



# Your Guide to Event Greening

*The Small Events At Home Edition*



**Our Top 8 Tips to Green Your  
Next Small Event at Home**



Together we make a difference

***Perfect for Planning:***

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- Barbeques
- Dinner Parties
- Small home gatherings and more!



### **Green Tip #1.** **Make "Going Green" Part of Your Plan**

Green events are possible, but they do require a plan!

Decide to keep your small at-home event “green” from the beginning and allow it to guide your decisions about preparations, food menu, when to host, etc.



### **Green Tip #2.** **Share your "Green Vision" with Guests Ahead of Time**

People are more likely to be open and supportive of your efforts when they are given enough time to prepare. This is especially true if guests are contributing in some way, like preparing food or bringing a dish.

Request that any contributions be brought waste-free, such as in reusable dishware and free of single use plastics or disposable containers. Take this opportunity to educate your guests on various topics like the harm of plastics, waste diversion, pesticide-free eating, climate solutions, etc.

*See the Addendum for suggested phrasing for your green event.*



### Green Tip #3. Go Zero Waste

Visit Refill Centres where you can purchase ingredients and snacks in reusable containers.

Shop with reusable produce and grocery bags.

Refuse food options that create waste. Choose reusable plates, cups, cutlery, napkins and tablecloths instead of disposables.

Always look for the “green” alternative, and if zero waste isn’t possible opt for items in glass, tin and paper instead.

Be aware of "green washing", as not everything sold as "eco-friendly" is!

Disposable dishware made of plant-based plastics are not compostable in Halton.



### Green Tip #4. Say No to Bottled Water

Bottled water is not only harmful to the environment, but is harmful to human health too!

Have water jugs or pitchers instead of bottled water.

Invest in a re-usable cooler, jugs, pitchers and/or cups.

Add fresh mint, basil, cucumber or fruit to infuse your water - this not only enhances the flavour, but is also visually appealing.



**Green Tip #5.**  
**Buy Seasonal, Local, Organic and if Possible, Meatless**

If you can, visit the farmers market to support local farmers.

If you can, choose Ontario or Canadian produce.

If you can, choose organic options.

For barbeques, consider a meatless option like grilled portobello mushrooms or prepare bean burgers as a meat-alternative.

Educate your guests on the positive environmental impacts of eating local, organic and meatless.



**Green Tip #6.**  
**Reduce Your Events Energy**

Host events during the day to take advantage of natural light and save electricity.

Host events outside to save energy on heating or cooling.

Be sure to let your guests know that the event is outdoors so they can dress appropriately.

Support green energy and reduce your impact by using Bullfrog Power.



### **Green Tip #7.** **Encourage Green Transit**

Encourage your guests to walk, bike, carpool or take public transportation to your home.

Start a carpool group chat or conversation thread for guests, encouraging them to connect. You can also link the group to a digital invite. Make it fun by offering an incentive or have a friendly competition among guests.



### **Green Tip #8.** **Share Your Leftovers**

Reduce your food waste by sharing leftovers with your guests. Package leftovers in reusable containers, or if your guests brought a dish to share, use their own dishes to transport them home.

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### **Still Looking for More?**

Find other Event Greening tips [here](#).

Learn more about zero waste living [here](#).

Give back and [make a donation](#) or [volunteer with us](#).

Sign up for our [Eco News](#) to learn more about green living, local events and more!

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## Addendum

### Phrasing for Sharing Your Green Vision

*Sharing your "green vision" is an important step in getting your guests on board. Use the below phrasing suggestions to offer guidance to your guests on how to prepare, participate and actively engage with your green event. Pick and choose the options most relevant to your event.*

[I am/We are] excited to let you know the [type of event; dinner party, BBQ, etc.] on [date/time] is going to be an eco-friendly event! [I/We] would really appreciate your assistance and cooperation in making it as green as possible.

There is also going to be a friendly competition on who can be the “greenest guest”, don't worry, it will be fun!

So, what can you do to help with this?

[I/We] kindly ask you to bring any contributions in reusable containers and leave all single-use plastics at home.

The [event; dinner party, BBQ, etc.] will be outside, so please keep this in mind as you prepare for the day and dress accordingly.

Eating local, organic, seasonal and meat-less has the lowest carbon footprint. Keep this in mind when preparing your dish for the potluck. Bonus points if your dish is all four!

If you are able to bike, walk, carpool or take public transit, that is even better!

[I/We] have a special prize for the “greenest guest”.

Let [me/us] know if you have any questions or if you need some guidance on any green alternatives.

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## Helpful Resources

*Please note, BurlingtonGreen has not vetted and does not endorse any of the following businesses.*

### Waste Diversion:

Sorting Waste: [Halton Region Waste Resources](#)

Compostable Dishware: [Greenmunch](#)

Zero Waste Products: [The Kind Matter Co.](#)

Learn More: [The Harm of Plastic Bottles](#)

### Eating Local:

[Burlington Centre Lion's Farmers Market](#)

[Centro Garden Farmers Market](#)

Learn More: Calculate [Food Miles](#) and the [importance of eating organic](#).

### Local Farm Delivery Services:

[Plan B Organics](#)

[Mama Earth Organics](#)

### Refill Centres:

[Park Market & Refillery](#)

[Refillery Market](#)

[Bulk Barn](#)

### Eating Meatless:

Learn More: [Reducing Meat Consumption and the Environment](#)

Vegetarian Recipes; [101 Cookbooks](#), [Cookie + Kate](#), [With Food + Love](#)

Vegan Recipes; [Oh She Glows](#), [Sweet Potato Soul](#), [The Full Helping](#)

### Green Transit:

[Burlington Transit Trip Planning](#)

[Go Transit Trip Planning](#)

[FaceDrive](#)