



# SUSTAINABILITY & CONSERVATION IN TAC

CCRT November 2024



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# TAC's Sustainability Mission

*“We will set the gold standard in Scouting for efforts to improve human impacts upon the planet”*

- We incorporate sustainability & conservation practices and training throughout our program
- We are thousands of advocates for the planet in the Anthropocene Age
- Our youth will change their own futures

One of the 5 Aims of TAC's Game Plan (council strategic plan)



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# Protecting our planet has always been core to Scouting

- **The Outdoor Code**
- **Leave No Trace**
- **The Scout Law**
- **Outdoor Ethics Guide**
- **Eagle Required Merit Badges: Sustainability or Environmental Science**
- **Rank requirements and other Merit Badges**
- **Service projects: conservation, sustainability**

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# Scouting advances from *Green* to *Deep Green* and *Deep Blue*

- **Leave No Trace on a global scale, over the long term**
- **WOSM Scouts for SDGs**
- **Scouting America “*aims to prepare young people for lives of impact and purpose*”**
- **Supporting membership, program, and development**
  - The younger the family, the more passionate they are about sustainability and conservation
  - Program ideas engage every TAC youth and leader
  - Investors are eager to support this mission



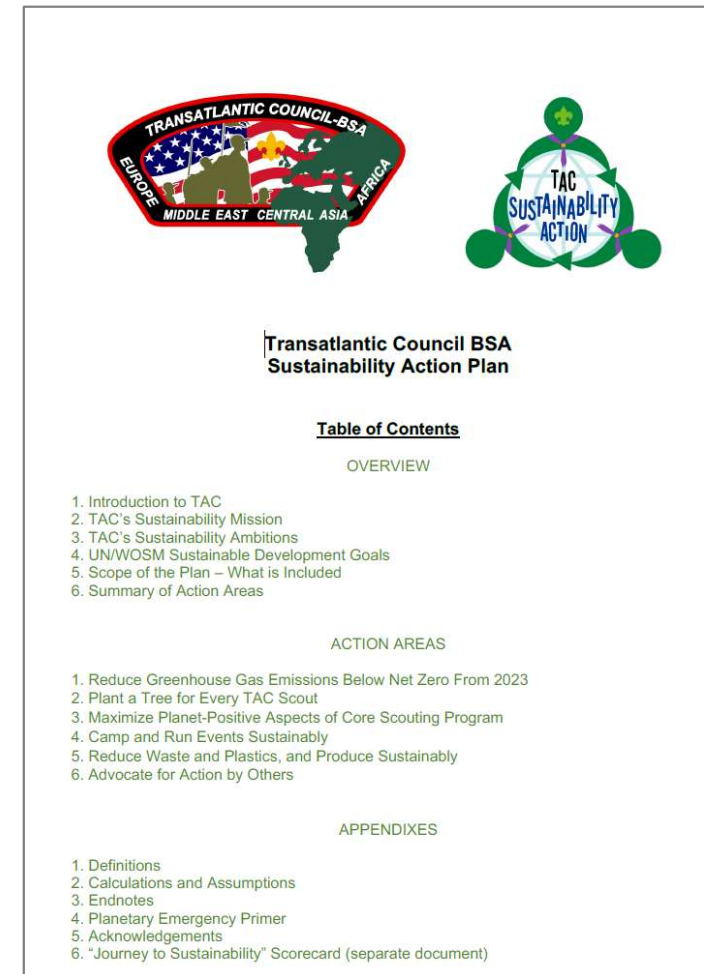
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# Evolution of TAC's Sustainability Mission



## TAC's Sustainability Action Plan



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# TAC's Sustainability Ambitions

- Refine our administration and delivery to minimize harmful impacts on climate and biodiversity
- Capitalize on Scouting's core strengths to maximize positive impacts on biodiversity and climate
- Act as ambitiously as possible without diluting the overall impact of our programs
- Support selected UN/WOSM Sustainable Development Goals, increasing over time
- Map all existing and new council initiatives to the plan



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# TAC Sustainability Action Plan – 6 Action Areas



**Plant a tree (or equivalent) for every TAC scout**



**Maximize planet-positive aspects of program**



**Camp & run events sustainably**



**Reduce greenhouse gases below net zero from '23**



**Reduce waste & plastics – produce sustainably**



**Advocate for action by others**



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# Implementing the Action Plan

- **74 Action Items in the 6 Action Areas**
- **District and unit partners supporting planet friendly parts of program**
- **Support units in sustainability projects, recycling drives, uniform swaps & tree-planting**
- **Work with Camp Directors on running camps sustainably**
- **Discuss travel with staff & board**
- **Work with suppliers on purchasing**
- **Work with others in the BSA to promote Conservation & Sustainability**

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# Mission Status Highlights

- In October 2024, surpassed our initial goal of planting 4000 trees (or equivalents) by end-2025! Recommending new goal of 5000.
- Conservation projects in Germany, Spain, Dubai, England, Abu Dhabi
- 156 Sustainability and Environmental Science MBs awarded in 2023
- Class B using recycled plastic backing for all patches because of TAC!
- Advocacy with other councils at two BSA National Annual Meetings
- Sustainability policies implemented at council camps; improvements planned. Meal based emissions reduced
- Carbon neutral for 2 years – only council in the BSA
- Journey to Sustainability, Sustainability Coordinator unit position, and Sustainability Challenge fine tuned
- Continued focus on quantifying impacts & emissions

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# Our Current Focus

- **Unit activity: Journey to Sustainability; Sustainability Coordinators; Sustainability Challenge**
- **District engagement: in district activities, and unit support (see Action Items in Action Plan for ideas)**
- **Interacting with more units**
- **Constant improvements in sustainable camping, and in maximizing program impact**
- **Training**



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# Thank You for Your Support

- Keep up with us @ [Tacbsa.org/sustainability](https://bsa.org/sustainability)
- Take the Challenge!
- Put us in touch with your unit conservation & sustainability champions
- Join us on the committee
- Plant a tree & enter it on the website

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA  
TRANSATLANTIC COUNCIL

Sustainability & Conservation

**3,749**  
Trees Planted So Far

Join our monthly committee meetings!  
1st Sunday of the month  
19:00 CET  
[Zoom Link](#)

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it."  
Robert Swan  
Polar Explorer

[Take the Challenge!](#)

[Have you planted trees?](#)

