



Energy & Environment Commission



Designing a Sustainable Events Protocol

2014 Rhode Island Compost Conference

Salve Regina University

Newport, Rhode Island



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Mission of the Commission:

Advise the Council and Educate the Public on energy-efficiency & renewable energy measures and the environment to foster a more sustainable community



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Commission Priorities

- Energy Efficiency in City Assets
- Sustainability & Waste Reduction
- Alternative Modes of Transportation
- Renewable Energy & Sustainable Infrastructure
- Environmental Education in Schools
- Public Environmental Awareness & Education in Media



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Can we make RI
events sustainable?

What does the public want?





Sustainable Survey Results

- I would separate my waste at public events/festivals if separate bins were provided

80% **Strongly Agree**

11% Agree

6% Not sure

0% Disagree

3% Strongly Disagree



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Sustainable Survey Results

- Festivals and Events should implement sustainable practices, such as recycling and composting

80% **Strongly Agree**

12% Agree

3% Not sure

0% Disagree

0% Strongly disagree



Sustainable Survey Results

- I would travel by public transportation to a festival/public event if it was cheaper than parking

58% **Strongly Agree**

16% Agree

20% Not sure

3% Disagree

4% Strongly disagree



Sustainable Survey Results

- I would accept an increased ticket price for an event or festival if it was used for improving environmental performance, reducing carbon footprint and recycling waste.

30% Strongly agree

25% Agree

36% **Not sure**

7% Disagree

2% Strongly disagree



Sustainable Survey Results

- The Festival did a good job of promoting and advertising sustainable measures taken today.

30% Strongly Agree

46% **Agree**

13% Not sure

10% Disagree

2% Strongly disagree



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Sustainable Survey Results

- I recycled/composted all of my recyclable/compostable waste at the Festival.

47% **Strongly agree**
30% Agree
17% Not sure
4% Disagree
2% Strongly disagree



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Sustainable Survey Results

- How did you arrive at today's event?

Car	87
Boat	29
Bike	12
Pubic Transit	5
Walk	0



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Sustainable Events: How to host One?

- Event Planning
- Waste Management
- Energy Efficiency
- Water Conservation
- Pollution Prevention
- Transportation
- Environmental Education
- Food
- Other Initiatives





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Sustainable Events Protocol Checklist

Newport Sustainable Events Protocol			Event Name			Date			
DRAFT 7/19/12									
Event Checklist		Y	?	N	Event Checklist		Y	?	N
1. Event Planning					4. Water conservation				
B	Adopt an environmental sustainability policy*	Y			G	Water conserving fixtures			
B	Establish a Green Team to Implement Plan	Y			G	Auto shut-off sinks			
B	Maintain environmental records to share	Y							
B	Appropriate personnel are participants in success								
B	Lodging facilities are certified in DEM green								
2. Waste Management					5. Pollution Prevention				
B	Develop a Trash Reduction & Recycling Plan*	Y			B	Prominently display sustainability policy	Y		
B	Provide convenient, right sized recycling bins	Y			B	Property/event shall use paper with 30% post			
B	Recycle corrugated cardboard				B	Property/event shall use paper with 50% post			
S	Use at least 25% durable/compostable products				P	Property/event shall use paper with 75% post			
G	Use at least 50% durable/compostable products				B	Machine default setting is duplex			
P	Use at least 75% durable/compostable products				G	Plan for purchasing of energy efficient products			
G	Eliminate single use bottles				B	Use Green seal cleaning materials or similar			
G	Require reusable water bottles				G	Use Energy Star equipment			
G	Provide water refilling stations				P	Promotional materials submitted in an electronic format			
P	Sign up for EPA Food Recovery Challenge				P	Purchase supplies in bulk & avoid single use type product			
P	Conduct food waste assessment (part of EPA program above)				P	Purchase low VOC paints			
3. Energy					6. Transportation				
B	Use energy efficient indoor & outdoor lighting 50%				B	Provide hybrid vehicles for the event			
S	Use energy efficient indoor & outdoor lighting 75%				B	Provide secure bike storage			
G	Use energy efficient indoor & outdoor lighting 100%				S	Hold the event in a walkable neighborhood			
S	Purchase clean/renewable electricity for 50% needs				S	Educate drivers to maximize fuel economy			
G	Purchase clean/renewable electricity for 75% needs				P	Car-pooling by at least 10% of employees/ staff			
P	Purchase clean/renewable electricity for 100% needs				P	Use of RIPTA by at least 10% of attendees/ staff			
P	Use of programmable timers/sensors in low occupancy areas				P	Use of shuttle between transportation station and location			
P	Use low emission or alternative fuel generators								
P	Use natural light or daylight dimming sensor								

