

# The Outward Bound Trust

## Environmental Policy Statement

At The Outward Bound Trust we are superbly placed to have a positive impact on the way young people think about the environment. We also understand that our activities have an impact on the environment in a number of ways, as such we are committed to take action to reduce this impact.

**Our strategic framework identifies ways in which we aim to achieve this, these include:**

- Ensuring that those who participate in Outward Bound® courses are exposed to positive and practical messages concerning the environment and sustainability.
- To identify the significant environmental impacts of our activities, including the recording of The Trust's carbon footprint through the CEMARS (Carbon Emissions Measurement and Reduction Scheme) certification process.
- Improving our own practices to ensure these are more environmentally sound.

**To follow on from these key directions, our Policy with regard to the environment is as follows:**

- To improve the communication of our environmental values to the young people taking part in our courses and educate them about the importance of the natural environment surrounding our centres.
- To identify the significant environmental impacts of our activities through a range of measures. These include the recording of The Trust's carbon footprint with the Carbon Emissions Measurement and Reduction Scheme (CEMARS) and environmental audits to be carried out at all centres/offices.
- To identify and reduce the environmental impact of our activities at the sites we use outside our centres.
- To act upon the objectives we set for all parts of the organisation to reduce the impact of our activities, based on the findings of the carbon footprint measurement and environmental audits. In 2009/10 one of our main objectives throughout The Trust will be to reduce our carbon emissions by 2%. All parts of the organisation will also develop and act upon objectives that are relevant to their particular centre/office.
- To reduce the amount of waste generated, to re-use materials where possible and to recycle.
- To reduce our water consumption and reduce our waste water.
- To comply with relevant environmental legislation.
- To develop measures to reduce the impact of staff travel on the environment, including the introduction of eco cars for the field based employees and the bike to work scheme. To work with like minded partners, such as Achilles and the John Muir Trust.
- To further reduce the impact of our marketing materials on the environment. By using FSC accredited sustainable paper, 50% recycled paper stock, to reduce the production of printed materials and to move material online where possible.
- To ensure that environmental responsibilities are defined, communicated and understood at all levels within our organisation.
- To communicate, co-operate and respond to the views of interested parties, including stakeholders, customers and the general public, on environmental issues, where this is practicable and likely to result in an overall improved environmental performance.
- To strive for continual improvement in overall environmental performance.
- To develop a sustainable purchasing policy and implement where possible within the organisation, all current supply contracts will be reviewed where appropriate to take this policy into account.