

# Better practices guide for events

Events can provide significant social and economic benefits and there are many ways to reduce their impact on the environment. These tips and tools can help make your event more sustainable and reduce costs.

- Landfill
- Recycling
- Organics
- Zero waste

	NOT RECOMMENDED <span style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">✗</span>	BETTER	BEST (Zero waste) <span style="color: lightgreen; font-weight: bold;">✔</span>
 <b>Coffee cups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Take away coffee cup</li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Plastic lid</li> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Polystyrene cup <i>(now banned in Victoria)</i></li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Compostable takeaway cup made from plant based fibres (eg. sugar cane) <i>*Made from plant-based materials although can't be recycled or composted in Moira.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> BYO reusable cup</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Supply washable and reusable cups</li> </ul> 
 <b>Cups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">●</span> Plastic cups (soft drinks, milkshakes, smoothies)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">●</span> Takeaway cup made from unbleached cardboard without plastic or wax lining <i>*Plastic lid optional</i></li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> BYO reusable cup</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Supply washable and reusable cups</li> </ul> 
 <b>Drinking water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: yellow;">●</span> Plastic water bottles</li> </ul> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Reusable bottles</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Tap water 'tap is best'</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Hydrating stations/water trailers (Contact North East Water and Goulburn Valley Water)</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Benchtop water dispenser with reusable cups</li> </ul> 
 <b>Straws</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Plastic straws <i>(now banned in Victoria)</i></li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Paper straws</li> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Reusable straw</li> </ul> <p>Give straws only when requested</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> No straws</li> </ul> 
 <b>Stirring sticks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Plastic stirring stick <i>(now banned in Victoria)</i></li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Wooden sticks which can be composted</li> <li><span style="color: green;">●</span> Edible sticks made from flour and water that can be eaten or composted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Supply washable and reusable teaspoons</li> </ul> 
 <b>Plates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Plastic plates <i>(now banned in Victoria)</i></li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: red;">●</span> Plates made from plant based fibres (eg. bamboo) <i>*Made from plant-based materials although can't be recycled or composted in Moira.</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: lightgreen;">○</span> Supply reusable and washable plates</li> </ul> 



	NOT RECOMMENDED 	BETTER	BEST (Zero waste) 
 <b>Cutlery</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plastic cutlery (now banned in Victoria)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cutlery made from plant based fibres (eg. bamboo)</li> <li>*Made from plant-based materials although can't be recycled or composted in Moira. Edible cutlery made from flour and water. Can be eaten or composted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Supply reusable and washable cutlery</li> </ul> 
 <b>Food containers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Polystyrene packaging (now banned in Victoria)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Compostable packaging made from plant-based fibres</li> <li>*Made from plant-based materials although can't be recycled or composted in Moira.</li> <li>● Cardboard boxes</li> <li>● Paper bags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Encourage BYO containers and bags</li> <li>○ Supply reusable and washable plates and bowls</li> </ul> 
 <b>Condiments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Single serve condiments (such as tomato sauce, tartare sauce and milk)</li> </ul> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reusable bulk dispensers</li> </ul> 
 <b>Bags</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Single-use plastic bags (now banned in Victoria)</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reusable bags made from polypropylene or PET plastic</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reusable bags made from sustainable material such as Boomerang bags <a href="http://www.boomerangbags.org">www.boomerangbags.org</a></li> </ul> 
 <b>Produce bags</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Plastic produce bags</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Cardboard boxes</li> <li>● Paper bag</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reusable produce bag</li> </ul> 
 <b>Produce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Unseasonal imported produce</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seasonal produce</li> <li>*Guides such as <a href="http://sustainabletable.org.au">sustainabletable.org.au</a> make it easy to know what is in season and when</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Locally sourced seasonal produce</li> </ul> 
 <b>Balloons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Balloons, especially helium – including biodegradable balloons</li> <li>● Balloon releases</li> </ul> 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reusable bunting, bubbles, ribbons or plant a tree</li> </ul> 
 <b>Waste disposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Only landfill bins provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Landfill bins provided; and</li> <li>● Recycling bins provided</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Landfill bins provided; and</li> <li>● Recycling bins provided; and</li> <li>● Organic or composting for food waste offered</li> <li>+ Waste disposal education signage</li> </ul>