Sustainability at Sustainable SAFARI®

What does *sustainable* mean?

Sustainable [s*uh*-**stey**-n*uh*-b*uh*l]
adjective
a. of, relating to, or being a method of harvesting or using a resource so that the resource is not depleted or permanently damaged.
b. of or relating to a lifestyle involving the use of sustainable methods.
Merriam Webster Dictionary

"Our mission is to educate the public on planetary sustainability through the use of live animals in a safe and up-close manner."

Education

Sustainable Safari® holds great pride in ensuring guests receive education on the challenges humans have created for all inhabitants of planet Earth while offering the opportunity to be part of the solution.

Captive-Breeding
No animals taken from the wild

All animal ambassadors at Sustainable Safari® are captive-bred, meaning they are born in captivity. Removing wildlife from nature is harmful to the ecosystems and species populations.

Mission Safari
Wildlife Conservation Center

Visit the Mission Safari Wildlife Conservation Center to the right of the Sustainable Safari® entrance. Learn more about the condition of wildlife populations and habitats and what we can do to help.

Creating New Nutrient Rich Black Dirt

All animal bedding and dung are recycled or composted at a commercial black dirt facility. Sustainable Safari® Maplewood and Burnsville contribute about 4,000 cubic yards yearly—more than the size of an Olympic swimming pool!

Compostable Feed Cups

Did you know that the feed cups at Sustainable Safari® are completely compostable? They are made out of corn product, and no trees are used in their making! Plus, if our goats happen to eat them (let's be honest, they eat everything), they will be fine!

Zero-Waste Feeding Practices

Sustainable Safari® is committed to using all parts of the food to feed the animals. Food not used is composted.

Eco-friendly Products

The Sustainable Safari® gift shop and online store carry a line of plushies made of 100% recycled water bottles. One 12" stuffed animal uses 16 water bottles.

Repurposed, Reused, Recycled
Repurposed, reused, and recycled materials to build exhibits

Most equipment, such as ventilation, fans, furniture, and health care appliances, has been repurposed from other facilities

100+ gallons of repurposed paint

40%

40% of building materials are reused, giving new purposes and preventing landfills

18,000 lbs recycled metal scrap

The glass used in exhibits is repurposed glass sliding doors

Leaf decorations are repurposed shelves

Burnsville Before Photos 2024

Sustainability Team

The corporate team holds a sustainability-focused meeting monthly. The Sustainability Team discusses ways to implement sustainability and sustainable practices in each company department.