

Environmental letter I - February 2019

This letter is to inform about ongoing environmental work at Stockholm University and MBW department.

Stockholm University and MBW environmental impact

SU and MBW environmental policies are based on aspects that our daily work does have significantly impact on the environment. The University's significant environmental aspects are:

- Research, education and collaboration with the surrounding community
- Energy use
- Use of office equipment
- Travel and transport
- Purchasing and procurement
- Skills development for staff
- Material use
- Waste management
- Chemical use
- Emissions to water

Please find more about SU environmental policy in the following link:

<https://www.su.se/sustainablecampus/management/environmental-policy>

Environmentally friendly purchases at MBW

We wish to remind all employees that MBW set out environmental requirements that apply to all purchases outside the framework agreement. This requirement has been approved by the board of MBW on Feb 8, 2018. Our general MBW rule is to strive to make purchases with good environmental choices. Please add this to your requirements in for eg. direct procurements.

The board of MBW has also agreed on that all newly purchased refrigerators and -20°C freezers should meet the energy labelling of at least A ++ to reduce our impact on the environment.

Environmentally friendly meetings

Considering the environment does not mean we should stop traveling, you should consider the travel option with the least possible impact on the environment. Travels less than 50 km should be taken by train, if possible.

Read more about environmental travelling at SU-sustainable campus website,

<https://www.su.se/sustainablecampus/how-to-do/travels>

MBW support the use of Skype meetings. Everyone is given this opportunity for time-efficient meetings in the Runnströms room, E503. You only need to bring your laptop.

MBW:s environmental action plan for 2019

Through our local environmental action plan – MBW's Environmental Action Plan (currently only available in Swedish) – we create structure for our ongoing environmental work and visualize the activities that are taking place at the department. MBW's goals are:

- **Review the storage of chemicals at MBW.** In MBW, all liquid chemicals must be stored in spill-resistant plastic jars. We will also sort out chemicals that are not used and send them to destruction. Our goal is to optimize storage of flammable chemicals and have an adequate amount of them in fire cells in buildings E and F.
- **Through environmental newsletters to inform employees** about SU's policy, travel policy and environmental goals, as well as about MBW's environmental goals, environmental work, sorting of garbage as well as hazardous waste. Furthermore, among other things to inform about the purchase of white goods, green IT policy and transportation by green taxi. Further, to inform new employees and students about SU and MBW's environmental work.
- **Install attendance lightning.** Through lobbying work to make Akademiska Hus to realize that that this is not just an environmentally friendly investment, but it is economically profitable to install attendance lighting in all stairwells and corridors in both houses E and F.

For more information on content in the MBW's action plan (in Swedish):

<https://www.su.se/mbw/mbw-internal/safety-environment-equality/milj%C3%B6handlingsplan>

Environmental tips

Our daily consumption of meat

New findings say that the amount of meat eaten per day should be limited to a meatball, which corresponds to 14 grams. In the science journal The Lancet, a new report presents examples of how we should eat a healthy diet, which also means sustainable agriculture for our planet.

To those who are interested in reading the report:

[https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(18\)31788-4/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(18)31788-4/fulltext)

Rain-repelling fluorochemicals in outdoor clothing are unnecessary

Waterproof clothing using highly fluorinated chemicals (such as PFAS) are over-engineered for consumers, building in unnecessary repellence to oil and other stains, when only repellence to rainwater is required. The researchers say that effective alternatives to harmful fluorochemicals used in waterproof clothing are readily available.

Read more in the link below:

<https://www.su.se/english/research/profile-areas/climate-seas-and-environment/rain-repelling-fluorochemicals-in-outdoor-clothing-are-unnecessary-1.424041>