ENVIRONMENTAL
Policy

Scope of Application, Responsibility and Review

This guideline was drawn up by the Sustainability Department of Bürkle GmbH and applies to the entire company and all employees of Bürkle GmbH.

Overall responsibility for the implementation of the guideline lies with the management. It ensures that all relevant areas are involved in its implementation and that the necessary resources are made available. The respective specialist departments are responsible for operational implementation in their area of responsibility.

The effectiveness and timeliness of the policy are reviewed at least once a year as part of the management review. This review includes, in particular, the relevance of the content, compliance with legal requirements and implementation in the respective organisational units.
In the event of significant changes to legal, organisational or operational conditions, the policy is revised immediately. The updated version is promptly communicated to all affected employees.

Think Holistically – Act Consistently

Environmental protection and the responsible use of natural resources are firmly anchored in Bürkle GmbH's product and corporate philosophy. We regard environmental protection as an interdisciplinary task that encompasses all areas of the company - from the purchase of raw materials to production and disposal.

Our aim is to conserve resources, minimise emissions and promote a sustainable corporate culture. In doing so, we go beyond legal requirements and rely on a structured environmental management system that is continuously being developed.

As part of this environmental policy, Bürkle GmbH is committed to systematically anchoring environmentally conscious decisions in all processes and actively contributing to the protection of the environment along the entire value chain.

Environmental responsibility as a corporate principle.

Our aim is not only to fulfil environmental responsibility by law, but to actively go beyond this. We rely on a structured, sustainable environmental management system that is continuously developed.

Our aim is to establish and continuously develop an effective environmental management system in accordance with ISO 14001.
We are committed to systematically recording environmental impacts, avoiding environmental pollution as far as possible and continuously improving our environmental performance. Through the structured implementation of ISO 14001, we create the basis for comprehensible, measurable and permanently effective environmental measures throughout the company.

A key objective is not to think of environmental management in isolation, but as part of our company-wide sustainability strategy. Bürkle has therefore joined the UN Global Compact and is committed to its ten principles, particularly in the area of environmental responsibility. This voluntary commitment is an important step on our path to greater sustainability and global responsibility.

In addition, we undergo an annual independent EcoVadis sustainability assessment - including the environmental category. This external audit strengthens our transparency and emphasises that ecological action is an integral part of our corporate management.

ISO 14001 certification
Our ISO 14001 certification is a clear sign of structured and measurable environmental protection

UNGC

UN Global Compact
Bürkle has joined the UN Global Compact (UNGC). This voluntary commitment is an important step in our commitment to sustainability, particularly in the area of the environment

EcoVadis Sustainability Rating
Bürkle is assessed annually by EcoVadis in the area of sustainability - including the environment

Energy Consumption and Greenhouse Gases

Targets for the reduction of greenhouse gases

Bürkle GmbH undertakes to reduce its absolute Scope 1 and Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 42% by 2030 at the latest compared to the base year 2023 in accordance with the requirements of the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). At the same time, the company will record and gradually reduce its Scope 3 emissions.

Starting from a Scope 1 baseline of 38.52 tonnes of CO_2 equivalents in the base year 2023, the company's direct greenhouse gas emissions are to be reduced by at least 42% by 2030 at the latest. This corresponds to a maximum target of 22.36 tonnes of CO_2 equivalents per year.

The existing heating system based on heating oil will be completely replaced by efficient heat pumps by 2029 at the latest. This will permanently reduce direct Scope 1 CO_2 emissions from heating oil consumption to 0 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year.

By the end of 2029, the company vehicle fleet will be almost completely converted to battery electric vehicles. This will reduce direct Scope 1 CO_2 emissions from fuel consumption to less than 10 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year by 2030 at the latest.

The company undertakes to permanently cover 100% of its total electricity consumption with certified green electricity from 2025 onwards, thereby reducing and maintaining market-based Scope 2 greenhouse gas emissions to 0 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year by 2030 at the latest.

Systematic Climate Protection - our Commitment in Line with the 1.5 °C Target.

