

## Eco and Sustainability Policy

**Available in large print – tel: 01629 540262  
or email: [info@hoegrangeholidays.co.uk](mailto:info@hoegrangeholidays.co.uk)**

At Hoe Grange our environment is very precious, with beautiful unspoilt views, and no noise or light pollution. We work hard to keep our Peak District special whilst minimising the overall impact on the environment, and are proud to have been awarded the Green Tourism Business Scheme<sup>1</sup> Gold Award and the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark<sup>2</sup> for our sustainable efforts, conservation, use of local produce, energy-efficiency and environmentally-friendly business practices. Ever mindful of preserving our own environment and the need to minimise pollution everywhere, we try to play our part by being eco friendly, and try and make it easy for guests to play their part too.

### At Hoe Grange we:

- Positively encourage guests to recycle by providing containers for recycling paper, cardboard, metal tins, aluminium drinks cans, plastics, food and drinks packs (tetra packs) and compost waste.
- Encourage greater understanding of the wildlife, countryside and biodiversity through our farm tours and walks. Hoe Grange farm has achieved Natural England's, Entry Level Stewardship<sup>3</sup> status for protecting dry stone walls and managing our grassland as natural habitats which encourages native wildflowers and wildlife to flourish, and for renovating the traditional dew ponds. We are now looking at stepping up our efforts to qualify for the Upland Entry Level Scheme.
- Support sustainable use of the countryside and encourage guests to leave the car behind during their holiday and access the outdoors in a more eco friendly way, be it on foot, by bicycle or on their own horse – try our new "Hoe Grange Time Travellers Trail", downloadable from our website.
- Encourage car sharing and provide information on local public transport (although not always practical in such a rural location).
- Purchase locally to minimise environmental damage through road and air miles and to keep the money in our local economy e.g. biscuits in your welcome pack come from Taste of the Moorlands.
- Source local skills and knowledge whenever possible, and employ local people with a personal link to the region and commitment to its sustainability.
- Support Fairtrade e.g. we offer Fairtrade tea and coffee as part of our welcome pack.

- Use environmentally friendly cleaning materials and detergents, which are developed using raw materials from vegetable and mineral sources that are carefully selected and guarantee maximum biodegradability.
- Monitor and improve our environmental performance, reducing power usage and waste. We save energy whenever practical by line drying bedlinen and towels outside and extensive use of low energy light bulbs. The outside lights have been fitted with passive infrared sensors (PIR's).
- Minimise water usage and collect run off rain water and reuse hot tub water for cattle troughs.
- Replace electrical equipment with 'A' rated equipment, as it is needed.
- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation and regulation.
- Offset our carbon emissions where possible and have planted 100 indigenous trees, including Ash, Hawthorn, Sycamore and Holly.
- Work with other local Environmental Quality Mark businesses to provide guests with fresh local produce hampers, home cooked ready meals and puddings, from farms & businesses managed for conservation in the Peak District National Park. On offer is produce from organic to rare breed products, from dairy and meat to local wine, from bakery to vegetables. It's as good as having a farmers market come to you, to make your holiday as hassle free as possible.
- Have a continuously improving policy of providing, where ever possible, environmentally friendly healthy options and products that are not tested on animals e.g. Faith in Nature toiletries.
- Minimise paperwork by working with computer files and e-mails. Unavoidable print-outs, faxes, copies, letter heads, and leaflets are printed solely on recycled paper or paper sourced from sustainable forests. Failed print outs are used as scrap paper. We recycle ink cartridges.

At Hoe Grange Holidays we recognise that you can always do more. We are trying to reduce the environmental impact of our lifestyles and welcome suggestions as to how we can improve and lower our impact further. We have only been running for four years and our policies will continue to evolve, and will be regularly reviewed and updated.

