



## Green Artist Rider (V5)

### Working Document (updated 26/7/19)

There are inevitable impacts of touring and producing live shows. With this Green Artist Rider we seek to minimise waste, eliminate single use plastic, support positive social impacts, and reduce the overall ecological footprint. This is working and open source document. Please consider the following points and incorporate them into your current rider as applicable for your artist / show type.

Each country and continent have their own opportunities and challenges for protecting both environment and people, and Paradigm wish to collaborate within our industry to strengthen these values. The below green rider clauses are the first step to achieving these goals:

#### 1. Avoid single use plastics.

No single use plastic water bottles, plastic cups, polystyrene, straws or stirrers, plastic bags, needless packaging to be used both backstage and front of house. Provide portable water for refills, reusable serveware (plates, cutlery, cups) and avoid food with excessive or non-recyclable packaging. No single use sachets of condiments. Provide access to water refill with sturdy re-usable cups/bottles for use on stage.

*(Many single use plastics end up in our oceans [causing pollution](#), and its current raw production uses significant [oil and water](#) which can contribute to [conflicts](#), resource depletion and greenhouse gases. Let's cut out the needless single use)*

#### 2. Put in place a policy to minimise waste

Consider the ethical and environmental impact of any purchases made. This includes ensuring no wasteful sponsor giveaways, carefully planning procurements to minimise packaging waste, and banning of non-recyclable disposables through caterers and bars. Reclaimed and Recycled materials should be used wherever possible, and where virgin materials are used they should be certified as ethically sourced (e.g. [FSC timber](#)) and a plan made for their reuse. This should extend to the backstage production areas as well as the event arena. There should also be a plan for reuse and reclamation of any left-over usable materials post event.

*(We all have strength and influence in our purchasing decisions. We wish to avoid any purchases being made for our events which result in deforestation, land or water contamination or human exploitation.)*

#### 3. Provide clearly labelled recycling facilities.

If there is unavoidable waste generated, provide clearly labelled appropriate bins for easy separation, including for food waste if organic waste processing is possible. Provide clear information about what can and can't be collected for recycling or reuse. We wish to work with venues who reduce waste, and work towards a "[closed loop](#)" of materials, and high recycling rate at their venue.



*(This must be matched with the appropriate waste management facilities. Please provide details of this in advance i.e. where waste is taken and how it is processed. Closed loop means that the venue have a circular approach to materials they choose to use, treating them as resources instead of waste. Ensure that our production team are informed of the venues waste separation processes, so we can help to maximise its effectiveness)*

#### **4. Sustainably sourced, seasonal food**

Ensure that any fruit, salad, vegetables are local and seasonal to reduce food mileage and support local producers. We also request that this consideration is given to the drinks served on the bars. If available Certified Organic food is also preferred, to minimise environmentally harmful practices.

*(A number of factors may influence the most sustainable choice in this case. Local and [seasonal produce](#) may be chosen over organic (if both not possible) to reduce food mileage and support local farmers, for example. Use your discretion, and help is available from A Greener Festival if needed)*

#### **5. OPTION 1: Strictly no meat or dairy products**

Please ensure that no meat or dairy products are provided.

*(It has been proven that [Meat and Dairy production](#) are significant contributors to global CO2 emissions, and there are still cases of serious inhumane practices in their production. Vegan and vegetarian diets are able to sustain for more people using far less water, land and oil, and producing less greenhouse gas.)*

#### **6. OPTION 2: Certified sustainably sourced, local meat & dairy**

We therefore request that any meat, fish or dairy products provided are traceable and certified as local, organic, or otherwise sustainably sourced (e.g. MSC, Red Tractor, Soil Association).

*(It has been proven that [Meat and Dairy production](#) are significant contributors to global CO2 emissions, and there are still serious inhumane practices in their production. Reducing their consumption and tracing the source of such products helps to combat this problem.)*

#### **7. No palm oil products**

Check the ingredients of items such as processed foods and soaps to ensure no palm oil is used, unless proven from ethical sources.

*(Unsustainable [Palm oil production](#) is causing significant deforestation, loss of biodiversity, and negative social impacts in many parts of the world. Therefore, until this changes, please help us to avoid supporting this industry with our purchases)*



**8. Strictly only fair trade teas / coffees / sugar / chocolate**

Ensure that these items are certified as Fair Trade or Rainforest Alliance for example, both backstage and front of house.

*(These products are commonly sourced from poorer nations and conflict zones, and are easily accessible certified as [Fair Trade](#) helping to combat exploitation)*

**9. Salvage any leftover edible food**

Firstly, avoid any leftovers by ensuring the provision matches the need. Make provisions to safely collect and redistribute any surplus edible food that is not avoided.

*(This could be done by working in partnership with a food collection and redistribution charity or arranging such actions in house (check out [www.eighthplate.org](http://www.eighthplate.org))*

**10. Check with tour manager before purchase for any amendments**

Due to the nature of touring there may be items on the rider submitted during booking that have changed or are no longer required. Please check with the tour manager prior to final purchase to ensure that requirements remain the same and to avoid unnecessary waste.

**11. Only switch on lights and any air cooling / heating shortly before arrival**

Save electricity by making sure that lights and air con or heating are not left on for unnecessary amounts of time when the dressing room or other space is empty. Save electricity and reduce costs by ensuring any cooling fridges on bars are only switched on shortly before the show.

*(Please let us know if the venue is using renewable energy)*

**12. Increase Energy Efficiency and Use Renewable Sources.**

Event power should be carefully specified so that the generating capacity on site matches the need. Wherever possible renewable energy should be used, with the main priority being a reduction of power usage.

