

Green Parties Aren't Just for St. Patrick's Day

Planning

- Determine if your party is going to have a theme. Examples: Olympics, International Foods, Flags, etc.
- Send E-invites when possible, invitation with recycled paper content or paper with wildflower seeds.
- Plan your menu to use locally grown foods. Examples: Shish-ka-bobs with veggies from your garden, home made ice-cream (seasonal fruit) using a hand cranked churn.

Preparation

- Patronize grocery stores that do not use plastic bags and encourage reusable totes (some stores give rebates for using totes).
- Decorate with flowers in season, wild flowers or potted plants to send home with guests.
- Save energy while setting the mood. Use light dimmers, candles or oil lamps for ambience.
- Decorate with paper decorations vs. balloons or if using plastic, save them for the next similar event.
- Use cloth table cloths and napkins.
- Use Washable tableware such as china, glass or wooden plates. Use bamboo plates and compost them.
- Use "real" (metal) flatware, bamboo tableware or compostable wheat, corn or sugarcane based tableware.
- Use real glassware.
- Purchase items in bulk quantities to reduce packaging waste.
- Buy items in recyclable bottles or cans when possible.
- Place recycling containers in conspicuous places so guests can find them easily. Hide trash cans to discourage use.
- Will you need nametags? Be creative and have them reflect the theme.

Menu

- Season foods with organic herbs from your garden.
- Use bamboo (renewable resource) cutting boards instead of plastic (petroleum-based) ones, use tempered glass for meat to reduce bacteria.
- Choose metal Shish-ka-bob skewers over wooden ones. Compost wooden ones.
- Offer water in glass pitchers instead of plastic bottles.
- Use growlers or kegs for beer instead of aluminum or glass bottles to reduce waste.
- If using wine-in-a-box to reduce packaging waste, reuse the empty inside plastic wine bags to freeze water for coolers. Recycle the cardboard box.

PARTY and Have lots of FUN!!!!!!

Post Event

- Store leftovers in reusable glass (preferred) or plastic containers instead of plastic bags.
- Give leftovers to guests to reduce waste and spoilage.
- Recycle all glass, plastic, steel and aluminum food and beverage containers.
- Compost all appropriate food waste and tableware items.

Party Ideas to Show Your Greenness

- 12th Night Party
- Super Bowl
- Valentine's Day
- St. Patrick's Day
- Graduations
- Memorial Day, Labor Day, Independence Day
- Ice Cream Socials
- Oktoberfest
- Thanksgiving
- Religious Holidays
- Tailgate parties



Links for Additional Information

Recycled or Biodegradable tableware:

<http://www.seventhgeneration.com/>

<http://www.greenglass.com/>

http://www.2wplastic.com/pla_corn_utensils.htm

Party Decorations and Total Packages for tailgate parties, picnic, weddings, birthdays, etc.

<http://greeneventshop.com/>

<http://www.ecoparti.com/>

Gifts: Organic Teas & Coffee to Vegan Shoes

<http://www.ecomall.com/gift.htm>

For your Home

<http://www.greenhome.com/>

<http://www.ecofriendonline.com/>

Email me for additional information or to share your ideas

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