



A healthy products company

## *Environmental Philosophy & Guiding Principles*

SunOpta Inc. is committed to environmental leadership in all facets of our business. We will adopt appropriate guidelines for responsible environmental stewardship and encourage Supplier Partners to do the same. Worldwide, we will comply with local laws or SunOpta guidelines, whichever are more stringent.

### **Environmental Mission**

We will identify and advocate strategies to ensure implementation of our environmental philosophy and guiding principles. We will work with our Supplier Partners and SunOpta company groups to support our commitment to sustainable and responsible commercial success, reputation, and values. We will fulfill this mission by a commitment to:

1. **Reduce and minimize wastes from our business operations and ensure responsible disposal by supporting the “Three Rs: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle.”**
2. **Reduce our dependence on non-renewable natural resources through the use of more effective technologies and recovery techniques.**
3. **Communicate our environmental policies, programs and actions to our employees, suppliers, customers, stockholders and the public.**
4. **Continually assess and revise our policies, programs and actions to ensure industry leadership as responsible environmental stewards.**
5. **Establish environmentally responsible relationships with our business partners who produce SunOpta products on our behalf. We will also seek to influence our major suppliers who provide raw materials for our products to be responsible environmental stewards and to demonstrate a commitment as strong as our own.**
6. **Conduct reviews of our facilities and use the results of these reviews to help us prioritize our environmental efforts. We will report no less than annually on the status of these efforts.**
7. **Consider our individual and corporate duties as responsible environmental stewards through the capital allocation process and in other business decisions. We will address both current environmental issues as well as anticipate future issues.**
8. **Exercise high standards of care in the transportation, storage, use and disposal of chemicals. We will seek safe alternatives to hazardous chemicals to reduce their use and the potential for environmental harm.**
9. **Incorporate environmental consideration into our planning process and assess environmental impacts before starting a new activity or project.**





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### **Guiding Principles**

Our guiding principles help us to support our Environmental Philosophy, and include:

- **Having all SunOpta companies make decisions with social and environmental awareness as a priority.**
- **Understanding environmental issues and sharing information with our partners and employees.**
- **Developing innovative and flexible solutions to bring about change.**
- **Striving to buy, sell, and use environmentally friendly products.**
- **Recognizing that fiscal responsibility is essential to our environmental future. Making SunOpta a company that is not only focused on the bottom line, but the green line.**
- **Encouraging creative thinking that leads to saving resources and finances.**
- **Instilling environmental responsibility as a corporate value**
- **Measuring and monitoring our progress for each project.**
- **Encouraging all Supplier Partners to share in our mission.**





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## *Environmental Philosophy & Guiding Principals*

### **Objectives**

**a. Climate Change and Global Warming**

We must play our part in tackling climate change and encourage other companies with high emissions to do likewise. We remain committed to international obligations and continue to influence and shape future action on climate change. We engage in a variety of efforts geared towards combating climate change including: energy efficiency measures and solid waste minimization.

**b. Energy Efficiency**

At the core of most business environmental management strategies is energy efficiency -- the prudent and conservative use of energy resources. We will make every effort to utilize renewable and alternative energy sources. Energy efficiency measures can be implemented in several broad areas: buildings and facilities, production processes, end-use products and transportation. All of these sectors provide abundant opportunities for improving the environment, cutting costs, and increasing profits.

**c. Organic Production Methods**

We encourage and promote organic agriculture farming methods, as a holistic system with the primary goal of optimizing the health and productivity of interdependent communities of soil life, plants, animals, and people. Management practices are carefully selected with intent to restore and then maintain ecological harmony on the farm, its surrounding environment and ultimately the whole planetary ecosystem.

**d. Workplace Wellness, Health and Safety Design**

We are committed to the promotion of health, safety and wellness, the prevention of occupational injuries, illnesses, and the reduction of risk to the environment. We will embrace our corporate values by supporting and encouraging a healthy and safe lifestyle both on and off the job.

**e. Green Product Design**

Develop products made with fewer materials and with minimal undo environmental impact. Products are safe in their intended use, efficient in their consumption of energy and natural resources, and can be easily upgraded, disassembled, recycled, reused, or disposed of safely.

**f. Waste Reduction and Resource Productivity**

We are committed to exploring every opportunity to recycle or reuse waste materials generated by our operations. Waste that cannot be eliminated, reduced, reused, recycled, or composted will be disposed through safe and responsible methods.