

GREENER VETERINARY PRACTICE CHECKLIST

The **Vet Sustain Greener Veterinary Practice Checklist** outlines the points a veterinary practice may consider to become more sustainable.



PRACTISE RESPONSIBLE RESOURCE USE

- Reduce fossil fuel use for energy and heating by remembering to turn appliances off and switching to renewable energy
- Reduce disposable materials usage, including single-use plastics, such as disposable surgical textiles, where possible
- Use paper-free management systems where possible and ensure responsible paper sourcing, use and disposal
- Put water-saving measures in place
- Make sustainable choices when purchasing equipment or consumables
- Review and optimise waste management: reduce, re-use, recycle



BE SUSTAINABLE IN YOUR OPERATION

- Include eco-principles in building design or adaptations where possible
- Ensure environmental legislation compliance
- Use evidence-based infection control measures and minimise use of ecotoxic chemicals
- Minimise the greenhouse gas impacts of anaesthetic agents
- Enhance on-site green spaces and promote biodiversity in surroundings
- Promote animal welfare
- Support sustainable welfare-friendly agriculture when advising farming clients
- Create a travel-policy to reduce emissions from business travel, commuting and freight
- Support walking, cycling or public transport use, by staff and clients
- Reduce carbon emissions from conferencing, education and practice meetings



USE MEDICINES RESPONSIBLY

- Practise responsible antimicrobial and parasiticide use
- Avoid drug wastage through good stocking principles
- Dispose of drugs correctly (avoid ecotoxicity).



EMPOWER THE TEAM

- Support staff wellbeing and development, eg through sustainability education and projects, and encourage formation of a 'Green group'
- Recognise that good health and wellbeing supports all aspects of practice operations. Empower your team to make changes.



If you can take these steps and note your improvements, you're ready to write your Sustainability policy for your practice.

Create a "Green group" of passionate team members

Communicate what you are doing with your clients

Look into gaining environmental management accreditation!

vetsustain.org/resources/vet-practice-checklist
[#Greenvetchecklist](https://twitter.com/Greenvetchecklist)