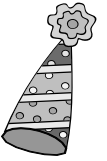


Clean Ocean Action's 10 Tips For Party Planning



- 1. Avoid disposables.** Use reusable cups, plates, utensils, tablecloths and napkins. If you rarely entertain at home, use a party rental business. All disposables generate toxins, deplete resources, and fill our landfills.
- 2. Limit driving distances.** For your special event consider a venue within a reasonable distance of your guests. If that isn't possible, look into ride-sharing options, carpooling, or renting a vehicle. For events with ceremonies and receptions find facilities in close proximity to each other or one multi-use facility.
- 3. Conserve energy.** Keep energy usage to a minimum. Use natural lighting or when necessary use light - emitting diode (LED) lighting. When possible, choose caterers and rental facilities who use renewable energy sources.
- 4. Stash the butts.** Be sure to have proper and accessible smoking receptacles or ash trays outdoors to prevent guests from flicking their cigarette butts into the environment.
- 5. Look for local food.** The further food travels the greater the pollution from fossil fuels. Support local growers, enjoy fresh farmers markets, and choose in-season fruits, veggies, flowers, and decorations throughout the year.
- 6. Party with a purpose.** Themed parties are great for children and adults. Build your party around a Beach Sweep or other eco-friendly activity. Beach Sweeps can be used as scavenger hunts and contests. Eco-friendly prizes such as reusable water bottles can be awarded.



over please

7. Give back to the earth. Give your friends and family "green" favors, such as plants or "adopted" endangered species or make a donation to your favorite charity on their behalf. Favors from nature will never sit in a landfill.

8. Educate your caterer and urge other vendors to learn about the benefits of using environmentally-friendly products, from cleaners to packaging and printing. It's good business, marketing, and public relations.

9. Post-consumer paper invitations or electronic invites are the way to go to save resources. Many colors and soy or water-based inks are available if paper invitations are your preference.

10. Go vintage. Find truly unique formalwear in thrift stores and consignment boutiques. From weddings to halloween costumes, recycled wear is chic and thrifty.

Non-point source or "pointless" pollution is the #1 cause of coastal water pollution. This pollution has many sources, including stormwater runoff that carries litter, pet waste, fertilizers, pesticides, soil, and waste from leaky sewage systems into waterways. Every time it rains polluted stormwater travels to the nearest storm drain or waterbody that ultimately drains to the ocean. Though people and their everyday habits are often the source of pollution, we can easily become the solution. By making small changes we can make our ocean fishable, swimmable, and healthy.

For more information and the complete 10 Tip Series visit:



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