



# Planning and Running Sustainable Events in Newport: Resource List for Event Organizers

*Prepared by the Newport Energy and Environment Commission and  
Newport's Clean City Program  
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## First steps: Planning your event and building your Green Team

Starting to build your sustainable plan: [Taking your first steps to your sustainable event](#).

[Event Sustainability Tool](#): This online tool has been designed to support event managers working to create a sustainable event. The tool includes measurement check-lists, communication templates and industry best practice advice.

View sample policies and guidelines for events [from CalRecycle](#).

Building your Green Team is a critical part of planning for sustainability. Identifying personnel to be your green ambassador will set your stage for real results.

Here are a few ways to organize your Green Team:

- ✓ Greenbiz.com has great information on the Future of Green Teams and their 10 Best Practices for Building Green Teams (<http://www.greenbiz.com/blog/2009/12/07/10-best-practices-building-green-teams>).
- ✓ Use this URL below from The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability as a foundation for starting a new green team, or for improving an existing one. ([http://sustainabilityatworkpdx.com/downloads/GreenTeamGuide\\_2012.pdf](http://sustainabilityatworkpdx.com/downloads/GreenTeamGuide_2012.pdf))

Sustainable hotels are all around Newport. [Click here](#) to view the Rhode Island DEM Green Certified Lodging Facilities listings. Also, one can find an assortment of Hotel Mission Statements by typing in the URL below. (<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2010/03/18/environmental-mission-statements-a-list-of-hotel-sustainability-policies>)

## Waste Management in Newport and Rhode Island

For steps to developing and implementing a trash reduction & recycling plan, [click here](#).

The City of Newport's Clean City Program may be able to help you with recycling with our Lend-a-bin program. Up to 75 ClearStream event recycling bins are available to borrow through this program, through a grant from Keep America Beautiful & the Anheuser-Busch Foundation. The Clean City Program may also be able to help you recycle the materials collected at your event. Visit the [Clean City Program website](#) for more information. The Clean City Program can also provide a list of licensed solid waste haulers, who may be able to provide recycling services to your event.

## Compost Hauling

[ecoRI Public Works](#): Collects compostables on a small scale, thereby creating nutrient-rich topsoil and reducing the amount of food scrap being needlessly buried in the Central Landfill.

PF Trading (<http://www.pftrading.com>) is a compost hauling company in southeastern Massachusetts. They will deliver 96 gallon compost bins to an event, then pick them up and haul them away after for a flat rate of \$18/bin. PF Trading can accept food scraps of any type, napkins, greasy cardboard from pizza boxes, compostable plates, cups, and utensils including plastic-style corn-based compostables. PF Trading reminds you that “biodegradable” kitchen ware does not mean compostable. Phone: 1-800-509-9374. Email: [paul@pftrading.com](mailto:paul@pftrading.com).

## Leftover Food

Chances are you are going to have food leftover when your event ends. Donate it to a local group that can use it, such as the [RI Food Bank](#) or the [Food Recovery Network](#). Leftover food can also be donated to McKinney Lodge at Washington Square in Newport and the [Newport Boys and Girls Club](#). Otherwise, we suggest composting it.

## Pollution Prevention: Reducing Waste and Toxins

When shopping for supplies for your event, look for a sustainability statement

Green Paper Products (<http://greenpaperproducts.com>) and Gordon Food Service (<http://www.gfs.com/en/products/product-categories/disposables.page>) manufacture environmentally friendly paper products. [Click to view an arrangement of EPA Greener Products](#).

[Click Here](#) to view a guide for buying eco friendly cleaning supplies and visit the [Environmentally Preferable Purchasing \(EPP\) Website](#) for contacts and resources on greening your purchase of cleaning products and a list of [Environmentally Friendly Vendors](#).

Other helpful links: [Green Seal Product list](#) and [Energy Star Product List](#)

## Transportation

### Bike Newport

Bicycles are green! Help reduce traffic and improve the Newport experience by encouraging visitors to bike to your event. A bike-friendly event includes Park 'N' Bike sites, maps with bike routes, adequate bike parking and perhaps bike valet. Bike Newport can help you reach and serve cyclists, and connect with bike-friendly businesses. Contact Bike Newport [Bike Newport](#) at 401-619-4900 or [info@bikenewportri.org](mailto:info@bikenewportri.org) to get your event on the bike-friendly radar screen.

