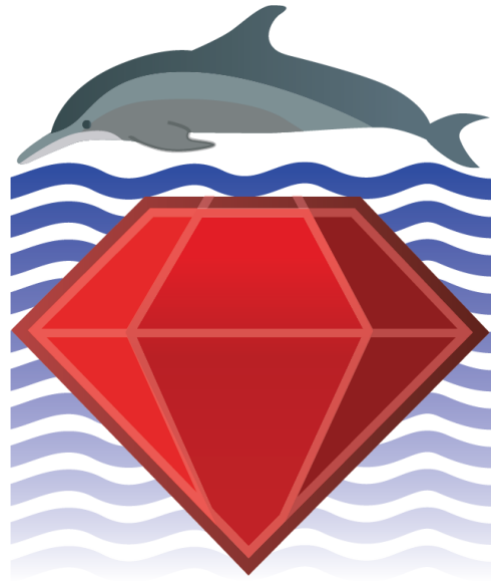


Redcliffe Gem Club



Our Policies & Values

Environmental Policy

The Redcliffe Gem Club is committed to a clean and healthy environment and recognizes its responsibility to conduct operations and fossicking activities that are responsible to the Earth's environment and protective of its natural resources.

We will continuously evaluate the environmental aspects of our work area, products and field trips. The goal will be to develop and provide lapidary items that have no undue environmental impact and are safe in their intended use, efficient in their consumption of energy and natural resources and can be recycled, reused or disposed of safely. The club's policy is implemented through the following guiding principles:

1. Commitment

Management at all levels of the club will be actively committed to the achievement of environmental excellence in the conduct of our activities. Every officer shall demonstrate commitment to this goal and shall strive to provide adequate resources to achieve this goal by appointing internal and or external expertise when required. Through communication with our members and other clubs, it is our goal to ensure that the club's commitment to environmental excellence is reflected in day to day activities.

2. Organisation

We will maintain and enhance a club-wide organizational structure and culture that recognizes and encourages the full and active participation of all members in the systematic management of environmental issues. We will also enhance a culture that allows for the transfer of Information and best practices across all levels of the lapidary fraternity.

3. Accountability

Achievement of environmental excellence depends heavily on the continuing participation and accountability of members. Responsibility for the protection of the environment is a matter of club policy and is a matter of law, with potentially severe consequences for failure to comply. Management at all levels is responsible for ensuring that activities are conducted in accordance with this policy and that appropriate environmental programs, procedures and systems of work have been development and implemented.

4. Management Systems and Standards

We will develop, implement and continuously improve effective environmental management systems and develop standards that reflect best industry practices. We will extend our knowledge by conducting or supporting research where practicable on the environmental effects of our activities, field outings, processes and waste materials

5. Risk Management

We will ensure that potential environmental risks associated with all our activities are assessed as early as practicable in order to minimize and manage adverse effects and to identify opportunities for improvement. The club will strive to eliminate or manage any foreseeable hazards which may endanger the environment.

6. Legislative compliance

We will operate to standards that will comply with the requirements of appropriate national and international legislation and codes of practice and will strive beyond compliance and recognize these principles as a valued way of life. We will participate with governments and others in creating responsible laws, regulations and standards to help safeguard the workplace and the community.

7. Training

Training is an essential element of health and safety excellence. Environmental officers and staff will be qualified by reason of education or experience to discharge their responsibilities and will participate in a program of continuing professional development. In addition, the club is committed to provide training and development on environmental matters that are appropriate to each members' responsibilities. The instructors of each of the activities shall take steps to assure that appropriate training is conducted on a regular basis.

8. Continuous Improvement

The club believes that effective environmental management is good for the community. As in other areas of our activities, the club is committed to continuous improvement of environmental management practices. We believe that adherence to these principles will assist us in achieving our objectives of environmental excellence. We will establish measurable objectives and targets to ensure continued improvement aimed at elimination of environmental degradation.

9. Monitor, Audit and Review

Effective management requires ongoing assessment and review to determine whether the environmental policy is being appropriately implemented.

Accordingly, an ongoing assessment, self-evaluation and audit program shall be implemented and maintained for activities throughout the club. The objective of this program is to provide management with verification that activities are in compliance with laws, regulations, club policies and standards and facilitate the spread of best practice throughout the club activities.