Bürkle GmbH is committed to consistently and permanently reducing its greenhouse gas emissions along the entire value chain - in accordance with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and the requirements of the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). In doing so, we are making an active contribution to limiting global warming to 1.5 °C and creating the basis for effective long-term climate management within the company.

We have set 2023 as the base year for our climate target. On this basis, we are aiming to reduce our absolute greenhouse gas emissions in Scope 1 and Scope 2 by at least 42% by 2030.

Our reduction targets have been defined in accordance with the SBTi standard and are based on the latest scientific findings on global climate protection. Bürkle GmbH is committed to documenting its progress transparently, evaluating it regularly and continuously developing measures to reduce emissions.

Science-based Climate Targets According to SBTi Standard
Bürkle takes responsibility with ambitious, science-based climate management in line with the 1.5 °C target of the Paris Climate Agreement

Continuous Monitoring, Internal Target Control and External Transparency
According to GHG Protocol and SBTi guidelines

Do More with Less Energy. For More Efficiency. For Fewer Emissions.

We are committed to actively contributing to the mitigation of climate change.
Our aim is to use energy more efficiently, increase the proportion of renewable energy and reduce CO_2 emissions sustainably.

With modern technology, green electricity and our own deep well, we organise our processes to conserve resources and achieve a 100% emission-free power supply.

In this way, we assume ecological responsibility and make a measurable contribution to climate protection.

Photovoltaic System
With over 1000 m^2 of solar modules and the high level of solar radiation in Bad Bellingen, we feed our power source sustainably. This allows us to significantly reduce our CO_2 emissions every year

Renewable Energies
We use green electricity. Thanks to the combination of green electricity and self-generated electricity, our electricity consumption is 100 per cent emission-free

Saving Energy
The lighting in the warehouse is controlled by motion detectors; the light is only switched on when an employee enters a shelf aisle. All light sources have been switched to LED

Energy Optimisation of Buildings
Replacing windows and doors improves sound and thermal insulation

Innovative Heat Recovery
Process waste heat is recovered and used efficiently for heating and hot water

Groundwater from the Company's Own Deep Well as a Sustainable Source of Energy
Constant cooling of the systems, efficient heating via heat pumps in the cold season and sustainable cooling of buildings in summer

Shaping the Future of Energy - Step by Step Away from Fossil Fuels.

Our path is clear: away from fossil fuels and towards a climate-friendly, sustainable energy supply - for the responsible use of resources and in line with our environmental goals. Our long-term goal is to switch our energy supply completely to low-emission, renewable energy sources and to systematically replace fossil fuels. In doing so, we want to actively contribute to climate protection and end our dependence on finite resources.

A central focus here is the complete elimination of heating oil. The existing heating system based on heating oil will be completely replaced by efficient heat pumps by 2029 at the latest. This will permanently reduce direct Scope 1 CO_2 emissions from heating oil consumption to 0 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year - a clearly measura-

ble goal on our decarbonisation path.

Modernisation of Heating Systems
Renewing existing technology to increase energy efficiency

Energy-efficient Heat Pump Technology replaces Fossil-fuelled Heating Systems
Already implemented in the administrative area

Gradual Conversion of Heating Technology in Production
The remaining fossil fuel systems in production are being modernised and replaced by more climate-friendly technologies

We are focussing on Electromobility - And are Converting our Company Vehicle Fleet Step by Step.

We believe in CO_2-neutral mobility - because vehicles with combustion engines contribute significantly to air pollution and climate change. Our goal is to actively contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and local pollution by systematically expanding electromobility.

A central component of our climate strategy is the complete transformation of our vehicle fleet. By the end of 2029, the company vehicle fleet will be almost completely converted to battery-powered electric vehicles. As a result, we want to reduce direct Scope 1 CO_2 emissions from fuel consumption to less than 10 tonnes of CO_2 equivalent per year by 2030 at the latest - a measurable goal on our path to reducing CO_2.

