

## FESTIVAL SUSTAINABILITY – BEST PRACTICE Claire O'Neill

www.agreenerfestival.com

# Climate – What's going on?

- May 2013= 339<sup>th</sup> consecutive month global temperature above 20<sup>th</sup> Century average. (NOAA – National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration)
  - 28 or younger?
  - March May 0.97C higher than average 20<sup>th</sup> century temp
- World Meteorological Organisation said that carbon dioxide & methane levels reached record highs in 2011
  - Warmest decade since records began 160yrs ago.
- 2 degrees = death of coral, melting of ice caps, flooding, disrupted weather patterns
- Positive feedback
  - Methane release (20% stronger greenhouse than CO2), Albino effect, Ocean Acidification and stratification, Drying of forests, Expanding sea levels,
- Dec 2012 Kyoto Protocol extended Promise for compensation from rich to poor countries impacted by climate change.
  - Now moving beyond prevention to adaptation and repair.



"a not-for-profit company committed to helping music and arts events and festivals around the world adopt environmentally efficient practices."

- 1. Established in 2006
- 2. Greener Festival Award
  - UK, Europe, Australia, Canada, US, Brazil, SA.
  - Improvers / Commended / Highly Commended / Outstanding
- 3. Run by volunteers
- 4. Campaigns & Initiatives: Big Green Ideas, Love Your Tent, Festival Wood, Powerful Thinking
- 5. Green Events & Innovations Conference 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013
- 6. Audience Research Bucks Uni



## Transport

Oxford University / JB 2008 study: 63% emissions from audience travel. (Jam Packed, 2009)

Association of Independent Festivals (AIF) 2012: 25% audience travel with 2 or less in a car. 41% travel with 3 or more. 28% train or coach / bus.



- Liftshare / Go Carshare
- Subsidised coach travel
- Car park charges
- Shuttle buses from local train station
- Choose urban site
- Organisers can facilitate but audience must take responsibility too



## Audience Transport

- Priority entry for green travellers (fast track queuing)
  - Coach drop off & cycle lock ups closer to gates
  - Glastonbury priority camping. Solar Showe
    / Compost Toilets
  - "Green Traveler Card" discounts on food / merchandise etc



- Dedicated allocation of tickets for coach travel
- Green Traveller team give out prizes to people wearing Green Traveller lanyard:
  - Chance to watch a set from the side of Pyramid Stage
  - Year's supply of Ecover cleaning products
  - Chocolate hamper from Seed and Bean



### SWIM 2 BESTIVAL



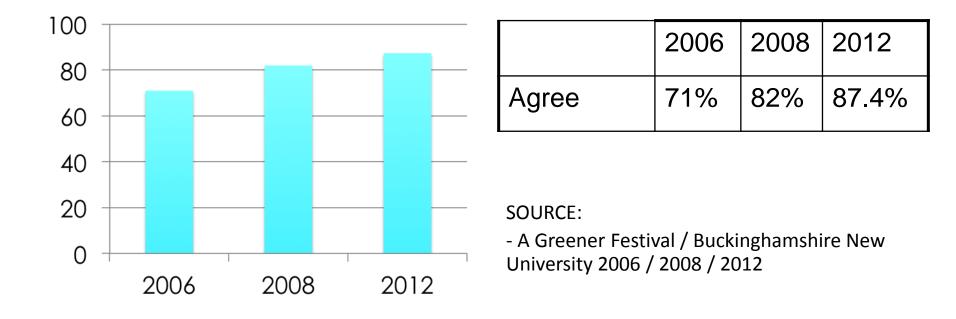


3 sponsored arrivals (bike, swim, walk) / 2.2km / £10k for charity



## The Audience Thoughts: Waste

"Do you think that waste is a negative environmental impact of festivals?"



Perversely, 1 in 5 said they have left their tent at a festival (AIF, 2012)



### Waste Management

- 1. Concentrate on inputs to the waste system and tailor waste infrastructure to match those inputs
  - Central source of biodegradables?
  - Reusable cups on deposit scheme? What are they made of?
  - Sponsor giveaways?
- 2. Source separation through provision of appropriate infrastructure, and during collections
- 3. Education of waste producers & collectors
- 4. Different audiences require different approaches
- 5. Recycling initiatives
  - Canaconda, Rainbow Serpent, Victoria, Australia
  - Pint of cigarette butts / 10 x bottles, Sonica, Italy

## Gyres - The Great Ocean "Landfills"

## North Pacific Gyre



## INDIAN OCEAN GYRE

## SOUTH PACIFIC GYRE

SOUTH ATLANTIC GYRE

http://www.youtube.com



### Recyclable – Biodegradable - Re-usable???

- 240,000 tonnes of plastic bottles sent to landfill in UK = £91million potential revenues in the bin.
- 1 PET bottle = 1ltr water and ½ ltr oil?

