

Checklist

Environmental Sustainability



This checklist serves as a roadmap for veterinary practices looking to make their operations more environmentally sustainable. By following these steps, you can reduce your practice's environmental impact while also benefiting from cost savings and improved reputation within your community.

Conduct an Environmental Audit

- Assess current resource usage (energy, water, materials).
- Identify areas of environmental impact within the practice.
- Determine baseline metrics for energy and resource consumption.

Set Sustainability Goals

- Establish clear and measurable sustainability objectives.
- Define target reduction percentages for energy, water, and waste.
- Develop a timeline for achieving these goals.

Engage Your Team

- Educate staff about the importance of sustainability.
- Appoint a sustainability coordinator or team responsible for implementation.
- Encourage the team to contribute ideas for sustainability improvements.

Energy Efficiency

- Switch to energy-efficient LED lighting.
- Consider investing in renewable energy sources (eg. solar panels).
- Regularly maintain air-conditioning systems for peak efficiency.

Resource Conservation

- Implement water-saving measures, such as low-flow taps and toilets.
- Reduce paper usage through digital records and communications.
- Choose sustainable and biodegradable products when possible.
- Establish a recycling program for paper, plastics, and other recyclables.

Waste Management

- Properly dispose of hazardous materials and pharmaceutical waste.
- Set up a medical waste disposal plan in accordance with regulations.
- Encourage responsible waste sorting and disposal among staff.

Checklist

Environmental Sustainability (Cont.)



Sustainable Procurement

- Source eco-friendly products, medications, and equipment.
- Partner with suppliers committed to sustainability practices.
- Minimize single-use plastics and explore alternatives.

Education and Training

- Provide sustainability training for all team members.
- Regularly update team on sustainability initiatives and progress.
- Encourage continuing education on sustainability topics.

Monitor and Measure Progress

- Recognise and reward staff members for their contributions to sustainability.
- Share your practice's sustainability achievements with clients and the community.
- Consider certifications or awards for eco-friendly veterinary practices.

Stay Informed and Evolve

- Stay updated on the latest sustainability trends and best practices.
- Be adaptable and willing to adjust sustainability strategies as new technologies and opportunities arise.