Charging Points on the Company Premises
We have set up our own charging infrastructure so that electric vehicles can be charged directly at the workplace

Electric Vehicles in the Company Fleet
We are gradually replacing combustion engines with electric vehicles in order to reduce our CO_2 emissions and be more sustainably mobile

Climate-neutral Shipping - Taking Responsibility.

Our goal is to make parcel shipping climate-neutral by consistently relying on programmes such as GLS KlimaProtect. In this way, we minimise our environmental impact, promote sustainable logistics and make a measurable contribution to global climate protection.

Climate-neutral Parcel Shipping
We participate in the GLS KlimaProtect programme

Bürkle is a Climate-neutral Company.

Even if emissions and resource consumption cannot be completely avoided in our industry, we do everything we can to minimise them. We offset the remaining CO_2 emissions by supporting internationally certified climate protection projects.

In this way, we pursue a holistic understanding of sustainability that has an impact beyond our company. The projects we support not only improve the climate, but also strengthen social, ecological and economic structures in particularly affected regions.

Our certification as a climate-neutral company by Fokus Zukunft confirms that we are on the right track towards resource-conserving and sustainable business practices.

Climate Neutrality through Certified Offsetting
We act sustainably by conserving resources, reducing emissions and offsetting remaining CO_2 emissions through internationally recognised climate protection projects. This offsetting is certified by Fokus Zukunft and guarantees that our corporate activities are completely CO_2-neutral

Raw Materials, Chemicals and Waste

Sustainable Environmental Protection: Responsibility for Resources, Waste and Hazardous Substances

We are committed to actively minimising environmental impacts from raw materials, chemicals and waste across all areas of our business. This policy forms the basis for a qualified target system aimed at the efficient conservation of resources and the reduction of environmental impacts.

Sustainable Use of Raw Materials – Responsibility from the Start

Our goal is resource-efficient material use and the expansion of a circular economy for materials. We rely on environmentally compatible, recyclable materials, strengthen the use of renewable raw materials, and reduce fossil-based resources.

The selection and use of materials are systematically reviewed and continuously developed – in particular through our research and development department. Already implemented is the use of bioplastics from renewable raw materials. Our Bio-PE products are 100% recyclable and carry the ACT label for transparent climate balance.

At the same time, we optimise production processes in order to minimise material losses, rejects and energy consumption – linking sustainable procurement with efficient use.

Responsible Use of Raw Materials Through Optimisation of Production Processes
Minimising material consumption and losses, rejects and energy use

Ongoing Research and Development in the Field of Sustainability
To identify and integrate innovative, environmentally friendly materials

Reduction of Fossil Resources Through the Use of Bioplastics
Our Bio-PE products are made from renewable raw materials and are 100% recyclable. In this way, we actively contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting natural resources

Transparency through ACT-certified Materials
Our Bio-PE range carries the ACT label. By using ACT-certified products, we promote transparency in climate balance and support sustainable product development

Avoiding and Recycling Waste – Living Circular Economy

We promote consistent waste avoidance, separation and recycling. Our goal is to systematically increase the proportion of recyclable waste from production while significantly reducing the amount of waste that is merely recovered. In this way, we strengthen the circular economy and improve our overall ecological balance.

Waste Prevention Already in the Production Process
Reduction of material losses through forward-looking planning, precise process management and continuous quality controls

Separate Collection and Environmentally Sound Disposal
All types of waste are consistently collected separately and disposed of in accordance with applicable environmental standards, enabling recycling and avoiding environmental impacts

Cooperation with Certified Waste Management Companies
Close collaboration with certified waste contractors ensures the pure separation and optimal recovery of waste materials

Monitoring and Evaluation of Waste Data
Regular recording and analysis of waste volumes and types enables targeted measures to further increase the recycling rate

2027 Target: Raising the plastic waste recycling rate to 40%

2026 Target: Reduce residual waste to under 3 tonnes per year

Safe Handling of Hazardous Substances – Protecting the Environment and Health

We are committed to the responsible and safe handling of hazardous substances. The protection of employees, the environment and the public is our top priority. Our goal is to restrict hazardous, toxic or persistent chemicals to the necessary minimum and, wherever possible, replace them with less harmful alternatives. At the same time, we ensure complete safety in storage, labelling, handling and disposal.

