

# April Cottage Environmental Policy

April Cottage is committed to minimising its environmental impacts where possible. Action is being taking in the following areas:

## Waste

### Reduce

- We avoid purchasing over packaged goods wherever possible
- Items are bought in bulk where possible
- Milk is provided in a glass jug to avoid separate packaging

### Reuse

- Both sides of the paper are always used
- Carrier bags are used to line waste paper bins
- Detergent bottles are refilled from bulk bottles

### Recycle

- Paper, cardboard, glass, tins, cans, plastic bottles and tetrapac are all taken for recycling
- Compostable food waste is put in the green waste bin

## Energy

- Most light bulbs have been converted to energy efficient alternatives
- The loft is insulated
- Thermostatic radiator valves (TRVs) on all radiators
- Radiators regularly bled of air to improve the efficiency levels of the central heating
- Heating is operated by a programmable timer
- The hot water tank is heavily insulated
- The newer white goods are A rated – all future purchases will be A or A+/A++ rated for energy efficiency
- Electrical items are switched off where possible (as opposed to leaving them on standby)

## Water

- Toilet has been fitted with a savaflush bag
- There are no dripping taps

## Purchasing

- Wherever possible we use local suppliers and seek to use goods and services which do not have a negative environmental impact

## Environmental Quality Mark Award Holder

We strive to meet the standards of the Peak District National Park Environmental Quality Mark.

**The Peak District Environmental Quality Mark (EQM) is an award presented to businesses that:**

- 1) put pride in the Peak District at the heart of their operations
- 2) actively help safeguard and improve the Peak District environment and heritage
- 3) safeguard natural resources
- 4) promote their values to their customers
- 5) add to the wellbeing of their communities
- 6) work together with businesses in other sectors, use and promote their produce and services

**EQM businesses have a passion for the Peak District and its valued characteristics:**

- natural beauty, natural heritage, landscape character and diversity of landscapes;
- sense of wildness and remoteness;
- clean earth, air and water;
- importance of wildlife and the area's unique biodiversity;
- thousands of years of human influence which can be traced through the landscape;
- distinctive character of hamlets, villages and towns;
- trees, woodlands, hedgerows, stone walls, field barns and other landscape features;
- significant geological features;
- wealth of historic buildings, and registered parks and gardens;
- opportunities to experience tranquillity and quiet enjoyment;
- opportunities to experience dark skies;
- opportunities for outdoor recreation and adventure;
- opportunities to improve physical and emotional well being;
- easy accessibility for visitors from surrounding urban areas;
- vibrancy and sense of community;
- cultural heritage of history, archaeology, customs, traditions, legends, arts and literary associations;
- environmentally friendly methods of farming and working the land;
- craft and cottage industries;
- special value attached to the national park by surrounding urban communities;
- the flow of landscape character across and beyond the National Park boundary;
- providing a continuity of landscape and valued setting for the National Park;
- any other feature or attribute which make up its special quality and sense of place

For more information visit the [EQM website](http://www.eqm.org.uk). (www.eqm.org.uk)

Some of the ways we promote a Greener Environment

Energy usage is monitored and we would ask you to turn off all lights and appliances before you go out for the day to enjoy the spectacular Peak District scenery. We also use low energy light bulbs where possible and the outside lights have PIR's. There is little light pollution in the village with most street lights being switched off between Midnight and 5.30am and you can get a detailed view of the constellations in the night sky on clear nights.

You may notice that some of the wood in your basket is part sawn. The woodturning offcuts are used for fuel to ensure there is no waste.

We recommend you leave the car during your holiday with us and explore the spectacular Derbyshire countryside on foot, or take a short trip to one of the Trails to hire a bicycle. The variety of landscape in the Peak District is vast and there are some great short circular routes from the door or a walk through English Nature's Lathkill Dale to Monyash and back via Arbor Low stone circle for the adventurous.

Public transport is available, but restricted as we only have an hourly bus to and from Bakewell with the last leaving Bakewell at 5.15pm and no service on Sunday. There is one bus each day that journeys from Sheffield via Youlgrave to Hartington bringing walkers to the White Peak. The bus stop from Bakewell conveniently is the entrance to our drive and to Bakewell from the George Hotel on the corner opposite the church. Monday is market day in Bakewell and can be very congested making the bus a worthwhile alternative. Whilst you can walk from the door to Haddon Hall – the bus also stops there on the way to Bakewell and the licenced restaurant at the Hall can be enjoyed at lunchtime without having to drive home.

Transport details can be found at [www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk) and there is a bus timetable on the bus stop outside the front window. Chesterfield has the nearest main line railway station, and there is a branch line from Derby to Matlock - plan your journey at [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) or [www.transportdirect.info](http://www.transportdirect.info)

We recommend eating at all three pubs in the village. The George Hotel and Bulls Head are 2 minutes walk and the Farnyard Inn 5 minutes up the village. All source much of their food locally and boast good chefs. Two have changed hands in 2012 so we have tried their food since changeover to ensure the standards have not altered. Two of the pubs open for food at lunchtime in the winter months as well as the evenings and all three are open for food in the summer.

Hollands Butchers – 5 doors down on the opposite side of the road, sells excellent local meat and specialises in prepared barbeque food in summer and haggis. It is also a delicatessen, grocers, sells delicious pies and sausage rolls and will prepare sandwiches. Food can be pre-ordered and delivered (or we will collect for you) for your arrival.

The Post Office – 6 doors along on our side of Church Street also provides some groceries, local papers, guide books and forgotten essentials and a small off licence.