



Tips for Providing Environmentally Sustainable Catering

The choices we make can either make our catering more or less environmentally sustainable.

Environmentally sustainable catering options:

- Plan your catering menu to include where possible:

- Fresh, local and seasonal produce
- Organic produce
- Vegetarian foods
- Fair trade produce
- Only order the amount of food and drinks required to avoid food waste from over-catering.



- Request from your caterer, or organise:

- Re-usable platters, crockery, cutlery, cloth napkins and tablecloths
- When using disposable items, request recyclable or compostable (to Australian Standard AS 4736:2006) packaging and products, and/or items made out of recycled content
- Serve jugs of water/drinks rather than individually bottled containers
- Purchase bulk items to be served out of dishes in preference to individually packaged portions e.g. spreads.

- Ensure access to recycling facilities for any waste. This should include:

- Food rescue organisations* such as OzHarvest, will rescue good quality bulk surplus food to give to those in need – for same day collection.
- Food waste recycling*
 - All food scraps can go in the Organics (240L green lidded) bin, to be commercially composted.
 - No plastic bags to be used as bin liners. Use Compostable bags (AS 4736:2006) or wrap scraps in paper. Biodegradable bags should not be used as these are not suitable.
- Recycling* – A bin to recycle cans, bottles, hard plastics, cardboard, aluminium foil that has been scrunched into a fist-sized ball etc.
- Waste to landfill* – A bin to dispose of soft plastics only, or any other non-recyclable items. This should be the least used bin, as most items can be recycled.
- Keep the waste streams segregated and put materials into the correct lidded bins.
 - Organics = green
 - Recycling = yellow
 - Waste = blue



Council's Waste and Sustainability Team can provide advice on where you can access bins, kitchen caddies and compostable liners for your event/meeting as well as assist you to find further information and tips for environmentally sustainable actions and behaviours.