### Bike Rentals in Newport

The Newport Bike Kiosk website (<http://www.newportbikekiosk.com>) is a comprehensive website about biking in Newport. The "Bike Shops" tab lists all local bike rental shops in Newport.

### **Getting to Newport by Pubic Transportation**

Encourage your guests to carpool or use Public Transportation. Leaving the car at home is easy if you follow this link: <http://www.gonewport.com/getting-here>

Bus service to many Newport sites is available from the Rhode Island Public Transit Authority (RIPTA). Get in touch with RIPTA on their website ([www.ripta.com](http://www.ripta.com)) or by calling (401) 781-9400. Please note: Newport buses start and end at the Gateway Center. Fares are \$2 with 1-day, weekly, and monthly passes are available as well.

The bus lines found in Newport are as follows:

1. The #60 Newport-Providence line provides frequent service, about 43 trips each way weekdays, which in Providence ends in Kennedy Plaza with access to intercity buses and Amtrak and MBTA commuter trains;
2. The #63 Purple Line serves the north end, along Broadway, Admiral Kalbfus Road, Connell and Coddington Highways to Newport Grand and Middletown shopping centers;
3. The #64 Newport-URI line also serves CCRI-Newport, Jamestown, the Route 1A park-and-ride, URI Bay and Kingston campuses, and the Kingston Amtrak train station;
4. The #67 Yellow Line serves Bellevue Avenue mansions, Salve Regina University, Cliff Walk access, the Tennis Hall of Fame, Newport Art Museum, Redwood Library and Touro Synagogue.

### **Events at Sea**

[Sailors for the Sea](#) is an ocean conservation non-profit that educates and engages the boating community in the worldwide protection of the oceans. [Sailors for the Sea's Clean Regattas](#) program is a third party certification that helps regattas, yacht clubs and sailing programs voluntarily achieve higher environmental standards. More information, resources and materials can be found [here](#).

### **Sustainable Food Choices**

Ocean State Fresh (<http://oceanstatefresh.com>) is a Rhode Island organization that promotes local fishermen and is committed to the distribution of fresh local seafood products to local consumers.

Farm Fresh Rhode Island is growing a local food system that values the environment, health and quality of life of RI farmers and eaters. They publish a [Rhode Island Local Food Guide](#).

Trace & Trust (<http://traceandtrust.com>) is a membership organization connecting producers who take pride in what they raise with chefs who take pride in what they serve.

Wild Rhody (<http://www.wildrhodyseafood.com/>) is looking to find a new way to offer the freshest seafood to area restaurants, supermarkets and other businesses, and to also give consumers more transparency and insight into what they are eating and where it came from.

[Best Choice Fish Seafood Watch Regional Guides](#) contain the latest information on sustainable seafood choices available in different regions of the U.S. Our "Best Choices" are abundant, well managed and

fished or farmed in environmentally friendly ways. Seafood to "Avoid" are overfished and/or fished or farmed in ways that harm other marine life or the environment.

## Packaging, Plate, Cups, and Utensils

The best way to keep waste out of the landfill at any event is to use real cups, plates, and utensils. If you cannot use real dinnerware, consider getting compostable plates, cups, and utensils; these items will make your event much greener. In that case, make sure they get composted; they are not a greener alternative if they end up in the landfill. Now that Rhode Island has a new recycling system, you can also consider buying Solo-style plastic cups and plates, which can be recycled now. Plastic utensils are still considered trash. For an example of compostable products, [click here](#).

