GUIDE TO BECOME AN OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS
GUIDE TO
BECOME AN
OCEAN
FRIENDLY
BUSINESS

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ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

1. SANITARY PERMIT

Submit the sanitary operating permit granted by the Ministry of Health and keep it up to date.

2. REGISTRATION FORM

Complete the registration form with the basic business data such as schedule, number of employees, etc.

3. SIGN AN AGREEMENT

Sign the commitment and confidentiality agreement with NPWK. The business is committed to meeting the requirements to be part of the project and NPWK is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of the information provided.
REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN THE CERTIFICATION IN THE CATEGORY: 

1. DRINKING WATER

Having a connection to the aqueduct administered by the state entity AyA assures us that we are receiving potable water and that the water comes from a legally registered source, avoiding excessive exploitation of water resources. In addition, this will help discourage the purchase of water in plastic bottles.

2. SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Plastic has become one of the most used products daily. Its massive consumption exceeds the ability to manage them properly, so they end up polluting soils, rivers and seas, and generate serious impact on human health and ecosystems. Therefore, the best alternative is to stop your consumption completely.

3. SOLID WASTE

In order to prevent pollution and conserve the environment that surrounds us, we must manage all solid waste appropriately: both the non-recoverables (garbage) collected and transported to the landfill by the Municipality of Cobano, as well as the recyclables collected by NPWK and taken to the Recycling Center ran together with BIONIC. Organic waste must be composted.

4. WASTEWATER

Wastewater polluting the ocean is one of the main issues the Southern Peninsula faces. Appropriate wastewater treatment in line with national legislation prevents water pollution in this highly vulnerable coastal area. Locals and tourists want clean water to drink, swim and surf in happily.

5. SENSIBILIZATION

It is very important to share the message, more and more people need to understand the importance of sustainable lifestyle choices, adopt them and show their clients their commitment to be Friends of the Ocean.
Have potable water.

**Payment receipt of the aqueduct service.**

* If you have your own source of supply, you should show concession of the source and quality analysis according to the Regulation for the Quality of Drinking Water, Executive Decree No. 38924-S.

**It is prohibited to use water sources without being registered and without quality control.**

**Instituto Costarricense de Acueductos y Alcantarillados (AyA).**

Office AyA Cóbano: 2642-0190
## SINGLE USE PLASTICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>VERIFICATION METHOD</th>
<th>ALTERNATIVES</th>
<th>SUPPLIERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not sell water in plastic bottles.</td>
<td>Visual inspection.</td>
<td>You can:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Offer drinking water from the aqueduct.</td>
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<td>Offer filtered water.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Buy reusable bottle dispensers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sell reusable and/or glass bottles.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Exportadora PMT 2249-5555 servicioalcliente @pmtcr.com</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AQUA RICA 6004-2829 <a href="mailto:info@naturalmineralwaterscr.com">info@naturalmineralwaterscr.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rainforest water 8000-8142 8452-8297</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WWW.NICOYAWATERKEEPER.ORG**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PARAMETER</th>
<th>VERIFICATION METHOD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not offer plastic straws or plastic coffee removers.</td>
<td>Visual inspection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROHIBITIONS / ALTERNATIVES</th>
<th>SUPPLIERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conventional plastic substitutes as bioplastics are NOT allowed.</td>
<td>Mayca: EMANUEL ESPINOZA 6043-3146 2209 0505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper or bamboo straws may be offered and only at the customer’s request.</td>
<td>Empaques Belén: 2438-5119 <a href="mailto:ventas@empaquesbelen.com">ventas@empaquesbelen.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reusable metal straws can be used.</td>
<td>ST Distribuidora <a href="mailto:schaves@it-intercontainer.com">schaves@it-intercontainer.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These companies are recommended for other products too.*

**WWW.NICOYAWATERKEEPER.ORG**
SINGLE USE PLASTICS

Do not offer plastic bags of any type or size.

Visual inspection.

Oxobiodegradable bags are NOT allowed.
Its use is only allowed for the disposal of other waste.
Only paper or cardboard bags may be offered.

