and less likely to generate leftovers; Also, as 'jobamas' may not have enough time to eat due to the packed schedule, some finger foods and fruits can be ordered instead of meals for easy takeaway.
- **No-show? Notify the caterer:** for pre-ordered catering, notify the canteen/caterer ASAP if attendance is lower than expected to avoid wasting food

### *Reuse & Recycle*

- **Adopt 3R Principle!** Lead freshmen in waste separation and recycling. Collect unwanted yet reusable items (e.g. excess souvenirs, banners, name badges, etc.) after O'Camp for reuse/donation/recycling. Check '[Guidelines for a Greener and More Sustainable Campus](#)' below for collection locations.
- Avoid putting dates of events on banners so that they may be reused in the next O'Camp.
- For additional provision of recycling bins, please contact Mr. Lau of Estates Management Office (3943 4049) 1 - 2 weeks in advance.

### **Water Conservation**

- **No water-flinging in campus during pre-O' Camp and O' Camp.**

### **Noise Control**

- For night-time events, keep noise at a minimal level to avoid undue disturbance to other residents on campus and in nearby villages.

### **Green Purchasing**

- **Go minimal!** Limit the distribution of gifts/souvenirs and keep the production of event-specific T-shirt to the minimal, for example, producing one T-shirt for each freshman only and not providing T-shirts to VIPs and student counsellors, and producing only one model of T-shirt for O'Camp. Wash T-shirts during O'Camp to reuse them.
- **Skip the packaging!** Buy individually wrapped food/supplies only when necessary.
- For the O'Camp's dining options, order dishes with less meat and more vegetables to reduce the carbon footprint of food consumed.
- Avoid unsustainably-harvested/farmed food. (Please refer to the 'Sustainability-Conscious Food Consumption' under '[Policies related to Sustainability and Environmental Protection](#)' in the Undergraduate Student Handbook)

## **II. Resources and Guidelines for Freshmen**

**The student counsellors in O'Camp are requested to introduce to new students the following resources for living a greener lifestyle on campus and also guidelines for environmental protection and sustainability:**

**a) Vision and Commitment of CUHK**

The University drew up its '[Environmental Policy](#)' as early as 2000, and has since developed numerous policies (including '[Sustainability Policy](#)' in 2012) for environmental protection and sustainability.

(Details can be found in the [Student Handbook](#).)

**Major Sustainability Awards received by CUHK in recent years:**

2008 - Silver award (Sectoral Award - Public Sector), Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence (HKAEE)

2009 - Gold award (Sectoral Award - Public Sector), HKAEE

2013 - Gold award (Sectoral Award - Public Sector), HKAEE

2017 - Hanson Supreme Grand Award, Energy Saving Championship Scheme

2017 - Hanson Grand Award (Post-Secondary Education Institution Category), Energy Saving Championship Scheme

2017 - 'Most Innovative Energy Saving Measures Award', Energy Saving Championship Scheme

CUHK is the first, and so far the only, university to have won the HKAEE gold award twice, setting a pioneering example for sustainability in the academia. These awards testify to the collective efforts and achievements of our staff and students over the years.

**b) Sustainability Initiatives on Our Campus / Green Resources**

- Check out the 'Sustainability at CUHK' website for news, events and resources:

Sustainability at CUHK <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sustainability/en/index.html>

Events calendar <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sustainability/en/events/main.html>

- Become a **CU Green Buddy!**

Each individual's efforts, when combined with the University's green measures, will make our university and our planet more sustainable! By pledging to do 6 simple green actions in your daily life, you can become a CU Green Buddy and receive a bi-weekly newsletter about green events in CUHK.

About CU Green Buddies: <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpsa/go!/cu-green-buddies.html>



- Like and follow the ‘CU Green Buddies’ Facebook and ‘Instagram’

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CU-Green-Buddies-728959243915168/?fref=ts>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/cu\\_greenbuddies/](https://www.instagram.com/cu_greenbuddies/)



- With our extensive woodlands and landscaped areas, the University boasts the largest and greenest campus in Hong Kong with diversified **Campus Ecology** – both flora and fauna. The fauna found at CUHK include many species of birds, butterflies, dragonflies, amphibians, reptiles and mammals. Treasure and care for our campus ecology.

The following websites may be helpful:

CU Tree Trail: <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/GreenEducation/tabid/57/Default.aspx>

CU Tree Catalogue System: <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/GreenEducation/tabid/65/Default.aspx>

CU Birds: <http://www2.cuhk.edu.hk/GreenEducation/tabid/90/Default.aspx>

- The mobile apps ‘Trees of CUHK’ ([iOS](#) / [Android](#)) and ‘Birds of CUHK’ ([iOS](#) / [Android](#)) are also available for free download.

## c) Guidelines for a Greener and More Sustainable Campus

### Reduction of Carbon Emissions

Electricity being the major source of carbon emissions on campus, energy conservation is our primary task in reducing carbon emissions and combating global warming. Please adhere to the ‘**Energy Conservation Guidelines**’ under ‘Policies related to Sustainability and Environmental Protection’ in the Undergraduate Student Handbook.