Newport Sustainable Events Protocol - 2									
DRAFT 7/19/12									
Event Checklist		Y	?	N	Event Checklist		Y	?	N
7. Environmental Education					8. Food				
S	Display & Maintain environmental information*				S	Serve locally grown & harvested food 25%			
					G	Serve locally grown & harvested food 50%			
					G	Purchase food from "Trace & Trust" & "WildRhody"			
					G	Purchase 75% of food from "Trace & Trust" & "WildRhody"			
					G	Participate in the RIDH "Serving Healthy Foods" program			
					P	Serve only the "Best Choice" fish			
					9. Other Initiatives				

point subtotal column one _____
 point subtotal column two _____
 point subtotal this column _____
 point total _____



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How to Start this in Your City or Town?

- **Public Works.....**
- **Contact your Recycling Coordinator**
- **Start with Municipal events**
 - Establish relationships with events**



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Sustainable Events Partners

- The Newport Energy and Environment Commission
- RI Department of Environmental Management
- Newport Clean City Program
- Sailors for the Sea
- Bike Newport
- Newport Harbor Corporation
- Rhode Island Clean Water Action
- Rogers High School Green Team
- RI Resource and Recovery Corporation
- RI Surfriders Foundation 2012 Luau
- Newport 2012-2014 Newport Saint Patrick's Day Parade



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Sustainable Events Partners

- Newport Film
- Clean Ocean Access
- Discover Newport
- Sustainable Aquidneck
- People's Power and Light
- Bridgefest 2013-2014
- Newport Storm
- Citizens Run
- Newport County Chamber of Commerce
- Festa Italiano
- New England Sustainable School Summit
- RI Environmental Educators Association



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Sustainable Events Partners

- 2012 Champlain Place Block Party
- The 2012-2014 Atlantic Cup
- 1993-2013 Newport Folk and Jazz Festivals
- 2012 Champlan Place Block Party
- Brick Alley Pub
- Newport Fifth Ward Little Leaguers
- Green Envy Eco-Boutique
- The Met School Green Team
- Aqua Boutique
- Newport Youth Rugby
- Channing Church



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2013 Events

- St. Pat's Parade
- Newport Film
- The Atlantic Cup
- Bike Newport/Father's day
- Newport Folk Festival
- Newport Jazz Festival
- Clean Ocean Access Volunteer Party
- Bridegfest
- Festa Italiano
- Citizen Run





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Case Study Partner: Newport Folk & Jazz Festivals





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2013 Folk & Jazz Festival

120 Volunteers over 5 days

4.12 tons recycled material

1381 pounds composted material

2.71 tons recycled at the Folk Festival

1.50 tons recycled at the Jazz Festival

956 pounds composted at the Folk Festival

425 pounds composted at the Jazz Festival





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Case Study Partner:

NewportFILM





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NewportFILM

- - Recycling bins in the office
- - Recycling on-site at events (25-30/year)
- - Carry-in, carry-out policy at Outdoor events
- - Educate volunteers, interns & staff about recycling/composting at events so the message can be properly relayed to guests
- - Proper signage at events for how/where to recycle
- - Partnering on Green Screen events with like-minded organizations to forward mutual missions & spread the word further
- - Bike valet with Bike Newport at Outdoor events
- - For the most part, no paper plates & cutlery. Occasional glassware
- - Bringing Crystal Spring water jugs to events where people can fill their own water bottles or use our compostable cups
- - Sell & distribute some eco-friendly merchandise



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NewportFILM

Uses People's Power & Light to off-set the energy used at film events, and have created a partnership in 2014 for them to do each "Green Screen" event

Compostable cups. These are a blessing and a curse

Partner with Sustainable Aquidneck to compost at a few events



Next Steps: Focusing on Recycling

- A. Where else do Events Recycle?
- B. Event Criteria
- C. Compliance
- D. Disposal Options



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Where else do Events Recycle?

Connecticut, San Diego, San Antonio,
Minneapolis, Madison,



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Event Criteria: All events that apply for a Special Events License must recycle.

It's the law in RI.



Compliance: Best Practices

Evidence of a Waste Plan

Number of Waste Bins = Number of Recycling Bins

Recycling Bins are placed next to Waste Bins

Signage defines recyclable materials

Report to City on disposal: Where did the recyclable material go?



Disposal Options

- A. Carry in and Carry Out
- B. Caterer or Food Vendors Carry Out with waste
- C. Contracted Waste Hauler removes recycling

How Can we Help? Want more materials?

