

Rainbow Diagnostics Carbon Reduction Plan

At Rainbow Diagnostics, we are committed to environmental stewardship and recognise our responsibility to reduce our carbon footprint. With a current direct electricity usage of just 3000 kWh per year, we are dedicated to implementing further measures to minimise our environmental impact.

Policy Objectives:

1. **Sustainable Consumables:** In line with ISO14001, we adhere to the 5 R's: refuse, reduce, re-use, repurpose, and recycle. We have pledged to reduce our plastic consumption by 25% before 2025 and will monitor this by evaluating waste generated per month .
2. **Reducing Plastic Use:** We have introduced ultra-low retention pipette tips and master mixes to reduce the number of pipette tips used. Disposable glove use is restricted to essential instances, and we have banned falcon tubes in transportation to further reduce plastic usage .
3. **Recycling and Reuse Initiatives:** We aim to recycle at least 70% of overall waste. This includes cleaning and defacing used bottles for reuse, repurposing polystyrene containers, and recycling non-hazardous packaging .
4. **Waste Management:** Our goal is to reduce waste to landfill to less than 5% of overall waste. We employ strategies such as running batch samples to reduce consumable use and participating in NEB and Fischer Take Back Schemes .
5. **Sourcing Sustainable Materials:** We are committed to sourcing alternatives and collaborating with ISO14001 compliant suppliers within 25 miles of our central location. Bulk ordering and combining orders with other labs will help reduce packaging and travel emissions .
6. **Green Transportation:** We are incorporating electric or hybrid vehicles and optimising routes to minimise carbon emissions. Administrative staff are encouraged to work from home, reducing travel-related emissions .
7. **Disposal Sustainability:** We ensure the safe and sustainable disposal of clinical waste, adhering to COSHH regulations and ISO 15189 standards. Our processes include recycling non-hazardous materials and distinguishing between biohazardous and non-hazardous waste .
8. **Carbon Reduction Targets:** We aim for a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2025 and strive to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. Our progress is tracked through the CarbonFootPrint scheme .

Training and Awareness:

Our internal training programs educate employees about carbon reduction, environmental risks, and best practices. Regular updates ensure staff are aware of new policies and encouraged to contribute ideas for environmental improvements.

Monitoring and Reporting:

We will conduct quarterly reviews of our carbon emissions and sustainability practices, providing updates to relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Conclusion:

At Rainbow Diagnostics, environmental responsibility is integral to our operations. Through our Carbon Reduction Plan/Policy, we demonstrate our commitment to a sustainable future while maintaining the highest standards of healthcare service.

Dated 11th January 2024