

THICK & TIGHT'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Thick & Tight's approach to environmental sustainability

We are committed to environmental sustainability in all areas of our work as Thick & Tight. We are trying to

- be ethically and ecologically aware
- be responsible and considerate
- reduce the damage our activity causes to the environment
- reduce wasteful spending
- learn about and challenge social injustice within environmental sustainability
- promote a healthy active lifestyle amongst our artists and participants

Queer Ecology:

As part of several of our current projects, we are learning about 'queer ecology'. For T&T this is a particular area of interest and will be in our thinking and outcomes of our work from now on. As well as looking at how we can connect with other artists thinking along these lines.

Queer ecology looks at nature, biology and environmentalism through a lens of queer thought. Some of the main ideas are that:

- Human beings should not be considered to be separate from or more valuable than other parts of the natural world
- Words like 'natural' and 'unnatural' can be used negatively to create divisions between people, restrict behaviours and limit what is considered acceptable within society. Being queer has often been called 'unnatural' and this must stop
- There are many examples of queerness throughout the natural world
- A queer perspective might offer insight into a less damaging human impact on the natural environment

Our research into queer ecology is ongoing and will crossover with and influence our work to advocate for social justice through art.

Thick & Tight's environmental impacts and commitments

Thick & Tight does not have its own building or venue. We work from home and hire rehearsal and meeting space when needed. This means that our control over building-related environmental impacts is limited.

The areas which we can control or improve in environmental terms are

- Admin activities (energy, waste, supplier choices, communications)
- Travel (including for collaborators, artists, participants, audiences)
- Working at other venues (rehearsals, classes, performances and meetings)

Our key environmental commitments are

- To reduce waste and energy use, to recycle as much as possible, to make green choices in stationery and communication methods
- To discuss green design choices (e.g., recycled/recyclable costume materials, reduced shipping distances, packaging reduction) with our design collaborators
- To create work which addresses current climate issues
- To reduce the number of online orders we make (e.g., Amazon), to reduce our reliance on unsustainable consumption and big business and instead to support small businesses and independent craftspeople
- To reduce travel and related emissions by staff and to encourage our artists, participants and audiences to consider the environment when travelling. Thick & Tight seek to travel by train and other low-emission means of transport, avoiding flying or other high-emission means of transport wherever possible
- To commit to understanding how our cyber activity impacts the environment and how it compares to live activity
- For the Co-Directors to engage in environmental issues and support their artists and regular participants to understand similar environmental responsibility
- To support and promote Vegetarianism and Veganism when working, especially through meals or snacks provided while on tour
- To comply with environmental legislation and potentially liaise with local environmental groups for guidance when travelling in new locations

Date of last policy review	29 th November 2021
Date of next review	Autumn 2022
Signed	Eleanor Perry
Position	Co-Director