# Sample Environmental Policy for Tourism Businesses

**General**

We aim to be a responsible tourism business and continually strive to improve our environmental performance through reducing our impacts in the areas of energy and water consumption, water use, waste production, and chemical use. This involves the following:

**Operations and Management**

Our business has a written environmental and responsible tourism policy that is publicly displayed to our staff and guests. We also have a ‘Green Team’ responsible for maintaining our current programs and developing new ones.

We have already implemented the following specific environmental initiatives:

**Energy**

* Energy efficient lighting installed in all guest rooms
* Laundry is washed in cold water as much as possible
* Key staff members are responsible for monitoring energy performance and setting targets

**Water**

* Flow restrictors fitted to guest room showerheads and taps
* Guest towel reuse/bed linen changing program

**Waste and Recycling**

* Recyclable items (cardboard, paper, plastic, glass, metals, food waste, etc.) are collected separately from general waste throughout the hotel
* Receptacles have been placed in guest rooms for recycling cardboard and paper

**Cleaning Products**

* We purchase cleaning materials with low environmental impact whenever possible

**Staff and Customer Outreach**

* Energy, water and waste minimisation training is included in staff induction program
* We encourage guests to buy locally made products to support our local and regional economy

**Future Initiatives**

In the next five years we plan to:

* Install an energy management system to turn off lights and air conditioning in empty guest rooms
* Install water saving devices on toilets and shower heads
* Require all our suppliers to provide goods in reusable or recyclable containers instead of disposable ones