

Sustainable Event Suggestions



If you're looking for some ways to make your events more environmentally friendly, check out some of the following suggestions. Remember, sustainability is a journey; it's not about being perfect, it's about making the best decision you can at the time. Every little bit helps! The Park District appreciates you taking the time to consider joining the GreenPath journey.

INVITATIONS

- Consider email invitations, resources like Evite and punchbowl are free to use.
- If mailing, print double sided, use recycled paper, request RSVPs by phone or email, use up to date addresses, and print address directly on the envelope.

TRANSPORTATION

- Encourage carpooling or offer a shuttle.
- Provide attendees with public transportation options.

DECORATIONS AND GIVEAWAYS

- Reuse decorations from past events and opt for reusable decorations.
- Provide attendees with public transportation options.
- Encourage guests to take home decorations for reuse.
- Consider not providing giveaways/goodie bags.
- If supplying giveaways/goodie bags, opt for reusable, useful, or consumable items.

HANDOUTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Avoid handouts where possible, share digital copies of agendas, action items, meeting notes, etc. with participants.
- Print handouts double sided and on recycled paper. Encourage recycling of materials afterwards.

BEVERAGES

- Opt for gallon size beverages over individual plastic bottles.
- Opt for cans over plastic for single-serve beverages and recycle.
- Opt for reusable cups rather than disposable, opt for paper over plastic disposable cups.

DISHWARE/UTENSILS

- Opt for compostable or paper options over plastic, even if they are thrown away.
- Use reusable dishes and utensils where possible - most caterers only require you rinse everything before returning it.

FOOD

- Opt for bulk condiments instead of individual packets.
- Choose large trays of sandwiches, salads, etc. over individualized boxes.
- Look for local, organic, sustainably grown food options and caterers.

WASTE

- Encourage recycling by guests and caterers. Proper recycling includes rinsing and emptying containers.
- Encourage guests to bring home leftovers or donate leftover food.

If you have any other suggestions to add to this list, please contact planning@pdhp.org.