Particularly critical substances – such as POPs or carcinogenic compounds – are systematically identified and substituted in the long term.

Structured emergency plans and regular training ensure a fast and safe response in case of incidents. The safe handling of hazardous substances is further supported by continuous training of all employees.

For the disposal of hazardous residues, we rely on clear processes and cooperation with qualified specialists. Cross-border transport of hazardous waste is strictly excluded.

Limiting and Substituting Hazardous Chemicals
Use of toxic, persistent and hazardous substances is reduced to the necessary minimum and replaced by less harmful alternatives – in particular persistent organic pollutants (POPs) and carcinogenic substances

Ensuring Proper Storage, Labelling and Handling
Hazardous substances are stored, labelled and handled in compliance with legal requirements and internal guidelines

Regular Training on the Safe Handling of Chemicals
Employees receive continuous training to ensure safe and responsible handling of hazardous substances

Structured Emergency Plans and Hazard Prevention
Clear procedures are in place for incidents and emergencies, ensuring rapid, safe and environmentally sound responses

Clear Rules for Disposal and Cooperation with Specialists
Hazardous residues are disposed of according to defined requirements and handled exclusively in cooperation with qualified waste management companies

Exclusion of Cross-Border Transport of Hazardous Waste
The company fundamentally does not conduct cross-border transport of hazardous waste in order to minimise environmental and safety risks

2026 Target: 50% reduction of carcinogenic hazardous substances compared to 2024

Water

Responsible Use of Water Resources

Protecting and using water sustainably is an integral part of our environmental responsibility. Although our overall water consumption is very low and comparable to household levels, we attach great importance to conscious, economical and environmentally sound use of this resource.

By using groundwater from an in-house deep well, we promote energy-efficient and resource-conserving technical processes. The systems employed ensure efficient use of water resources for process cooling, heat generation and building climate control – without any discharge into the environment. Regular maintenance and technical monitoring guarantee the long-term environmental compatibility of this concept.

Our goal is to use water resources entirely free from pollutants and to ensure that no water-related environmental impacts occur – in line with our principle of permanently reducing soil, water and air pollution to zero.

Consumption Monitoring and Documentation
Recording water consumption ensures transparency and early detection of deviations

Use of Cooling Systems with Low Water Consumption
Operation of a circulation system with heat exchanger, keeping equipment at a constant 20 °C and significantly reducing fresh water use by reintroducing well water

Use of Technologies for Multiple Water Applications
Well water is used as an energy source for heat pumps in winter and for building cooling in summer via underfloor systems – ensuring efficient and sustainable water use

Air Pollution

Clear Air. Quiet Environment. Responsibility that Works.

Protecting air quality and reducing noise emissions are core elements of our environmental strategy. Our goal is to keep the impact on people and the environment as low as possible through technical measures, forward planning and continuous improvement.

We use modern extraction and filtration systems to capture fine dust, gases and other pollutants directly at the source before they can be released into the environment. Air quality in the workplace and surrounding areas is a top priority.

For substances of particular health relevance, such as chromium or nickel dusts, we act preventively – both technically and medically. In addition, we reduce noise emissions through targeted soundproofing measures inside and outside our facilities.

Our ambition: permanently zero measurable pollutant emissions into the environment – in line with our principle of permanently reducing soil, water and air pollution to zero.

KPI Pollution of soil, water, air	2024	**Target 2025**
Cases of soil, water and air pollution at Bürkle	0	0

Extraction and Filtration Systems to Prevent Air Pollutants
Pollutants such as fine dust, fumes, gases as well as VOCs, SO , NOx and heavy metals are captured directly at the source by appropriate extraction and filter technology; no release into the environment takes place

Zone-Specific Isolation
Noise-intensive production areas are structurally shielded to minimise spread within and outside the facility

Technical Hearing Protection
Employees in noisy areas (e.g. metal production) are required to wear personal hearing protection

Soundproofing and Noise Measurement
Measurements at site boundaries confirm the effectiveness of structural and organisational measures – ensuring no significant external noise emissions

Sustainable Use and Safe Application of Our Products

Designing Sustainable Product Use – Optimising Durability, Conserving Resources

We are committed to the environmentally friendly and resource-efficient use of our products. Our goal is to make product use as sustainable as possible and to optimise their entire lifecycle in ecological terms.