Undergraduate Student Handbook - Policies related to Sustainability and Environmental Protection

[https://rgsntl.rgs.cuhk.edu.hk/aqs\\_prd\\_applx/public/handbook/document.aspx?id=1565&tv=T&lang=en](https://rgsntl.rgs.cuhk.edu.hk/aqs_prd_applx/public/handbook/document.aspx?id=1565&tv=T&lang=en)

## Waste Reduction

As Hong Kong's three major landfills are nearing capacity, the 3R principle - "Reduce, Reuse and Recycle" - has an immediate role to play.

As a socially responsible institution, the University has implemented numerous measures for reducing waste. Recycling bins are provided at various points on campus to collect paper, plastics, aluminum cans and other resources. Students' support and initiatives are, however, the key to success.

### Actions recommended

#### *Reduce*

- **Go electronic and paperless!** The University encourages e-communication. If documents must be printed, print on both sides to minimize paper consumption.
- **Minimize waste!** Buying new items only when necessary.
- **Avoid food waste!** Ask for "less rice/noodles" when dining in canteens.
- **Bring Your Own!** For take-away, bring your own container and cup to reduce the use of disposables. Refill your bottle at publicly accessible water dispensers:
  - On Campus: refer to the [CUHK Mobile App's water dispenser map](#).
  - In Hong Kong: some online maps and apps like '[Water for Free](#)' show water dispensers and locations that offer free potable water.

#### *Recycle and Reuse*

- Separate waste and recycle as much as possible and give away unwanted but usable materials. For recycling / giveaway locations, see the '[Location of Recycling Facilities in CUHK Campus](#)' in [Related Resources](#); also, locations of outdoor recycling bins on campus are available in the [CUHK mobile app](#)'s campus map under Facilities> Living Essentials> Recycling Bins (Outdoors).
- Separate food waste after meals to facilitate the food waste recycling
- For more tips about recycling, please refer to [http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cps/go!/resources/recycling\\_tips-Poster.pdf](http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cps/go!/resources/recycling_tips-Poster.pdf)

## Water Conservation

Water is the most important natural resource on earth, and, in face of the climatic changes, water shortage will be a major problem for mankind.

As a socially responsible institution, the University has also implemented numerous measures for conserving water. Students can assist by minimizing water consumption, e.g. for showers in hostels/gyms, turn down the water flow and take as little time as possible.

### III. Related Resources

Locating water dispensers in CUHK Mobile App	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/documents/watermap.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/documents/watermap.pdf</a>
‘Water for Free’ website and mobile app	<a href="https://waterforfree.org/">https://waterforfree.org/</a>
‘Green Purchasing Guidelines’ of CUHK	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/green_purchasing_guidelines.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/green_purchasing_guidelines.pdf</a>
Environmental Policy	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/environmental_policy.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/environmental_policy.pdf</a>
Sustainability Policy	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/documents/sustainability_policy_2012.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/documents/sustainability_policy_2012.pdf</a>
Student Handbook - Policies related to Sustainability and Environmental Protection	<a href="https://rgsntl.rgs.cuhk.edu.hk/aqs_prd_applx/public/handbook/document.aspx?id=1565&amp;tv=T&amp;lang=en">https://rgsntl.rgs.cuhk.edu.hk/aqs_prd_applx/public/handbook/document.aspx?id=1565&amp;tv=T&amp;lang=en</a>
‘Sustainability at CUHK’ website	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sustainability/en/index.html">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/sustainability/en/index.html</a>
‘CU Green Buddies’ website	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/cu-green-buddies.html">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/cu-green-buddies.html</a>
‘CU Green Buddies’ Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/CU-Green-Buddies-728959243915168/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/CU-Green-Buddies-728959243915168/?fref=ts</a>
‘CU Green Buddies’ Instagram	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/cu_greenbuddies/">https://www.instagram.com/cu_greenbuddies/</a>
Trees of CUHK Mobile App (iOS)	<a href="http://itunes.apple.com/hk/app/zhong-da-shu-trees-of-cuhk/id537996980">http://itunes.apple.com/hk/app/zhong-da-shu-trees-of-cuhk/id537996980</a>
Trees of CUHK Mobile App (Android)	<a href="https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.idea.slab.cutrees&amp;hl=en">https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.idea.slab.cutrees&amp;hl=en</a>
Birds of CUHK Mobile App (iOS)	<a href="http://itunes.apple.com/hk/app/zhong-da-niao-birds-of-cuhk/id537997803">http://itunes.apple.com/hk/app/zhong-da-niao-birds-of-cuhk/id537997803</a>
Birds of CUHK Mobile App (Android)	<a href="https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.idea.slab.cubirds&amp;hl=en">https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=hk.idea.slab.cubirds&amp;hl=en</a>
Location of Recycling Facilities in CUHK Campus	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/emo/document/doc/recycle_facilities.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/emo/document/doc/recycle_facilities.pdf</a>
‘Recycling Tips’ poster	<a href="http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/recycling_tips-Poster.pdf">http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/cpso/go!/resources/recycling_tips-Poster.pdf</a>

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