

Environmental policy and action plan



This policy is dated August 2020 and will be reviewed periodically. It is communicated to all employees and volunteers, and is on the website.

Sadeh is committed to being a regenerative business that will be around for generations to come. We are an old building with many environmental obstacles but we continue to find new ways to lessen our environmental impact leading the way in adopting green practices in affordable retreat spaces. We are naturally aware of our legal obligations in respect of the environment, and comply with them fully. Planetary health is at the heart of our values and vision at Sadeh. All the choices and decisions we make onsite have the care of our planet at their heart.

Outdoors: We have a food growing area, medicinal garden, flower gardens and many wildlife habitats. We try and stick to permaculture principles where possible and harvest all of our rain water.

Energy: Our energy usage is kept to a minimum by such measures as the extensive use of rain water; there is an energy cost to the processing and distribution of tap water. Similarly the use of our own compost prevents the need to buy it in from elsewhere, with the resulting transport energy savings. Our electricity tariff is with ecotricity who use 100% renewables.

Food: If your meal is catered, chances are some of it is from Sadeh farm or our neighbour's farm. Where possible it is fairtrade and organic from Infinity bulk though we never compromise our kashrut*. We have also significantly reduced our meat and dairy offerings. If you are bringing in your own food think about LOAF - Locally grown, Organic, Animal-friendly, Fairtrade.

Waste: We compost 90% of food onsite and use this compost to grow our vegetables. All cardboard and paper is also composted onsite.

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Legal requirements

We are aware of our legal obligations in respect of the environment, and comply with them fully. We ensure we are aware of changes both in legislation and in best practice and environmental innovation, by subscribing to relevant newsletters and periodically reviewing documentation available on the web.

Plans for the future:

- Continued work on our farm and food forest
- More educational signage around the retreat and updates on the website explaining the eco things we already do and our plans
- Biodiversity - We would like to build more bird feeders and boxes, wild bee hotels, bat boxes throughout 2019 and 2020
- Create a Wet system on the land that creates biodiversity and carbon storage while treating waste from the house
- Clean air plants – when we buy any new plants for indoors we choose from a list of air purifying plants

*Kashrut is the Jewish dietary laws