

i Seven Tips to a Greener Event

Festivals and events can generate considerable amounts of waste. It can be costly and negatively impacts our environment.

This guide offers ways help green your event so that waste is minimized. Many of these suggestions can be adapted to events large or small. Of course, advance planning is key to successfully greening your event and taking steps to limit waste in the first place will go a long way towards reducing litter, cost, and the eco footprint of your festival or event!



1 Add a supervised recycling station

Without consistent monitoring of the waste stations there will most likely be a considerable amount of contamination of the various streams which could lead to all streams being landfilled.



2 Partner with a local charity

...for the collection of refundable beverage containers or donate the proceeds to a local group.



3 Ensure recycling bins are well marked

...to make it easy for people to understand what goes where. Pictures often help as no one wants to take the time to read.

Using compostable food ware is great but only if your municipality has a composting facility that can accept this material and if your recycler can take it to this facility. If the proper facility doesn't exist, consider re-usable or recyclable food ware.



Green Event Tip Sheet



4

For larger events with food vendors:

Make reusable, recyclable, or compostable food ware (cups, plates, bowls, cutlery, etc.) mandatory. Include this in the permitting process for all vendors serving food or drink.



5

Encourage festival goers to:

Bring reusable coffee mugs/water bottles or even their own food ware. Use reduced entry fees or food prices as an incentive.

Individually, one cup of coffee purchased every day in a disposable container contributes about 210.5kg of waste per year. SOURCE: IDEALBITE.COM
KEEP THE CAFÉ, CUT THE CUP



6

Avoid disposable plastic water bottles

Although plastic water bottles are recyclable, the bottling, packaging and shipping of billions of litres of bottled water leaves a large environmental burden world-wide. Instead, opt to provide water in jugs or try using a water cooler. Encourage attendees to bring a refillable bottle to further cut down on waste.



7

Make attempts to reduce paper use

...when advertising, printing brochures, pamphlets, schedules, program highlights or tickets. If some printing is necessary, try to use 100% post-consumer recycled paper.

Need help greening your event?

We provide full event greening services including:

Bins and signage ▶ **Green event planning & procurement** ▶ **Onsite services including volunteer training** ▶ **Coordination of your recycling needs**

Contact us for a quote or just to ask how you can make your next event a greener one!

www.greencalgary.org

100, 301-14th St NW Calgary, AB, T2N 2A1
403-230 1443 ex 222 | info@greencalgary.org

[@greencalgary](https://www.instagram.com/greencalgary) [find us on facebook](https://www.facebook.com/greencalgary)