

ZOO ZÜRICH – SUSTAINABILITY

As an ambassador between people, animals and nature, and a conservation centre, Zoo Zurich works constantly to preserve its own resources and to optimise the zoo's sustainability.

Zoo Zurich is climate-neutral. It has signed a voluntary agreement with the Swiss Energy Agency for Industry and compensates for its remaining CO₂ emissions with certificates from certified projects in Madagascar.

Electricity

Zoo Zurich uses 100 percent green electricity with the «naturemade star» label from EWZ. It has its own photovoltaic facilities and solar panels to supply additional energy. Biogas is produced from green waste and manure, while energy saving lamps, motion detections and cut-in units all result in lower electricity consumption.

Heating

98 percent of the zoo's heating is produced sustainably, for example using wood chips from the forest (approx. three-quarters of the total heating requirements) and by means of a heat pump (Masoala Rainforest). The heat output, and above all the amount of heating oil needed, is further reduced by the use of heat recovery systems, the renovation of the power station and the implementation of optimal heating insulation when converting or constructing new buildings.

Water

In order to keep water consumption as low as possible, rainwater and grey water are used for replenishing the pools in various parts of the zoo, for filling the sprinkler systems and for flushing the toilets in the sanitary facilities. Masoala Rainforest and Kaeng Krachan Elephant Park are supplied with purified rainwater. The expanses of water clean themselves, partly thanks to pool pond cleaning systems in the actual enclosures.

Waste

Zoo Zurich consistently sorts and recycles waste. Metal, wood, paper, cardboard, building rubble, vegetation, batteries and PET are collected in the depot before being sorted and professionally disposed of. Green waste is incorporated into the biogas

production process. Plant waste and wood chips from the zoo's forest are prepared for the animals, and composted and recycled after use; the same applies to old wood.

Traffic

Zoo Zurich advises visitors to travel to the zoo by public transport. Thanks to partnerships with SBB and ZVV, attractive prices can be offered. It also pursues its objective of organising public transport from Stettbach via cable car (zooseilbahn.ch).

Sustainability of construction projects

Construction projects at Zoo Zurich comply with the ecological guidelines of the canton of Zurich. The zoo takes into account the key figures of the Conference of Cantonal Energy Directors for the conversion and construction of new buildings. Heavy transport equipment from external companies must be fitted with soot particle filters, and reusable construction materials are professionally sorted. Zoo Zurich uses solvent-free paint, lacquer and glue, and avoids CFCs and other toxic substances.

Sustainability in gastronomy

The catering companies at Zoo Zurich apply the principles of ecological, economic and social sustainability at every stage of the food preparation chain, from purchasing to processing. As far as possible, only regional, sustainably produced and seasonal products are used in the zoo restaurants. Amongst other things, this means:

- no shellfish, crustaceans or seafood;
- fish from Swiss waters or Swiss farms using;
- meat exclusively from animal-friendly farms in Switzerland;
- ice cream from Emmi made with Swiss milk and cream, no palm oil;
- pastries from Fredy's from IP-Suisse or Bio-Knospe certified cereals, no palm oil;
- chips from KADI made using Zurich potatoes, fried in Swiss sunflower and Swiss rapeseed oil, no palm oil;
- fresh milk and shell eggs of Swiss organic quality.

Zoo Zurich does not use disposable food packaging made from plastic. Products from sustainable raw materials are used instead: cardboard items made of recyclable material; drinking cups and dishes made of maize starch and articles made of sugar cane waste and palm leaves. As in all the zoo enclosures, biodegradable cleaning products and Dyson hand dryers are used in the catering outlets.

Zoo Zurich constantly endeavours to make improvements in the field of sustainability.

① **More about sustainability at Zoo Zurich:** zoo.ch/en/sustainability