



Vineyard Conservation Society

Protecting Our Island Environment



Protecting Our Island Environment

P O Box 2189 Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

[www.vineyardconservation.org](http://www.vineyardconservation.org)



**JOIN VCS!**

*Member support makes our work possible.*

P O Box 2189

Vineyard Haven, MA 02568

508 693 9588

NAME (s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ISLAND ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

OFF ISLAND ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Supporter \$50  Sustainer \$100  Steward \$250  Benefactor \$500  Conservator \$1000  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check enclosed

Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard # \_\_\_\_\_ Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to Volunteer

Please keep my contribution anonymous

**Or, Join online at [www.vineyardconservation.org](http://www.vineyardconservation.org)**

*For gifts of stock or for information about VCS' Founders Circle and information on other ways you can help support our work please call, 508-693 9588*



*Every piece of plastic ever made  
is still on this earth.*

### MAKE THE EFFORT!

#### A “GREEN EVENT”

- Can cut your disposal costs in HALF by reducing the waste stream.
- Generates less pollution by sending less trash off-Island to the incinerator.
- Demonstrates your commitment to a more sustainable Martha's Vineyard.

### HOW TO DO IT?

- Use the information in this brochure.
- Call us for information on vendors, farms and waste haulers.
- Access downloadable guidelines and signs at the Vineyard Conservation Society web site:  
[www.vineyardconservation.org](http://www.vineyardconservation.org)

### PLANNING YOUR EVENT

#### Designate a Coordinator

This will be your most important decision. A well organized person with good communications skills is critical to the success of any GREEN EVENT.

#### Waste Management

- Retain a waste hauler who clearly understands how to implement your program and can arrange for the proper recycling of materials.

#### Pick a Bin Design

Two-bin systems accommodate RECYCLABLES and TRASH. Three-bin systems accommodate FOOD COMPOST as well. Decide what your plan and your venue will accommodate.

#### Reduce, Reuse and Recycle

- Set rules for your vendors, making clear the “zero waste” goal. Direct them to find recycled and biodegradable alternatives.
- Don't waste leftovers. Coordinate pickup; refer to web-site list of contacts.
- Ensure that vendors recycle or carry out what they bring in.
- Work with an Island farm willing to add the food scraps and other compostables to their compost pile. See the website for contacts.

#### Paper or Porcelain?

- Advertise COMMUNITY POTLUCKS and similar gatherings as “Bring Your Own” basket with non-disposable place settings, water bottle and glassware.
- If you choose disposable, use biodegradable paper or plant based utensils and plates that can be composted.

#### Carry-In-Carry-Out!

A firm carry in carry out policy will reduce waste AND bring awareness to attendees on the importance of reusing.

#### Draw a Site Plan

Draw a map showing locations of collection stations. Strategically place stations in high circulation areas. Locate larger bins behind-the-scenes for consolidation.

#### Be Consistent

Make it easy for the user. Use consistent signage at all collection stations. Use your creativity to make signs educational and fun!

#### Monitor

- Assign people to monitor each collection station.
- Ensure that waste and recyclables are placed in proper bins.
- Empty and re-line bins frequently and move waste to consolidation stations behind-the-scenes.

### DAY OF EVENT

#### Be Prepared

- Make sure vendors are with the program.
- Arrange bins and signage well in advance of start.
- Familiarize monitors with their assignments at the recycling stations.
- Be prepared to move or add stations in response to demand.
- Keep notes as the event unfolds.

### POST-EVENT

#### Clean up & Press

- Clean up and consolidate all waste and Recyclables into large bins for hauling.
- Note quantities of each component of the waste stream.
- Include these waste stats in any media reporting to gain interest and the positive exposure on Green Events!

