



Environmental Policy

Outline

Rainbow Serpent Festival (RSF) understands that we have a responsibility towards advocacy and recognition of environmental problems and solutions. The festival is a vehicle for wider social and environmental change, through its festival operations and patrons activities.

RSF is committed to:

- **Educate and inspire** patrons to positive environmental change through participating in the festival.
- **Lead by Example**, RSF will use our position to audit our own operations and develop a strategic plan based on its finding.
- **Focus** on tangible areas such as energy, carbon emissions, resource use and recycling, and support the creation of sustainable systems within the festival.
- **Review** initial targets and work with departments to put the strategic plan into practice.
- **Communication** of the RSF Environmental Policy to employees, volunteers, patrons, vendors and relevant stakeholders of the festival.
- **Compliance** with all applicable environmental laws, regulations and codes of practice throughout the operation of the festival.

The overarching Environmental Policy and the following subset of policies will be updated and improved as and when points from the strategic plan come to fruition.

Transport Policy

RSF recognises that transport emissions are the largest contributor to our festivals' impact on the environment. It also has impacts and implications over other policies.

We will encourage everyone involved in the festival to be aware of the methods they use for transportation and the impact increased levels of CO2 and air pollution has on the planet.

RSF is committed to:

- **Decreasing patron vehicle travel** by encouraging and facilitating the use of public transport and car sharing
- **Monitoring transport types** with a view to reduce trips and combine annually.
- **Ensuring an appropriate traffic management plan is in place** to reduce idling and air pollution
- **Utilise a 'vehicle pass'** to encourage car pooling and raise revenue for local eco restoration projects



Energy Policy

RSF recognises the harmful impact that human based carbon emissions have on the environment and is committed to urgently reducing our carbon footprint. We will encourage everyone involved in the festival to be aware of how much energy they use and the impact increased levels of CO2 has on the planet.

RSF is committed to:

- **Measure, monitor and report on energy usage**
- **Open review** of targets, performance and future direction
- **Managing indirect emissions**
- **Promote and prioritise renewable energy sources** and ensure all energy sources are being used effectively

Waste & Resource Use Policy

RSF recognises the importance of waste management on site and aims to minimise waste to landfill by making environmentally sound purchasing decisions and promoting the Create No Waste ethos.

RSF is committed to:

- **Waste reduction through minimisation, reuse, recycling and composting**
- **Avoiding single use items**, where possible
- **Sourcing locally**, where possible
- **Obtaining sustainably and ethically sourced products** when buying new, where possible

Water Policy

RSF recognises the precious nature of water and the need to use this resource wisely. We are dedicated to conserving water on site, including opportunities for grey water reuse.

RSF is committed to:

- **Monitoring water use and minimising water wastage**
- **Incorporating intelligent decision making in relation to the weather** for dust suppression and sprinkler systems.
- **The use of composting toilets** throughout the site

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Land Use Policy

RSF recognises the importance of maintaining and improving the quality of the land on which we gather.

RSF is committed to:

- **Monitoring the impact of festival activities on the surrounding biodiversity**, flora and fauna of the state forest and Lexton/Beaufort communities
- **Regeneration of habitats** and wildlife corridors through tree planting initiatives
- **Ensuring environmentally detrimental compounds do not come in contact with the land**, where feasible.
- **Protecting sites of indigenous importance**

This policy should be read in conjunction with the strategic plan and is due to be updated in 2019

Signed

Festival Directors

January 2018