A Maria

- Approx 4.5bn ltrs of oil and 9bn ltrs water landfill
- As much water as 1.7m people use per year in the UK
- Embodied carbon in extraction.
- Difficulties in varied waste streams.

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# Refillable bottles for Water



 Shambala: trialing the "Bring a Bottle" campaign in 2013 for the first time selling no bottled water on site.

#### Frank Water and Watermills

Refillable water bottles and filtered water.

Proceeds to clean water projects.





### **Boom STAR Water Treatment**

And The And And

http://vimeo.com/4650200#





## FareShare: Food

FareShare is a national UK charity supporting communities to relieve food poverty. FareShare is at the centre of two of the most urgent issues that face the UK: food poverty and food waste.

- 1/3 UK's greenhouse gas emissions from food.
- 50% globes food thrown away = 2bn tonnes food per year (Institute of Mechanical Engineers)
- 7bn people, 1bn going hungry.
- In UK 4million people can't afford to feed themselves.
  - 450,000t usable "in date" food thrown away.
- In 2012 FareShare gave out 7m meals (300tonnes) less than 1% of food waste.
- Setting up networks with festivals to divert edible food from entering the waste stream.
  - Super Club (Shambala & Brisfest)





# **Onsite Power Provisions**

- Festivals running on near 100% renewable energy:
  - Croissant Neuf Summer Party, Sunrise Celebration, Shambala Festival
- Combined methods most effective
- Research from the Powerful Thinkers:
  - Every system had periods below 25% and some entirely below
  - One stage generator 7 x peak load
- Fuel that is not used is burned away to emissions.
- Shambala festival saved 20% in fuel by adopting these practices. (£4k)

### Solutions

- ✓ Reduce power demand
- ✓ Accurately assess demand
- ✓ Combine loads on generators
- ✓ Know Your Power

### Problems

- × Uncertain requirements
- × Low Priority
- × Lack of understanding / energy awareness





## Bonnaroo: Permanent Solar Array

- 50kW Solar Array providing 61,000kWh / year
- Permanent and generating energy year round.
- Providing 20% festivals energy
  700 acre farm, Tennessee
  - 80,000 tickets sold out
- Sell energy back to local distribution network







# Funding the Project

- Funded entirely by attendees via optional fee presented during the ticket purchasing process.
- The fee, in place for the past 3 years has previously funded the "mobile tower of power," the compost pad, and the festival's garden.
- 2012, Bonnaroo added a \$1, nonoptional fee to all ticket sales, the proceeds from which are also set aside to fund additional green projects.

49.8% audience would accept increased ticket price for environmental improvements. (AGF/BNU 2012)



## **Hybrid Generator**







Firefly Solar release:

- 8 KVA / 16 KVA / 24KVA
  Solar generators on to the market
- Currently 75KvA Capacity.

### **Pictor – Campsite application**

- Light tower connected
- Silent
- 1.4KVA
- Twilight sensor turns lights on/off
- Can be used in or outdoors
- Reduced man hours

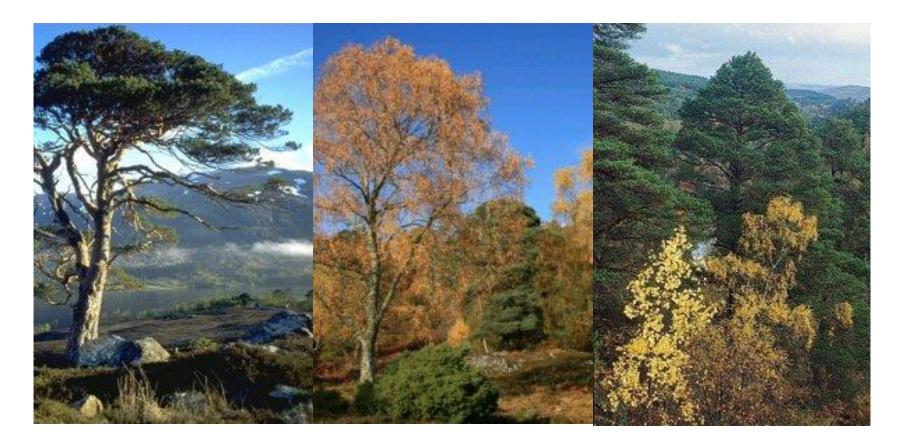






Reforestation project - Apr 2012 Dundreggan, Caldedonian Forest, Scottish Highlands

"Trees for Life's vision is to restore a wild forest, which is there for its own sake, as a home for wildlife and to fulfill the ecological functions necessary for the wellbeing of the land itself."





- Native seeds Scots Pine, Aspen, Birch, Alder...
- Natural distribution patterns
- Maximum benefit for biodiversity
- Not an offset scheme Chance for festival community to give back to the nature we love to enjoy.



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