

WHO ARE WE?

Civic association „Green Circle - Zelený kruh“ is one of the oldest Czech associations of non-governmental organisations - it was established in 1989 and currently has 27 members. This association has been formed by non-governmental organisations (NGO) working in the area of environmental protection. It is an **umbrella organisation** and therefore its members make decisions on the future strategy and activities through General Meeting. The Green Circle therefore represents an enhanced voice of environmental organisations.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

The mission of the **Green Circle** is to focus on development of the civic sector in the area of environmental protection, sustainable development, public participation in the creation and implementation of the environmental policies and enhancement of public awareness on activities of environmental organisations and environmental problems.

WHAT ARE OUR ACTIVITIES?

The Green Circle facilitates information and opinion exchange among the public administration, environmental organisations and the public, through the following services:

- Co-ordination of representatives appointment into various interdisciplinary working groups, advisory government bodies and committees; the participation in these bodies represents a voice of involved expert public.
- Mediation of important information to its member organisations related especially to legislative issues (e. g. review/comments on proposals of new acts) and other social topics related to their activities. The Green Circle participates in the preparatory process and implementation of mutually agreed positions.
- Provision of eco counselling for the public (eco line: +420 222 518 352).

The Green Circle associates also the **Platform of Environmental NGOs** which consists not only of its members but also of other approximately 45 environmentally oriented NGOs. This Platform of Environmental NGOs is an informal association of organisations using information network primarily through e-mail conferences. The „*Specialised Platform Newsletter - Zpravodaj oborové platformy*“ is an electronic bulletin that provides news about the Environmental NGOs Platform activities. It is issued monthly and targets the broader expert members of the public.

The **Code of Ethics of Environmental Organisations** summarises essential ethical principles guiding activities of the environmental organisations and is binding automatically for all Green Circle members and optionally for the Platform of Environmental NGOs members. The organisations undertake within the **Code of Ethics** to build their credibility, openness and mutual co-operation and to avoid financial resources from the companies, which contribute to the deterioration of the environment. The Ethical Code is published on the Green Circle web pages:

www.zelenykruh.cz/cz/eticky-kodex.html.

The following NGOs are members of the Green Circle:

Arnika (www.arnika.org), Ateliér pro životní prostředí (www.atelier.ecn.cz), Beskydčan (www.raz-dva.cz/beskydcan), Bioinstitut, o.p.s (www.bioinstitut.cz), Brontosaurus Praha 7 (www.brontosauri.cz), Calla - Sdružení pro záchranu prostředí (www.calla.cz), Centrum pro dopravu a energetiku (www.cde.ecn.cz), Centrum SOS Praha (www.sosp Praha.cz), Děti Země (www.detizeme.cz), Econnect (www.ecn.cz), Ekologická společnost (tel.: 233 382 080), Ekologický právní servis (www.eps.cz), Greenpeace CZ (www.greenpeace.cz), Hnutí Brontosaurus (www.brontosaurus.cz), Hnutí Duha, (www.hnutiduha.cz), Konopa (www.konopa.cz), Liga ekologických alternativ (www.lea.ecn.cz), Oživení - Bohemian Greenways (www.oziveni.cz), Pražské matky (www.pmatky.ecn.cz), PRO-BIO - Svaz ekologických zemědělců (www.pro-bio.cz), Přátelé Jeseníků - SOJKA (www.sojka.jeseniky.org), Rosa - Společnost pro ekologické informace a aktivity (www.rosa.ecn.cz), Sdružení Jihočeské matky (www.jihoceskematky.cz), Sdružení Krajina (www.sdruzenikrajina.cz), SEVER - Středisko ekologické výchovy a etiky Rýchory (www.sever.ecn.cz), Společnost pro trvale udržitelný život (www.stuz.cz), Společnost pro zvířata (www.spolecnostprozvirata.cz)

WHAT ELSE DO WE DO?

- The Green Circle has for a long time been engaged in the issue of implementation of **Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**. For this purpose, the Green Circle operates the **www.ucastve-rejnosti.cz**, web pages that are designed as an information flow from NGOs to the public administration and as a database of both good and bad practices.
- The Green Circle and Hnutí DUHA (Friends of the Earth, Czech Republic) have established an APEL series, whose publications map new and only rarely discussed topics of environmental problems (e. g. impacts of truck transportation, Czech Footprint, etc.). These publications are created together with environmental specialists associated in the Platform of Environmental NGOs their summaries in English may be freely downloaded at <http://www.zelenykruh.cz/en/>
- We operate the **www.hraozemi.cz** web pages – signpost and source of information on sustainable development and the environment.

WHAT CAN WE OFFER?

- news on eco NGOs and their activities
- professional information and studies related to individual environmental topics
- counselling for the most sustainable life style
- documents and feedback for environmental education and training
- members contact data and information about their subject areas
- distribution of the electronic Specialised Platform Newsletter



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