*(Precise power specifications are available. Studies show that generators are often running at less than 30% capacity, which presents an easy opportunity to save fuel and money).*

**13. Reduce Water Use and Any Risk of Pollution**

Eliminate Risk of Pollution. The Waste of water should be minimised wherever practicable, and carefully disposed of to protect local watercourses, wildlife and ground water. Promoters must encourage visitors to minimise water wastage whilst also ensuring the same applies to the event build and break stages with all crew. Promoters should ensure caterers, bars and traders use only eco-friendly cleaning products and take measures to minimise potentially harmful contaminants to land and water.

*(It is not only more obvious contaminants such as fuels and human effluent that can be detrimental to the environment. Dairy and Beer, for example, can be significant pollutants if released to local ecosystems)*



#### **14. Ethically sourced and reusable towels**

Ensure that any towels provided are clean and if newly purchased sourced from ethical fibres, such as hemp and organic cotton. These towels are more expensive than cheap alternatives, but will last longer and can (and should) be reused again and again.

*(Cheap [textiles production](#) can have severe impacts socially and environmentally, in both production and disposal. Furthermore, studies show that synthetic materials release [microplastics](#) in to water streams when being washed. Help us to reduce our impact by only providing ethically sourced quality fabrics and ensuring their reuse.)*

#### **15. No Unnecessary Printing and Otherwise Only Recycled Paper or FSC / PEFC**

Avoid any unnecessary printing and if essential only use certified ethically sourced or better still, post-consumer recycled paper. This applies to any toilet paper and napkins, and also to access passes which should be recyclable and from sustainable sources. Ensure that any marketing materials prioritise minimizing needless waste and for that which is necessary to be printed ensure the same policy for post-consumer recycled materials and bio-based inks applies.

*(Help reduce deforestation and loss of biodiversity by avoiding unethical or untraced [paper sources](#).)*

#### **16. Local Accommodation**

If you are booking accommodation, it should be as close to the venue as possible to minimise transport to and from the show. Please confirm this prior to booking – there may be instances where it is more efficient to book closer to the airport/between locations/etc. Give preference to accommodation that demonstrates a lower environmental impact, or hotels with any environmental credentials or certification.

*(such as the Green Key eco-label or the EU Ecolabel for Tourist Accommodations. Hotels often generate a higher [carbon footprint](#) than alternative accommodation options such as apartments, so please consider this when providing options.)*

#### **17. Provide Greener Ground Transport**

If providing transfers, please ensure this is by the greenest possible method that is practical for the needs. For example, this could be using electric or hybrid vehicles or using traceable low carbon, low particulate matter fuels, shared shuttles, or if appropriate public transport. If bikes are available for those who wish to make short journeys without equipment please inform the tour manager of these options.

*(Transport is a huge contributor to global [greenhouse gas](#) emissions but also [local air pollution](#). We aim to minimise these adverse impacts where possible. Transport options need to take in to consideration equipment, accreditation and schedules. Please check with the tour manager for confirmation in advance.)*



## 18. Greener Transport for Audience

Put in place a coherent transport and/or traffic policy which *as a minimum* ensures that members of the public are properly made aware of all modes of public transport available to them to attend the event(s). As a minimum, a public facing website setting out public transport services should be provided, clearly stating that low carbon transport methods are recommended. Please help our crew to use public transport or bike schemes when possible during our stay.

*(Audience travel to events can be a large environmental impact in terms of emissions and air quality, when car usage is high or travelling long distances. [Low carbon transport](#) may be cycling / full bus / coach / train travel. If travelling by car full occupancy is the target (lift sharing)).*

## 19. Communicate Green Policy with Audience

The promoter should clearly communicate the ethical aspirations of the show with the audience, venue staff and crew.

*(We believe that by open and honest discussion and awareness of what we are trying to do and need to do better collectively will help us to make the changes that we need to see in our lifetimes.)*

## 20. Please provide your Sustainability Policy and Targets

Please provide this so that we can ensure our own activities are aligned to support your objectives, and identify potentially positive collaborations. We recommend that the event measures its CO2 emissions and considers sustainability certification as a way to assess actions, identify areas for improvements and receive professional support and guidance. For example, [The Greener Event Award](#) which is also an opportunity to celebrate successes and share best practice with audiences and the wider events industry.

*(We aim to monitor the environmental impact of our touring so that we can benchmark and continue to identify where improvements can be made. Your input will help us to achieve this. [By analyzing actions on the ground and sharing good ideas, we will move more quickly and collectively towards sustainable live events](#))*

## 21. Invest to Offset Unavoidable Emissions

We seek to offset our unavoidable emissions from touring by investment in positive environmental and social projects which could also be supported by the promoter. If you are already part of a carbon neutral scheme or similar carbon offsetting scheme this should be provided by a carefully researched reputable registered charity or 'not for profit' organisation. Please let us know any details. We are working with our own offset initiatives which promoter and venue can support if your own projects are not already in place.



*(Inevitably international touring shows cause a large amount of CO2 emissions through production transport alone. All reasonable efforts for reduction of emissions comes before offsetting.)*

Paradigm Agency is partnered with AGF - live event sustainability specialists - to develop this Green Artist Rider, and for advice on all matters related to our sustainability policy. AGF provide assessment, certification and consultancy to the live events industry. Further information and guidance are available on request.

[www.agreenerfestival.com](http://www.agreenerfestival.com)

[www.paradigmagency.com](http://www.paradigmagency.com)