

OREGON FILM GUIDE TO GREENING PRODUCTION

Film and TV production has been described as a relatively “clean” industry (although due to its transient nature, very wasteful) and compared to many other industries it is; however, sustainable it is not. Air travel, hotel energy use, shipping, show transport, truck fuel, car rentals, warehouse energy, generators, office energy etc. all create CO₂ emissions and the amount any one show puts out can be colossal. Collective emissions such as these have been shown to compromise global air quality and have over time added to negative climate change - global warming. It is possible to keep track of and calculate a production’s emissions (or “carbon footprint”) and ultimately these can be offset by supporting carbon-reducing projects such as; renewable energy, energy efficiency and reforestation projects by purchasing “carbon offsets” from one of many companies. However, we encourage the better practice of *first* reducing what you can, then offsetting what you can’t. There are many ways to lower a production’s carbon footprint as well generating less waste by adopting environmentally sound and sustainable practices.

Offered in this **Guide to Greening Production** are suggestions and information intended to support the greening of all types of production from development through post and beyond. We encourage the partnership with green initiatives already in place within Oregon communities statewide. Whether a show sets out to be certified green, or wants to efficiently green the production budget as much as possible, our suggested best practices will help lighten the environmental footprint on our community and in turn the environment at large.

This handbook is designed to be used in conjunction with the **Green Resource Guide** (www.oregonfilm.org/resources/greenproduction/) which provides listings of green, Oregon services and vendors.

PRODUCTION OFFICE

BEST PRACTICES:

- Develop an environmental procurement policy for all new office purchases
- Purchase locally
- Use 100% recycled paper
- Encourage responsible printing
- Print double sided scripts @ half size
- Only print changed pages of script changes
- Purchase remanufactured soy-based ink and toner
- Use non-toxic, environmentally friendly cleaning products
- Encourage teleconferencing over traveling to meetings
- Purchase or rent used office furniture
- Consider adding environmental mission statement to all call sheets
- If off-setting carbon dioxide emissions, make sure that all travel/ gas consumption/ flight miles are recorded
- House crew in environmentally friendly hotels
- Purchase biodegradable food and drink supplies/drink containers

ENERGY USAGE:

- Consider using a waste audit for the amount generated to raise staff awareness
- Turn off computers when not in use— don't use screen savers
- Use energy efficient light bulbs and as much natural window light as possible
- Desk lamps are less energy consumptive than overheads
- Rent used office equipment that is energy efficiency rated (look for Energy Star labels)
- Keep chargers unplugged when not in use
- Recycle printer cartridges and batteries
- Print as little as possible and double-sided as a default

RECYCLING:

- Provide recycling receptacles throughout the office – raise staff awareness
- Use re-useable boards for scheduling
- Recycle or donate office computers/monitors/cell phones/batteries etc.
- Donate office furniture when no longer in use

ART DEPT./SET CONSTRUCTION BEST PRACTICES:

- Use environmentally safe paints, sealants (low VOC and less toxic)
- Avoid spray paints
- Use water based glues
- Use recycled props where possible, rent instead of purchasing props
- If lumber must be bought use renewable sustainable woods and building materials where appropriate (such as bamboo, sorghum, palm, engineered woods etc.). Avoid hardwoods
- Use re-useable steel scaffolding as opposed to wood

RECYCLING:

- Follow all safety guideline on disposing of paints, lacquers, brushes, rags, and dispose of responsibly
- Donate props (schools, theatres, charities etc)
- Recycle lumber material from sets, metals, paints, carpet, etc.
- Recycle all metals, carpets etc.
- Donate all left over paints for primer on other shows

CATERING AND CRAFT SERVICES

BEST PRACTICES:

- Hire green caterer who:
- Uses re-useable silverware, plates, cups
- Recycles and composts
- Buys locally grown produce, free range and organic where possible
- Uses low emission fuels to prepare food
- Uses cloth napkins and tablecloths
- Serves “buffet” style
- Use reusable personal water containers on set, provide fill stations
- Use non-toxic cleaning supplies
- Do not purchase Styrofoam products

RECYCLING:

- Donate leftovers to local charities
- Compost leftovers

CAMERA AND SOUND DEPT.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Try to hire the most energy efficient equipment where possible, ask how to use in the most energy efficient ways possible
- Unplug video players, TV monitors etc. or use sleep mode when not in use
- Use digital dailies where possible
- Use rechargeable batteries vConsider energy efficient alternatives to traditional lighting packages
- Turn off lighting not in use
- Explore other non-chemical options to eliminate film processing (filmless, digital, RED)

RECYCLING:

- Recycle waste film with supplier
- Recycle batteries responsibly

GRIP AND ELECTRIC BEST PRACTICES:

