



Learning Trunk Engagement Guide – Green Parties Trunk at Events



Overview

With all the food, packaging, decorations and giveaways, events of any size – from small gatherings to large parties – can generate a lot of waste. With a little bit of planning, residents can make their events low- or no-waste. This trunk helps illustrate ideas for hosting greener parties. It includes party supply examples for high-waste parties, low-waste parties, and parties with organics for composting as an option.

Hennepin County can help event coordinators for larger events or celebrations develop waste-reduction plans, educate vendors, train volunteers and find collection options. Learn more at www.hennepin.us/eventrecycling.

Objective

Provide examples of different party set-ups to show residents at events visual representations of what a low-waste party could look like as well as what low waste items are available.

Audience

Residents of all ages at events, with a focus on those who host and purchase items for parties.

Barriers

To be most effective using the learning trunk, you need to know your audience's motivations around parties in order identify barriers to a low waste parties.

Barriers participants might have related to Green Parties include:

- "Disposable is easier"
- "Green products cost more"
- "I don't know what to buy"
- "I don't know what to look for"

To overcome barriers, make sure participants:

1. Are aware that waste is a problem.
2. Have experience reducing waste and resources to continue reducing waste.
3. Desire to take action to reduce waste.
4. Believe they are capable of doing it and that it makes a difference.



Hennepin County

Public Works

Environment and Energy Department
701 Fourth Avenue South, Suite 700
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1842

612-348-3777, Phone
612-348-8532, Fax
www.hennepin.us/environment

Discussion questions

- What are you going to do to be more low waste at your next party?
- What did you learn about greening your parties? What actions will you take to make your next party greener? What did you learn that you want to share with someone else?
- Why should we care about the products we use at our parties?
- What kind of difference would it make if everyone used low-waste items at parties?
- What do you want to learn more about?

Handouts

- Hennepin County Green Party Checklist (included in learning trunk)
 - If you need to print additional copies you can find it here:
 - www.hennepin.us/environmentaleducation under Environmental education activity guides and reducing waste

Contact information

- Contact Angie Ziobro at 612-348-9850 or Angela.Ziobro@hennepin.us
- Call 612-348-3777 if you have questions on the day you return the learning trunk.

Additional resources

- Environmental education activity guides– www.hennepin.us/environmentaleducation
- Additional learning trunks – www.hennepin.us/environmentaleducation
- Request literature for your event – www.hennepin.us/environmentaleducation
- Hennepin County Green Disposal Guide – www.hennepin.us/greendisposalguide
- Event resources including portable waste stations – www.hennepin.us/eventrecycling
- Organics recycling – www.hennepin.us/organics
- Rethink Recycling – www.rethinkrecycling.com/events