*David & Felicity*



<sup>1</sup> Green Tourism Business Scheme  
[www.green-business.co.uk](http://www.green-business.co.uk)



<sup>2</sup> Peak District Environmental Quality Mark  
[www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm)

<sup>3</sup> Entry Level Scheme - [www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/els/default.htm](http://www.defra.gov.uk/erdp/schemes/els/default.htm)

## **How you can help us with our Eco policy and preserve our fantastic environment whilst on holiday at Hoe Grange**

### **Become more of a Carbon neutral tourist / visitor**

- Did you know the amount of carbon produced by a car journey can be reduced by keeping speeds down, driving with windows closed and using a car with a small engine? (A 1.8 litre car travelling 12,000 miles per year will, on average, produce 4.32 tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). This is the equivalent of the amount of carbon soaked up by 6 trees during their life span).
- Turn the thermostat down just one degree and save..... Our cabins are very well insulated to keep you warm and also to help reduce carbon emissions. Guests' tests show that 18 °C is a comfortable temperature. Don't forget to turn it down when you go out for the day, or go to bed.
- Shop local – look out for Peak District Environmental Quality Mark businesses during your stay. Each EQM business is striving to protect the Peak District National Park; by supporting EQM you are playing your part in conserving this national treasure. See [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm) or "A guide to green businesses in the Peak District" in our Eco file.



### **Reduce, Re-use, Recycle waste**

- Sort all your rubbish for us to recycle – remove lids, rinse out containers, squash if possible and place in boxes provided: different coloured glass can be mixed together, aluminium/metal cans and plastic bottles can be put in one box and paper and cardboard in another. Recycle plastic bags by placing in fabric holder in hall cupboard. We will do the rest for you – it's that simple!
- Compost your kitchen waste - as well as fruit and vegetable peelings, and crushed egg shells you can compost egg cartons, coffee grounds and teabags too. Up to two-thirds of food each household throws away could be composted.
- If going for a picnic ensure you bring all your rubbish home with you and even pick up what others have left. Rubbish can be a real danger to farm animals and wildlife.
- Borrow our reusable Eco shopping bag (in the hall cupboard) and avoid using plastic bags.
- Instead of buying bottled water try our Hoe Grange water direct from our very own borehole, clear and clean with nothing added! Not only does this save you money, but it saves the earth's resources by eliminating plastic bottles. It also avoids carbon emissions from abstracting and transporting this very heavy product around the country; water miles are worse than food miles!
- Avoid any unnecessary washing; leave dirty towels in the bath and any unused towels on the beds, so that we know they are clean.

## **Save water**

- When you wash your dishes by hand, remember to turn your tap off in-between rinsing. And don't rinse dishes before you put them in a dishwasher - that's what the machine is designed to do - just scrape all the excess food off the dishes and let the machine do the rest.
- Stop! Before pulling the plug out the kitchen sink, use the washing up water to rinse out bottles, food cartons and cans before putting them in our recycle bins.
- Switch off the tap whilst brushing your teeth – you can waste half a pint of water per minute if you leave the tap on!
- A shower uses  $\frac{2}{3}$  the amount of water as a bath – keep it short and turn off the shower head while soaping! Our showers are set at a flow rate of 12 litres per minute.
- Share a whirlpool bath!

## **Save energy**

- Turn off the lights when you leave a room.
- Turn the central heating down when you go out for the day. The cabins are well insulated and warm up very quickly. In winter leave the curtains closed.
- Close doors, turn the central heating down a degree or two and wear a jumper!
- Switch off electrical appliances when not in use. It's amazing the amount of electricity used by the TV when left on standby.
- Use our Eco kettle and only boil the amount of water you need rather than a full kettle.
- Put the lid on saucepans when bringing up to the boil. It not only saves energy, but also time!
- On bright days open the curtains to let the sunshine warm the cabin. Even in winter sunlight streaming through a window can increase the room temperature by several degrees and all that sunshine will cheer you up too!
- Unplug your chargers and transformers when they're not being used. All those little power supplies to charge mobile phones, toothbrushes, and other personal gadgets are burning energy when they're not in use.
- Draw the bedroom curtains at dusk when it's cold outside to stop heat escaping through windows – that way your room will be cosier come bedtime!

**We appreciate your efforts...**

**Every little counts !**