Mayca:
Emmanuel Espinoza
6043-3146
2209 0505
**SINGLE USE PLASTICS**

<table>
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<th>PARAMETER</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Do not use any of these plastic items: cutlery wraps, plates, cups, or takeaway containers.</td>
<td>Visual: Check materials and bills if necessary.</td>
<td>SALMAPACK 7235-5432 <a href="mailto:ventas2@salmapack.com">ventas2@salmapack.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PROHIBITIONS/ALTERNATIVES**

- Conventional plastic substitutes called bioplastics, or options that contain some percentage of plastic, are NOT allowed.

- Substitutes allowed: compostable materials such as bagasse, paper, cardboard or wood.

- The use of returnable containers that are reusable is suggested, both from the restaurant itself and from customers.

- Cutlery wraps may be paper bags, paper napkins, or reusable cloth napkins.
SINGLE USE PLASTICS
PARAMETER

- Generate a comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.

REQUIREMENTS

Plan that demonstrates how solid waste is handled in the business according to the format approved by the Municipality of Cobano. The plan includes identifying the types, quantities, the way in which each waste is managed and the commitments for reduction.

CONTACT

Environmental Manager at Cobano’s Municipality Ing. Alberto Vasquez
municobano.gestorambiental@gmail.com
Properly dispose of non-recoverable solid waste (garbage).

Do not place the waste directly on the ground.
Do not use transparent bags.

The business must have an appropriate temporary storage container for public collection of waste.

Container characteristics: it must be closed, either fixed or mobile, which avoids direct contact with water, soil and the entry of animals, have a roof, without presence of standing water, sheltered and free of scattered waste.

TRASH BINS:
- Reciglobal: info@reciglobal.com 2450-1338
- Qrubber: cotizaciones@eco vial.net 2260-0517
- Germantec CR info@germantec-cr.com 2220-0303
## SOLID WASTE

<table>
<thead>
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<th>PARAMETER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Recycle valuable</td>
<td>Place recyclables in transparent bags so that it is clear at sight that they</td>
<td>Recycling Center Waterkeeper-Bionic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>waste</td>
<td>contain recyclables and not garbage. Refrain from using non see-through</td>
<td>ARIADNA SÁNCHEZ <a href="mailto:ariadnawaterkeeper@gmail.com">ariadnawaterkeeper@gmail.com</a> 8330-2970 / 2640-0871</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(recyclable)</td>
<td>bags.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Site suitable for temporary storage

Deliver the following materials to an authorized agent:

- Plastics type 1 (PET), 2 (HDPE), 5 (PP)
- Tetra brik
- Glass
- Aluminum cans (soda type) and tin cans (food type)
- All materials should be clean and dry and in transparent or semi-transparent bags.
- Place recyclable bags out only on collection days.
Properly dispose of organic waste.

Refrain from disposing of organic waste with regular waste.

Composting:
- Nahuel Bendersky
- Casa Pampa Liceo Rural de Santa Teresa.
  8576-0231
- TERRAKURA
  7034-9532

Collection:
- FINCA LA PALMITA 8390-2980
- FINCA MALPAÍS 8778-3432

- Separate organic waste and dispose of it in one of the following ways:
  - On-site composting.
  - Transfer waste to an external composting project or a farm where it is used to feed animals.

* It is expected that all raw fruit and vegetable waste will be collected, as well as cooked food waste.

** The disposal of meat waste will depend on the characteristics of the selected composting system.
## WASTEWATER: BIODEGRADABLE CLEANING PRODUCTS

### PARAMETER

Use of biodegradable cleaning products.

### METHOD OF VERIFICATION

Use biodegradable soap for hand washing, dishwashing. Any other cleaning product that reaches water must be biodegradable.

### SUPPLIERS

**BLUETECH**
ALDO LÓPEZ
2235-6844, 8470-6949, 8813-9407

**SERQUIN**
2655-2533
SERVICIO@SERQUIN.COM

## PROHIBITIONS

It is prohibited to use products that contain non-biodegradable ingredients present in the following list:

1. Dioxane
2. Butoxietanol
3. Alkylphenoles ethoxylade
4. Ammonia
5. Bisphenol A
6. Formaldehyde
7. Hydroquinone
8. Lead
9. Monoethanolamine
10. Phthalates
11. Sodium laureth sulphate
12. Toluene
13. Chlorine

**Source:** Program "Bandera Azul Ecológica" 2019.
### Parameter

Recover used cooking oils separately.

