

RESOURCE GUIDE

Sustainable Event stallholders Guidelines



This Resource Guide has been created to help stallholders participating in an event to reduce their impact on the Environment and consider sustainability aspects as much as possible.

A list of resources that will help in making each of these aspects sustainable has been collated here as a ready reckoner*.

Depending on the size and organisation of the event, some sections will not be adapted, just focus on what is possible to improve with your own resource.

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*** Disclaimer:** *This list is a starting point – there may be other suppliers. Inclusion of a supplier on this list does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation by Ku-ring-gai Council. Users of this resource list must make their own enquiries and conduct independent research about claims made by companies to determine the performance and potential applicability of a product or technology to their specific requirements.*

General Resources

- ▶ [Sustainable Event Alliance](#) (SEA) is the industry association for event organisers. The SEA offers event professionals a pathway to understanding sustainability issues in event planning and delivery. Members have access to the supplier database, how-to guides and professional development.
- ▶ [A Greener Festival](#) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to reducing the negative environmental impacts of music festivals/events. This UK-based site has links to festivals and resources all around the world.

Biodiesel generators

Biodiesel is a diesel fuel substitute made from vegetable oils or animal fats. Biodiesel generators are normal diesel generators that use biodiesel, either as a biodiesel blend or straight, as a fuel to generate electricity. Lighting towers and variable message boards can be powered by biodiesel or solar.

Those biodiesel generators that use 2nd generation cooking oils, or oils that are a by-product of other food processing or non-edible oilseeds, are preferable, to oil from food crops grown solely to produce oil.

- ▶ [PremiAir](#)
- ▶ [Southern Generator Hire](#)



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Catering

Food consumption and catering choices have significant social and environmental impacts, both locally and globally.

Key considerations include:

- ✓ How far has the food travelled to reach the event (that is, what are the food miles)? Is it [Australia Grown](#) or is it a [Product of Australia](#)?
- ✓ How will food waste be managed at the end of the event?
- ✓ Place napkins, sugar, salt, pepper, ketchup and others sauces and condiments in bulk instead of individual portions, in a free-access place instead of providing them automatically.
- ✓ Avoid plastic bottles, prefer a home-made juice jar for example, with washable cups
- ✓ Avoid plastic coffee stirrers, prefer wood stirrers or even better a washable spoon



'Ctrl + Click' on any of the logos on this page to learn more about Fairtrade, Certified Organic, Australian Made/Product of Australia/Australian Grown etc.

- ▶ [Animal cruelty free food](#)
- ▶ [Sustainable Seafood Guide](#)
- ▶ [Sustainable seafood product finder](#)
- ▶ [Fairtrade products](#)
- ▶ [Ethical consumer guide](#)
- ▶ [Avoiding food waste](#)
- ▶ [Healthy Catering Resources](#)



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Procurement

It is important to consider the type of equipment, products and materials you will use for the event, in terms of its impact on the environment.

Key sustainability considerations for the purchasing of equipment, products and materials include:

- ✓ Is the item really necessary in the running of the event – can you do without it? If you need it, think about something you will be able to reuse in the future.
- ✓ What is the item made of? Does it contain any toxic materials? Does it contain virgin materials and if so, where does it come from?
- ✓ How much energy and water is used in its production and to operate it?
- ✓ Can the packaging for pre-prepared food and beverages be reduced or a more sustainable alternative provided?
- ✓ Can the item be recycled or reused after the event?
- ✓ How will the item be disposed of at the end of its life?
- ✓ Avoid being a victim of greenwashing*. Be wary of claims that are vague and not supported by evidence, e.g. 'natural', 'green' or 'environment friendly'. Check for credible eco-certification by familiarising yourself with trusted [eco-labels, standards and certifications](#).



- ▶ [Find certified products](#)
- ▶ [Certified printers, timber and paper](#)

*Greenwash is the practice of making false, misleading and/or deceptive claims about the environmental practices of a company or the environmental attributes of its goods and/ or services.

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Food ware:

Food ware is a major single-use plastic source going to landfill at events. To reduce this amount, have you considered:

- ✓ Use washable serving ware, especially if there is a place where people can sit and eat
- ✓ To avoid the need of disposable ware, have you considered selling finger foods?
- ✓ If disposable items have to be used, prefer compostable items to biodegradable or degradable items, as **the two last** don't break down entirely in natural conditions. Compostable items are made from plant based materials and are compostable. Biodegradable items are also plant based but will degrade slower. Degradable products are made from petroleum, and cannot degrade completely, these items should be avoided.

▶ [Single-use Plastic alternatives Bye Bye Plastic resources](#)

Photo compostable ware?

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SINGLE USE MATERIALS

What's the difference between compostable, biodegradable and degradable? Which one should you be using?



MATERIAL	SOURCE / BASE INGREDIENT	DURABLE FOR PACKAGING	DISPOSAL METHOD	BIODEGRADABLE
Plastic	Petrochemicals	Yes	Ideally recycled usually landfill	No - remains plastic or breaks into micro-plastics (lasting forever)
Biodegradable or Bio-plastic	Plant cellulose / corn starch	Yes	Ideally Industrial composting usually landfill	Not without special industrial treatment
Bagasse	Sugar cane pulp	Yes	Can be industrially composted, often landfilled	Yes home compostable
Bamboo / Wood	Bamboo plantation	Yes	Can be home or industrially composted, often landfilled	Yes
Paper / Cardboard	Wood pulp/ recycled paper / trees	Limited, depends on usage & conditions	Can be recycled if not contaminated, can be composted	Yes
Home Compostable Packaging	Crustacean shell, mushroom fibre, seaweed	Intentionally yes, still being tested	Designed for home compost / to be highly degradable	Yes, designed to be highly degradable, will enrich soil



Dont forget, REUSABLE is best! #hellobyo



Accreditations & Certifications to look out for when purchasing

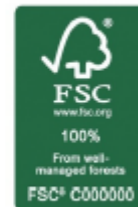
Bioplastics & Home Compost



Compostable
AS 4736
ABAX 9999



Home Compostable
AS 5810
ABAX 9999



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Waste management

The amount of waste is dependent on measures put in place to minimise waste to landfill and to maximise resource recovery and recycling. Depending on the level of recycling there will be at the event you can get organised to use the different bins as much as possible, and avoid sending waste to landfill.

- ✓ If the event organiser planned an organic waste collection you can have a special bin in your kitchen to collect any food kitchen scraps and food waste, and maybe oil waste if the organic waste company accepts them. Bring them to the organic bins at the end of the event.
- ✓ If an organic waste collection is available you can provide compostable ware to your customers, if accepted by the organic waste collection company.
- ✓ Choose packaging products recyclable or compostable, instead of hard to recycle plastics. Avoid foam.
- ✓ Avoid distributing plastic bags and straws. If you need to provide straws, choose paper options to compost. Don't give automatically straws and bags, wait for the customer to ask one if he really needs it.