

What is a green event?

An event that seeks to minimise its resource use and promote sustainable actions to reduce negative impacts on the environment.



Benefits

- Reduces costs and saves time
- Saves resources and reduces waste
- Fosters the local economy
- Enhances brand and public image
- Educates and motivates



Actions towards greening your events

Caloundra Music Festival BYO H2O



Caloundra Music Festival Reusable cup



Mooloolaba New Year's Eve – Glow stick bar

World Environment Day Solar Sunflower



Community Kit:

- SEMS – text book

Quick Guide

Quick Guide to Planning a Greening Event

Pick off one the easy wins and slowly work towards the challenges around:

- Communication
- Waste
- Food and beverage (catering)
- Energy
- Transport
- Purchasing and infrastructure

The most important thing is to have a go!

Community Kit:

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Greening Events Covers

COMMUNICATION

Engage stakeholders to play their part to support the event's sustainability goals.

Easy Wins

- Work with all stakeholders, the suppliers, organisers and attendees, stating your commitment to be an environmentally sustainable event
- Communicate electronically
- Choose green printing (post-consumer recycled paper, vegetable-based inks, double sided)

Challenges

- Use digital technology for signs and displays to reduce waste from one-off printed material
- Design promotional and display material for disassemble and reuse
- Advertise event as green/sustainable in all event promotions (make sure it is not greenwash)

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Greening Events Checklist

WASTE	
Consider choices that have a direct impact to reduce waste volumes, increase on-site waste separation and maximise waste diversion (reuse or recycling)	
Easy Wins	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce, reuse, or recycle event packaging by working with waste collectors and suppliers• Pair waste and recycling bins placing them approx. 12m apart• Use colour coded lids yellow (recycling) and red (general waste) to distinguish between waste bins• Ensure bins are regularly emptied• Clear signage so bottles and cans are properly recycled (limit contamination)• Say NO to single use plastic items:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Straws○ Disposable coffee cups○ Plastic bags○ Plastic bottle water○ Cutlery and serving ware○ Polystyrene	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop a waste management plan for the event• Compost organic waste (food waste)• Have volunteers as bin monitors (e.g. waste warriors) to reduce contamination• Container deposit system for the event to recover all containers for recycling• Arrange collection of unwanted usable food for charities (e.g. Oz Harvest)

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Greening Events Checklist

FOOD AND BEVERAGE (CATERING)

Source buying local, ethical, fair trade and sustainably.

Easy Wins	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source food that is local, fresh/seasonal, fair-trade• Avoid single serve containers for food and condiments (e.g. sugar, tomato sauce, salt, pepper)• Preference for reusable cups, crockery, cutlery alternatively use compostable packaging but minimise bio-plastics• Provide drinking stations or tap for water refills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainability agreements with vendors

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Greening Events Checklist

ENERGY

Look how energy is supplied at the event. What can be done to reduce the amount of energy consumed and to supply renewable produced energy?

Easy Wins	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Select venues with energy efficient measures in place for lighting and ventilation• Select energy efficient equipment for general and stage lighting and sound equipment• A 'switch-off' or 'power-down' policy is in place at the venue• Hold events in daylight hours to reduce artificial lighting requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use biofuel or solar generators instead of a petrol one• Source clean electricity from a supplier that is certified green power• Offsetting carbon emissions for the event• Measure and communicate the amount of kilowatts of energy used at the event• Hold a zero energy event where all energy is powered from renewables

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Greening Events Checklist

TRANSPORT

Consider how the participants travel to and from the event.

Easy Wins	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• List public transport options including walking, cycling and carpooling and include these on registration/booking process• Communicate identified cycling and walking paths to the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide shuttle services, car-pooling or bike valet• Provide public transport information with event promotion• Secure bike parking available• Develop incentives to encourage attendees to walk, cycle, use public transport or car pool• Offset transport emissions associated with the event• Electric vehicle charging stations are available

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Greening Events Checklist

PURCHASING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Make choices around products, materials and suppliers that make a strong statement on the events sustainability commitment by buying local, recyclable, fair-trade and sustainably.

Easy Wins	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Source food that is local, seasonal, ethical, fair-trade, healthy• Minimise giveaways that end up as waste e.g. glow sticks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the life cycle cost of merchandise, giveaways, delegate packs and goody bags• Create décor or other infrastructure from reused/reclaimed materials