A key priority is extending the shelf life of sterile products to avoid waste and reduce the consumption of valuable resources. Shelf life extensions, based on validated stability data, contribute directly to sustainable product use and prevent disposal of unused but still functional products.

Optimising Shelf Life of Sterile Products
Based on validated stability data, we systematically explore possibilities for extending shelf life – promoting resource conservation and avoiding premature disposal of intact products

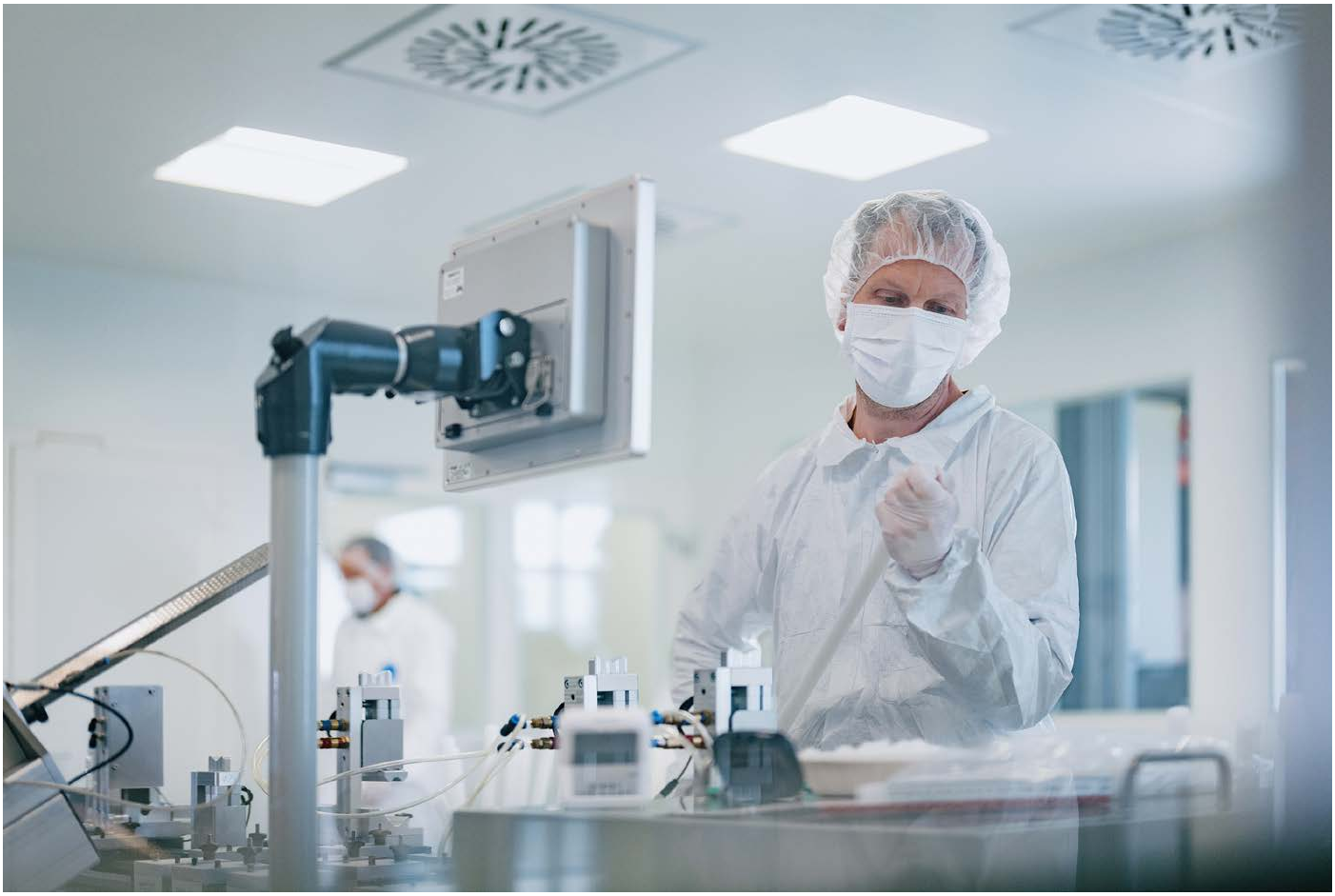
2025 Target: Extend shelf life of sterile products from 2 to 4 years

