



The Oaks Equestrian Center Sustainability Charter

Sustainability Charter

Sustainability, defined as meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to thrive, is a concept that has captured the attention of communities and businesses throughout the world. While technological developments have helped increase life expectancy and raise the standard of living for millions of people worldwide, those very same developments have added stresses to critical social, economic, and environmental systems.

Our Philosophy

Our equestrian facility is striving to make the tenets of sustainability integral to everything we do. Our aim is to balance business activities that benefit our stakeholders, customers and employees, while improving the quality of life within our community and doing our part to conserve the world's natural resources at our location. With a focus on continuous improvement, we seek to increase stakeholder value, to engage in programs that have real impact, and to becoming responsible stewards of our environment.

To fulfill the goals stated in this Sustainability Charter, we have established the following guiding principles:

- Live by our core values
- Protect the health and safety of our employees and communities
- Meet customer needs with innovative solutions that drive sustainable growth
- Minimize environmental impact through responsible practices
- Invest in sustainably based programs such as the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Equestrian Facility Program that improve the quality of life and health of our planet

Our Operating Model

Social Responsibility– As a sustainably responsible business we are participating in the Audubon Lifestyles Sustainable Equestrian Facility Program. In doing so, we are striving to be active in our community, committed to employee diversity, development, health, safety and labor standards, and by making meaningful contributions to society.

Environmental Responsibility– We are committed to responsible environmental practices in the operations and management of our facility. We strive to manage and mitigate the environmental impact of our activities by implementing plans that improve the energy efficiency, promote water quality, reduce erosion, and to reduce waste that we produce. In addition we are dedicated to protecting and conserving our precious natural resources.

Stakeholder Value– We drive long-term stakeholder value by managing our business for revenue growth, productivity improvement, and return on investment. We practice sound corporate governance and conduct our operations in only ethical and responsible ways.

Our Commitment to Sustainability

To that end, our facility and our employees are committed to a process of continual learning and improvement in pursuit of fiscally attainable and truly sustainable operations. Specifically, we are working to balance social, economic, and environmental priorities by:

- Conducting only sustainable business practices
- Promoting the highest level of horse care
- Safe working and recreational environments
- Managing our facility in sustainable ways
- Encourage community engagement through a host of outreach and education efforts
- Managing our facility in ways that minimize impacts on the environment including:
 - Reducing Waste
 - Improve Water Quality
 - Promote Energy Efficiency
 - Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 - Reduce Erosion
 - Encourage the use of Integrated Pest Management

Our Goal

Our facility and our plans for a sustainable future will ultimately depend on the success of the region and society as a whole to embrace sustainable decision-making priorities. In addition to our improvements to onsite facility operations, we are fully committed to working with local town and county planners to help build a capacity for regional sustainability. We understand that there is no social improvement without economic opportunity; no economic opportunity without a healthy environment; and neither economic opportunity nor healthy environment without a strong community fabric. We are, therefore, committed to supporting social, economic, and environmental health to ensure the longevity of our community. Through implementation, we intend to be a participant in, and leader towards, the constantly moving target of regional sustainability.

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