### Consider the following vendors:

Taylor Rentals A&G  
Contact: (401) 846 6100  
[tom.taylorrental@yahoo.com](mailto:tom.taylorrental@yahoo.com)  
1139 Aquidneck Ave. Middletown, RI 02842

Quality Rental  
Contact: <http://qualityrental.com>, 401-723-5555, [Shelly@qualityrentals.com](mailto:Shelly@qualityrentals.com)  
Location: North Providence and Pawtucket

RI Rental  
Contact: <http://www.rirental.com>,  
[DawnB@rirental.com](mailto:DawnB@rirental.com), 401-738-9731  
Location: 111 Plan Way Warwick RI 02886

Rentals Unlimited  
Contact: [ssousa@rentals-unlimited.net](mailto:ssousa@rentals-unlimited.net)  
781-341-1600 x4561  
<http://www.rentals-unlimited.net>  
Location: 45aa Tosca Dr., Stoughton, MA (HQ & warehouse), Providence & Newport (showrooms)

Whole Foods on N. Main St. in Providence carries a line of compostable plates, bowls, and utensils from a company called World Centric. Alternatively, you can shop online for reasonably priced compostable kitchenware at Vegware (CT) or Branch (CA) at [www.branchhome.com](http://www.branchhome.com), or order online and pick up in person at Staples. Staples does not stock the eco kitchen products in their stores but can usually have them there the next day and charges no shipping for in-store pick-up.

Jennifer Rose Packaging Solutions: This Providence, RI based distributor offers a complete line of compostable, tableware, including cups, bowls, plates, utensils and take-out containers, for both hot and cold applications. They also offer a complete line of trash liners and bags, made from bio-plastic. Contact: [Pauld@eco-friendlypackaging.com](mailto:Pauld@eco-friendlypackaging.com), subject line: "inquiry." [www.eco-friendlytableware.com](http://www.eco-friendlytableware.com).

number1package.com: Rhode Island-based Packaging 2.0 offers a new line called number1package™, including clamshell style containers that are clear, strong, and durable and keep foods fresh. The containers are made from 100 percent recycled PET (polyethylene terephthalate) clear or green soda bottles (the only company to offer this in the northeast). Clamshells carried by Toppa's Food Service (<http://www.toppasfoodservice.com>) in Middletown.

### **Soda Bottles and Cans**

Yacht Club ([www.yachtclubsoda.com](http://www.yachtclubsoda.com)) is made locally and will take back and reuse their glass bottles. If Yacht Club is not an option, avoid having individual soda bottles and cans at your event. Instead purchase 2 liter bottles because larger containers mean cheaper prices and less waste. Using

one reusable/disposable/recyclable/compostable cup during an event is much more environmentally friendly than recycling 2 or 3 soda cans.

### **Beer Bottles and Cans**

Try to avoid beer bottles and cans by having kegs at your event instead. With a keg, a person can continue to fill one cup throughout an event instead of going through two, three, or four bottles. If you do not get a keg, opt for beer cans over bottles, since the material is lighter to ship and less hazardous to event attendees. RI-based breweries Gray Sail and Newport Storm sell their beer in cans.

### **Water Bottles**

If the municipal tap water is safe to drink, save money on bottled water by filling up a few pitchers at the sink. If not, try to avoid having individual water bottles at your event. Buy gallon jugs of water, and then pour it into (refillable) cups. [Click here](#) to view alternatives to bottled water.

Zip 2 Water Systems (<http://www.zip2water.com>) dispense an unlimited supply of fresh, pure drinking water at outdoor athletic fields, job sites and community events. Their patent pending system ensures proper hydration without the expense and litter of disposable water bottles.

### **Portable toilets**

Everyone is getting on the Green bandwagon, even the Port-O-Potty companies. Port-O-Potties generally use a whole bunch of unsafe chemicals, but many companies are offering safer alternative.

### **Energy Conservation and Greening Your Electricity**

You can match your event's energy needs with People's Power & Light's New England Wind ([www.ripower.org/greenevent](http://www.ripower.org/greenevent)). In addition to greening events, People's Power & Light's staff will often attend events to educate people about their green electricity programs. Seth Steinman is the contact to green your event's electricity. Main: 401-861-6111 x202. Email: [seth@ripower.org](mailto:seth@ripower.org)

### **Questions?**

The City of Newport & the Newport Energy & Environment Commission are here to help you run a sustainable event successfully. Please contact us at [cleancity@cityofnewport.com](mailto:cleancity@cityofnewport.com) or at (401) 845-5642. Our website may also answer some questions for you: [www.cityofnewport.com/cleancity](http://www.cityofnewport.com/cleancity).

**Don't forget to fill out the Sustainable Event Protocol checklist  
and send it to the Clean City Program after your event!**

*Thank you for making your event in Newport a sustainable one!*