Sustainable Product Choice – Supported by Expert Advice

We encourage environmentally conscious and resource-efficient use of our products. In choosing between single-use and reusable samplers, we provide comprehensive advice, as the more sustainable option depends on various factors – such as cleaning effort or potential environmental impacts of residues.

Our goal is to identify the most ecological and practical solution for each application – always with a focus on environmental protection, efficiency and occupational safety.

Sustainable Product Consulting
Targeted advice on the choice between single-use and reusable products, taking into account environmental, practical and safety aspects



Customer Health and Safety – Responsibility Does Not End with the Product

We are committed to actively protecting the health and safety of our customers at every stage of the product lifecycle. Our products are designed not only to perform reliably but also to be safe in use and harmless to health.

The number of product recalls is to remain permanently at zero – building on previous years without recalls, we aim to continue this record in the present and future.

Systematic Risk Assessment for Product Safety
Potential hazards during the use phase are analysed and assessed using standardised procedures

Clear Instructions for Safe Use
For all relevant products, we provide clear, easy-to-understand user manuals with safety guidance – available both in print and digitally via our website

Laboratory Analyses and Collaboration with Research Institutions
We work closely with scientific partners and regularly conduct product analyses to ensure comprehensive product safety

Complaint Management and Continuous Monitoring
Complaints are systematically recorded and analysed, and complaint rates and feedback trends are monitored to drive targeted improvements

Emergency Preparedness and Recall Procedures
In the event of safety-related incidents or product recalls, we have standardised procedures in place for hazard prevention and clear communication plans

2025 Target and beyond: maintain zero product recalls

End of Product Life

Consistent Sustainability – Through the Use of Recyclable Materials

Our goal is to promote the circular economy by using environmentally friendly, fully recyclable materials right from the start. Plastics such as polyethylene (PE) and polypropylene (PP) are employed. Our metal components also contribute to sustainability as they are durable, recyclable and resource-efficient.

Use of Recyclable Plastics
Use of recyclable plastics such as PE and PP to promote sustainable material cycles

Use of Recyclable Metals
Use of durable, recyclable metal components to conserve resources and support the circular economy

Packaging – Clear in Material, Ready for the Cycle

Our goal is to design packaging consistently sustainably and ensure recyclability from the outset. Primary packaging is designed with sustainable material composition and consists of monomaterials, i.e. pure polyethylene (PE), to facilitate recycling and disposal. Our aim is for primary packaging to be permanently 100% made of uniform monomaterials.

We consistently reduce packaging material and use environmentally friendly shipping to conserve resources and save costs for our customers.

Use of Sustainable Monomaterials in Primary Packaging
Use of pure PE to simplify recycling and environmentally friendly disposal

Packaging Reduction
Minimising packaging material and promoting eco-friendly shipping

2025 Target and beyond: Primary packaging permanently 100% monomaterials

Creating Clarity – Information on Proper Disposal

We provide product users with comprehensive information to ensure correct recycling or disposal at the end of life, thereby minimising environmental impacts.

Provision of Clear Disposal Information
Via recycling labels directly on the product or through corresponding information on our website

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Bürkle GmbH
Rheinauenstr. 5
79415 Bad Bellingen
Germany

info@buerkle.de | +49 7635 6121-0 | buerkle.de

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