

# 2019 Waste Report

## Overview

Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival 2019 continued waste minimisation initiatives and activities to reduce the waste from the festival that goes to landfill and educate the community.

The 2019 waste management had key partners, supporting the event to achieve a more sustainable outcome. A 'tree waste stream system' that includes; General Landfill, Recycling, and Compostable was separated at our Waste Wise Bin Stations and managed with NTRS and Organic AG. Organic waste from food stalls was also collected.

Reusable cups on the bar have been a Seabreeze initiative since 2016, however, the event didn't have water and power to set up a wash station, so in 2019 Seabreeze trialed the reusable cup management system by engaging the BetterCup company.

Education on waste minimisation was one of the main focuses programmed into the Ripple Effect with a new DIY Workshop series. The Ripple Effect presentation space hosted talks about recycling, urban agriculture potentials and plastic pollution, followed by a movie about waste.

Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival is committed to continue reducing waste and applying sustainable practices to its overall operations.

The 2019 WasteWiseSeabeeze has 2 main key targets:

- 1. Minimise waste production through reusable cups system at the bars and water stations, reduce contamination in waste streams (through Waste Wise Station) and reduce waste that goes to landfill thorough recycling and compost.
- 2. Promote positive waste behaviours through #wastewise bin stations, stallholders education on induction day and a series of workshops on waste minimisation.

Our post-event visual bin audit identified there is still a way to go towards ensuring a clear and simple waste streaming for the general public. Further efforts are also needed to minimise and separate rubbish at the back-end of stalls. The public didn't know how to dispose of compostable food and drinks packaging.



### **Waste Management**

### **Bin Management Resources:**

- 29 x 240L recycling bins
- 48 x 240L general waste bins
- 2 x 6m general waste skips
- 4 x 1100L cardboard skip
- 2 x soft plastic bins

#### WasteWise Bin Station:

 13 x Waste Wise Stations with bins, bin covers and signage for General, Recycling and Compostable

#### **Reusable Cups:**

Based on the cups that appeared to be returned used, and the cups that did not return, we estimate approximately 4,125 cups were used including both stemless and tumblers.



Photo 1. WasteWise Bin Station



2. Reusable cups



#### Education

Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival believes that education can lead to strong communities, and educating festival goers and stakeholder is our approach to waste reduction.

Stallholders had a guideline to follow and meet all the requirements to be part of a waste wise festival. Information on the packaging, support on requirements and information on bin stream separation was given on the induction day.

Festival goers could easily find the 13 x bin stations spread throughout the main festival areas, especially places where food and drinks were sold.

Ripple Effect 2019 introduced a workshop series based around 'hands on' workshops on waste reduction, where the public could learn how to achieve DIY products that will reduce waste production, especially plastic. Interesting talks on sustainability issues were held at the Ripple Effect space on the foreshore and a movie session about waste was presented.





Photo 3. Workshop deliver by boomerang bags

2. WasteFree NT workshop on DIY cleaning products



## **Outcomes**

## **Bin Waste Collection and Management**

### Post-Event Results:

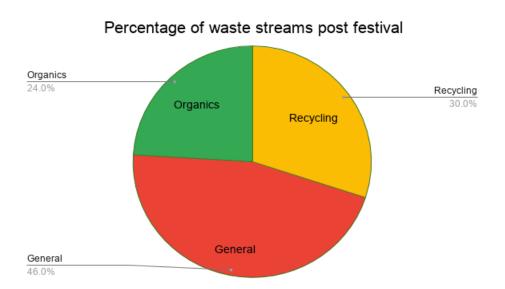


Figure 1. Results of waste after NSF 2019. Percentages represent the quantity of waste sent to different resource recovery and waste streams.

- 1. Diversion from General Waste/Landfill was high 54%. There is an increase of 14% compared with the 2018 festival
- 2. Diversion was made possible due to partnership with Organic AG who were able collect and compost packing and food waste.
- 3. Bin Stations were increased in number in 2019 (13 stations compared with 3 stations in 2018) but without quality signage, punters did not know how to dispose properly of the compostable packaging, and most went to general bin.



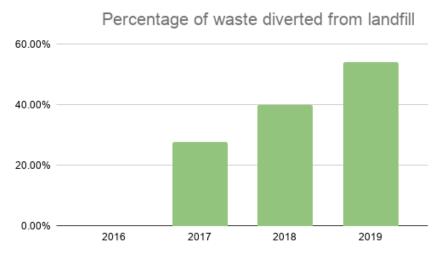


Figure 2. Results of

waste diverted from landfill from 2016 - 2019.

# **Vendor Packaging**

- 1. Stallholder at the Seabreeze Festival were required to use compostable packaging with the certified commercially compostable to Australian standards (AS4736) and (AS5810).
- 2. Beer and Ciders were served in reusable cups. The event used the deposit system where festival goers hire a cup and when the cup is returned part of their deposit is also returned.





## **Key Recommendations**

### 1. Waste Collection Improvements:

The key recommendations for future events to improve waste collection and reduce contamination are to;

- have quality clear bin signage
- have bins monitored by Waste Educators
- continue a bin audit post festival
- have back-of-house waste educators to ensure the stallholders are disposing of waste into the correct streams

### 2. Public Awareness / Education

- Keep engaging the festival goers and local community in the BYO plates, cutlery and cups campaigns and the 3-stream bin stations through social media and the Seabreeze stall at Nightcliff Market pre-festival
- Early connections to community groups to engage volunteers for bin Waste Education Stations at the festival and bin audit post-festival.
- Provide wash stations and incentives. Engage with Wash Against Waste to be present at the Festival

#### 3. Controlled Waste Streams

- Organic waste collection was very successful with minimal contamination. However, a
  lot of compostable containers, plates and cups ended up in the general bins.
- A huge amount of contamination in both recycle and general waste bins, was evident. This was due to a lack of information, signage and waste educators at bin stations.





Photo 5. Compost bins ready to be compost by Organic AG.

The data collected suggests that Nightcliff Seabreeze Festival, despite being a larger event in 2019, is successfully reducing its waste. For the third year in a row more material was diverted away from landfill towards the more environmentally sustainable options of reusing, recycling and composting.

Nightcliff Seabreeze festival also continues to be a leader in the area of waste reduction and education at Darwin festivals and events. With a continued focus on these priorities a 'Waste Free' festival is ultimately achievable.