GREENING EVENTS AT TULANE
Eight Easy Ways to Make Your Events More Sustainable

By Cheyenne Ligon
Office of Sustainability Intern
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1: PROVIDE RECYCLING AT YOUR EVENT

- This is the first step towards making your event more sustainable! Having recycling bins available encourages attendees to recycle and promotes a spirit of sustainability.
- For small events where “do-it-yourself” recycling is possible, please contact the Office of Sustainability, which has bottle and can bins available for you to use at your event, and then pick up and return.
- For large events, please request recycling bins from Facility Services when you request trash cans.
This is an example of what you can borrow from the Office of Sustainability in Richardson 107!

Here’s a Hint: In a pinch, you can always borrow a nearby recycling bin from somewhere in your building. Just don’t forget to put it back when done!
OPT FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD CHOICES

- When possible, choose vegetarian options—this cuts down on carbon emissions (and usually saves money).
- Choose a food vendor that offers locally-sourced foods. Don’t be afraid to ask where your food will be coming from. The ideal distance is no more than 250 miles traveled.
REDUCE WASTE

• If cups and plates are necessary, please choose products made from plastics 1 and 2, which can be recycled here on campus. Products made from other types of plastic, like Solo cups and Styrofoam are unable to be recycled.
• Just a reminder: unless composting is available, choosing compostable dishware is not the most sustainable option. Reducing single-use items is!
• If ordering through Sodexo, you can request china, glassware, and silverware in catering orders.
• Provide beverages in reusable pitchers, and encourage attendees to bring their own water bottles and cups when possible.
• Finger foods are an easy option that don’t require plates, forks, spoons, etc.
Here’s A Hint: If you will be using plastic cups, aim to choose cups that are made from plastics 1 and 2. These are recyclable!

Solo Cups are made from plastic #6, which is not recyclable on Tulane’s campus.
MINIMIZE PRINTED MATERIALS

• This applies to both handouts passed out at events, and printed advertisements for events. Instead of printed handouts, instead aim to distribute information through electronic means, such as social media, OrgSync, and emails.

• Events can also be publicized through tabling and advertisements on the numerous flat-screen TVs throughout campus.

• If printing is unavoidable, try to choose recycled paper and vegetable-based inks.

• If you have an outdated, printed banner, a local group can make cool recycled things from it
  • Repurposing Nola Piece by Piece
CUT DOWN ON FREEBIES!

- Save money and resources by cutting down on giveaway items given to attendees.
- If promotional items must be given away, choose items that are durable and reusable.
- Bonus points if the item promotes sustainability, like stainless steel water bottles or travel cups!
CHOOSE NATURAL AND REUSABLE DECOR!

• If your event requires decoration, make sustainable choices by choosing natural and reusable decor, which cuts down on waste and saves money!
• If you want to use flowers, try to choose flowers that are locally-sourced and in-season.
  • Farmer’s markets are a great place to look for local flowers.
CONSERVE ENERGY

• If your event is in the daytime, try to use as much natural light as possible to cut down on energy usage.
• For nighttime events, make sure all lights are turned off when the event is over.
PROMOTE YOUR SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

• It might seem simple, but it goes a long way to let attendees know what steps you’ve put into making the event more sustainable!
• Promoting the eco-friendliness of your event fosters a campus-wide spirit of sustainability!
QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?

Suggestions on tips?
How can we best share this with your student organizations?
What can we do to help you?
THANK YOU! (AND RESOURCES)

Contact Info:
- recycle@tulane.edu
- Or Liz Davey
  - ldavey@tulane.edu

You can find us in Richardson Building, suite 107
ACROSS FROM ADVISING

More Recycling and Greening Info Can Be Found at:
green.tulane.edu
recycle.tulane.edu
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