

## **Environmental Policy**

Van Drunen Farms

September 2024

### **Van Drunen Farms: Commitments to Environmental Stewardship**

#### **Scope**

This document outlines Van Drunen Farms (VDF)'s commitment to environmental sustainability within our operations. In 2023, we had 11 locations. These commitments apply to all employees, partners, and stakeholders within the scope of our operations and supply chain.

#### **Reviews**

This document is reviewed annually by the corporate leadership team to ensure alignment with company goals, customer requests, regulatory requirements, and industry best practices.

#### **Ownership**

This document is maintained by the corporate leadership team. Implementation and adherence are the responsibility of all managers and employees under the guidance of the corporate leadership team.

### **Our Key Commitments**

#### **Energy Consumption & Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs)**

VDF is committed to managing energy usage across its operations, transitioning to renewable energy where feasible, and regularly monitoring, measuring, and reporting GHG emissions to drive continuous improvement.

Van Drunen Farms will continue to implement energy-saving projects such as high-efficiency LED lighting, variable frequency drives (VFD), and optimized fan speeds to reduce energy consumption. The company is committed to exploring further energy

savings initiatives at all facilities, aiming to expand energy-efficiency improvements in future facility upgrades.

**Commitment:**

- **Baseline Year 2023:**

- In 2023, our total energy consumption was 28,509,417 kWh across 11 locations, averaging 41,433 kWh per employee (based on 688 employees). We aim to reduce our energy consumption per employee by 5% from this 2023 baseline by 2028.
- In 2023, our total Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions were:
  - Scope 1: 10938.61 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e (Natural gas) – 15.89 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e per employee (based on 688 employees)
  - Scope 2: 12,508.739 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e (Location-based, purchased energy) – 18.18 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e per employee
- We aim to reduce our Scope 1 and 2 emissions intensity per employee by 5% from this 2023 baseline by 2028 through energy efficiency projects and renewable energy adoption.

## **Water Management**

Promote water conservation and implement measures to reduce water consumption and wastewater generation across all facilities. In 2022, Van Drunen Farms reclaimed approximately 45 million gallons of wastewater for irrigation purposes. The company is committed to further enhancing water stewardship, focusing on innovations in water recycling and wastewater treatment to support sustainable agricultural practices.

**Commitment:**

- **Baseline Year 2023:**

- Total water usage was 3,412,578,200 gallons annually across 10 locations. We are not tracking water at Agriculture.
- **Target:** We aim to reduce water consumption per employee by 5% from our 2023 baseline by 2028 through optimized irrigation, facility retrofits, and wastewater recycling systems. (Based on 688 employees in 2023, this equates to 4,961,899 gallons per employee annually.)

## Materials, Chemicals & Waste Management

We care about minimizing waste generation and enhancing recycling and recovery efforts. We know where we get materials and how we use them matters. We also try to replace hazardous materials with safer alternatives and adhere to strict chemical management protocols.

In 2022, Van Drunen Farms successfully recycled over 3 million pounds of material, including corrugated cardboard, plastic film, and steel drums. The company is committed to further reducing waste by implementing sustainable practices in packaging and partnering with local recycling facilities to expand its recycling initiatives.

### Commitment:

- **Baseline Year 2023:** We diverted 2,699.27 pounds of recycling from landfill, which equates to 3.92 pounds per employee (based on 688 employees).
- **Target:** We aim to increase recycling per employee by 5% from our 2023 baseline by 2027, further reducing the total waste sent to landfill.

## Product End-of-Life Responsibility

Van Drunen Farms explores innovative packaging solutions to maintain product quality and food safety, educates consumers on proper recycling, and collaborates with suppliers to reduce packaging waste while ensuring product protection.

- **Commitments:**
  - **Recyclable Packaging:** Secondary packaging uses 100% recyclable corrugated boxes with simplified plastic liners for easier recycling.
  - **Material Consolidation:** Standardized materials, such as single polyethylene plastic, reduce complexity and improve recyclability.
  - **Toxic Chemical Reduction:** Efforts to phase out PFAS in protective packaging while ensuring food safety and compliance.
- By 2027, Van Drunen Farms aims to increase the use of recyclable or simplified packaging materials.
- **Addressing Limitations:**

- Biodegradable and compostable materials are currently unsuitable for food safety needs, but we continue to monitor advancements for future adoption.

### Customer Health & Safety

VDF ensures that products meet or exceed safety and quality standards while minimizing environmental impact. Our company always offers transparency regarding product ingredients and sustainability practices. The company is committed to continuous improvement in employee safety and food safety, with 100% of employees trained in human and food safety protocols. In addition, Van Drunen Farms will continue to monitor and assess the environmental impacts of its product lifecycle, from sourcing to product end-of-life, ensuring all products contribute to the health and safety of its customers.

#### Commitment:

- **Baseline Year 2023:** Zero (0) incidents of product recalls related to environmental or safety concerns.
- **Target:** Maintain zero (0) incidents through 2030 by enhancing quality control and sustainability protocols.

Acknowledgement

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Date:

Title: