



Announcement of Rajamangala University of Technology Phra Nakhon Policy on the Minimization of Plastic Use

1. Rationale

In accordance with Rajamangala University of Technology Phra Nakhon's (RMUTP) commitment to becoming a leading "Green University" and aligning with the national agenda on plastic waste reduction and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), this policy is established.

Recognizing the severe environmental impact of plastic pollution, and building upon the University's existing campaigns to reduce foam and plastic, this policy formalizes our commitment to the progressive reduction and eventual elimination of single-use plastics from all university operations.

2. Policy Statement

RMUTP commits to minimizing plastic waste by prioritizing the prevention and reduction of single-use plastics at their source. The University will actively promote a "Bring Your Own" (BYO) culture and transition to reusable, biodegradable, or recyclable alternatives.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all personnel, students, faculties, administrative staff, researchers, vendors, canteen operators, contractors, and visitors within all campuses and properties of RMUTP.

4. Prohibited Items (The "Phase-Out" List)

To achieve this policy, the University mandates the progressive phase-out and prohibition of the following single-use items within all campus stores, canteens, meetings, and events:

1. Styrofoam (Foam) food and beverage containers.
2. Single-use plastic carrying bags.
3. Single-use plastic (PET) drinking bottles. (Note: This ban is supported by the provision of water refill stations).
4. Single-use plastic cutlery (spoons, forks, knives), straws, and stirrers.

5. Implementation and Practices

5.1 Infrastructure and Alternatives

- **Water Refill Stations:** The University will install and maintain an adequate number of clean, accessible drinking water refill stations across all campuses to eliminate the need for single-use water bottles.
- **Reverse Vending Machines (RVM):** The University will continue to support and expand its RVM program to encourage the proper recycling of any remaining plastic bottles and cans.

- Bring Your Own (BYO) Campaign: The University will actively promote and incentivize (e.g., via discounts at canteens) the use of personal reusable cups, containers, and bags.

5.2 Procurement (Ethical Sourcing)

- As part of the University's "Ethical Sourcing Policy," all faculties and departments are prohibited from purchasing the items listed in Article 4 (e.g., bottled water, plastic cutlery) for meetings, seminars, or office use.
- Procurement must prioritize reusable, compostable, or non-plastic alternatives.

5.3 Vendor and Canteen Compliance

- Compliance with this policy, particularly the ban on items in Article 4, shall be a mandatory clause in all new and renewed contracts for food, beverage, and retail vendors operating on campus.
- Vendors are required to provide and sell only biodegradable or reusable alternatives (e.g., paper straws, bagasse containers, reusable cutlery).

6. Roles and Responsibilities

- All members of the RMUTP community (staff and students) are responsible for adhering to this policy and participating in the "Bring Your Own" culture.
- Faculty and Department Heads are responsible for ensuring all events and procurement under their control are compliant.
- Vendors and Canteen Operators are responsible for full compliance as a condition of their operation.
- The Office of Physical Plant and Environment (or relevant body) is responsible for monitoring compliance, managing water refill infrastructure, and conducting waste audits.

•

7. Enforcement

This announcement shall take effect from this day forward.

Announced on 24th October 2024