### Method of Verification

They must be retrieved and delivered to an authorized manager with receipts.

### Prohibitions

It is forbidden to deposit oils and fats directly into sinks.

Refrain from placing used oil containers on the street. Collection must be done directly in the business.

### Suppliers

- **Aceites de Palmares**  
  2453-2527  
  4030-8397

- **Energías Biodegradables**  
  2537-4510  
  2537-4576  
  info@energiasbiodegradables.com
<table>
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<th>PARAMETER</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pretreatment of wastewater:</td>
<td>It is prohibited to dispose of waste from the grease trap in the trash without prior treatment.</td>
<td>Companies selling grease traps and solid separators:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have appropriate grease traps.</td>
<td></td>
<td>JAMUVI Javier Muñoz:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2296-0649</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8918-2453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jamuvi@jamuvi.net">jamuvi@jamuvi.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Durman:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2436-4700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:costarica@aliaxis-la.com">costarica@aliaxis-la.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limpieza de trampas: Mohs Marine Services 8363-7171</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**VERIFICATION METHOD**

The store must have one or several grease traps that work properly and receive constant maintenance and are directed to the septic tank or treatment system.

* In businesses where the necessary conditions for constant maintenance are not met, they must install solid and prefabricated grease traps in the sinks.

** Solids and grease extracted from periodic maintenance should be dried as much as possible and disposed with organic waste.

*** When cleaning the traps with an authorized manager, proof of disposition must be given.
<table>
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</thead>
</table>
| Proper disposal of all “gray” (kitchen, sink) and “black” wastewater to the septic tank and drainage, or treatment system. | Visual inspection of the treatment system and final water disposal. | It is prohibited to direct discharge pipes to any body of water or to the ground. | Wastewater treatment systems  
TEBAG  
8851-1200  
Lothal Spoerl  
ls@tebag.cr  
Tanque Diez. 2263-0097  
Infotec@tanque.dez.com  
Fibromuebles:  
2288-6338  
info@fibromuebles.com |
### Proper disposal of septic sludge.

Septic tanks must be cleaned by a company authorized by the Ministry of Health for both transportation and final disposal of sludge.

* Must have at least one proof of cleaning invoice per year.

### Suppliers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sanitarios La Pampa</td>
<td>83444802/86290567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Servicios Sépticos</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz:</td>
<td>2680-1214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanitarios Castillo Ramirez</td>
<td>8863-1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanihogar Abangares</td>
<td>8365-0796</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**PARAMETER**

Ocean Friendly Business Trainings.

**VERIFICATION METHOD**

Business staff must participate in 2 training sessions of 2 hours each on wastewater management and solid waste management.

*At least 2 people per business must participate*
PARAMETER
Dissemination of awareness messages to customers.

VERIFICATION METHOD
The following will be taken into account:

- Placement of informational / educational messages inside the business.

- Social media posts.

- Participation in community initiatives such as environmental fairs or beach clean-ups.
GUIDE TO BECOME AN OCEAN FRIENDLY BUSINESS

NICOYA PENINSULA WATERKEEPER is a Costa Rican non-profit organization whose mission is to monitor, protect and restore water quality in the coastal watersheds and marine ecosystem between the Absolute Natural Reserve of Cabo Blanco and the Caletas-Ario National Wildlife Refuge through research, field work, education and law enforcement.

Disclaimer: The contacts included in this guide correspond to companies that provide the services or products required and are stated as a way of facilitating the businesses' certification process efforts. NPWK does not have agreements with them, does not represent them, nor does it obtain any type of remuneration in exchange for recommending them, therefore, we do not intermediate acquisition thereof.

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Guide content: Ing. Kenneth Alfaro Alvarado
Guide design: Mariana Cassini

2020

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