- If possible use local power sources to avoid generators
- Use low wattage, long life bulbs, cool lamps and energy efficient alternatives (fluorescents and encourage use of these in works areas)
- Use nontoxic adhesives (not petroleum based)
- Use rechargeable batteries
- Consider dimmers when lights are at rest between setups as opposed to turning on and off (uses more power)
- Keep generator use to a minimum and use low sulphur diesel

RECYCLING:

- Recycle batteries responsibly
- Recycle gels for future productions

LOCATION DEPT. BEST PRACTICES:

- Provide appropriate and plentiful recycling bins
- Minimize disposable items
- Use alternatively fueled vehicles where applicable or lease hybrid vehicles
- Keep tire pressure at optimum and vehicles in good optimum condition
- Print all signage on recycled post-consumer boards and papers
- Encourage car pooling for crew or minimize amount of vehicles driving to location
- Only travel needed trucks to location
- Consider adding environmental mission statement to all call sheets
- If off-setting carbon dioxide emissions, make sure that all travel/ gas consumption/ flight miles are recorded

RECYCLING:

- Adhere to local regulations and arrange for recycling and composting pick up
- Consider hiring a local hauler/recycling

LOCATION DEPT.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Provide appropriate and plentiful recycling bins
- Minimize disposable items
- Use alternatively fueled vehicles where applicable or lease hybrid vehicles
- Keep tire pressure at optimum and vehicles in good optimum condition
- Print all signage on recycled post-consumer boards and papers
- Encourage car pooling for crew or minimize amount of vehicles driving to location
- Only travel needed trucks to location
- Consider adding environmental mission statement to all call sheets
- If off-setting carbon dioxide emissions, make sure that all travel/ gas consumption/flight miles are recorded

RECYCLING:

- Adhere to local regulations and arrange for recycling and composting pick up
- Consider hiring a local hauler/recycling

MAKE-UP DEPT.

BEST PRACTICES:

- If possible avoid animal tested products
- Favor products that are environmentally responsible
- Purchase locally
- Avoid aerosols if possible

SPECIAL EFFECTS

BEST PRACTICES:

- Consider environmental impact even if no restrictions are in place
- Collect any hazardous materials
- Avoid burning any plastics, rubber etc.
- Use biodegradable artificial snow products
- Use propane as opposed to liquid fuel for fire effects

TRANSPORTATION DEPT.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Turn off generators when not in use
- Take only trucks and equipment actually needed to location
- Offer car pool incentives and public transport options to crew
- Turn off air conditioning in unoccupied trailers
- Try to encourage trailer sharing
- Condense deliveries into as few vehicles as possible
- Remind crew to drive slowly and smoothly and keep all vehicles in optimum operating condition
- Use fluorescent or solar power lighting in trailers
- Encourage teleconferencing over traveling to meetings
- Use only commercial airlines when necessary and consider offsetting emissions
- Alternative fuels (CNG, biodiesel, ethanol)
- Rent hybrid vehicles wherever possible (fleet deals)
- Use bio-diesel or ultra-low sulphur diesel and catalyzed particulate filter to reduce generator emissions

WARDROBE DEPT.

BEST PRACTICES:

- Purchase locally, already worn pieces of clothing
- Choose items that don't need to be dry cleaned
- Or use green dry cleaners and low energy washers and dryers with non-toxic detergents
- Re-use coat hangers and plastic coverings
- Repair instead of purchasing new garments

RECYCLING:

- Donate wardrobe and accessories to charities or local theatre companies, schools etc.

POST PRODUCTION

BEST PRACTICES:

- Where appropriate distribute demos on DVD
- If possible use tapeless post-production

CREDITS

- Include logos for environmental standards if applicable

PUBLICITY

BEST PRACTICES:

- Apply for awards (EMA's Green Seal Award for example, www.ema-online.org)
- Highlight all environmental initiatives used
- Consider off-setting entire production's carbon footprint
- Make use of internal and external websites to reduce paper-based communications and invitations
- If paper must be used, use 100% recyclable paper
- Print any large signage banners in non-toxic inks and use recyclable materials
- Print small signage on recycled post consumer boards and papers
- Use digital photography for promotional materials
- Purchase or rent reusable carpets

DISTRIBUTION

- Use energy saving features for equipment and computers
- Distribute projects and demo reels on DVD where possible

EVENTS

- Consider going paperless for invitations
- Print all large signage on biodegradable or recycled post consumer materials, use EPA approved corn-based inks
- Use digital photography
- Purchase reuseable carpets

CONTACTS

If you have any questions about this guide please contact:

Oregon Governor's Office of Film & Television
503/229-5832
jane@oregonfilm.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

Green Resource Guide
www.oregonfilm.org/resources/greenproduction/

The Green Code Project
<http://greencodeproject.org/>