

Friday 5 October 2012

Waste Not, Want Not At Granny Smith Festival

Ryde Council is always looking for ways to keep our City clean and tidy, so this year the City of Ryde Waste Team will be at the Granny Smith Festival to show you some tips and tricks!

No Plastic, Thanks!

This year, plastic is banned at the Granny Smith Festival altogether! That includes plastic bags, plastic food containers, plastic water bottles and plastic drinking straws.

Here's how you can help us put an end to plastic!

- *Plastic Bag Exchange*
Bring at least three plastic bags along to the Council stall in Rowe Street (next to the Trelawney Street Stage), and in return, we will give you a reusable shopping bag to stow all your festival bargains. Council staff will make sure your old bags are properly disposed of, so they don't create an environmental hazard.
- *Tap into Free Water*
BYOB - bring your own water bottle - and fill up for free at the Water Refill and Bubbler Station. Looking something like a robot out of Dr Who, and with scores of taps and bubblers on all four sides will be located next to the Oval Stage. By reusing your own water bottle you'll help reduce the estimated 5,000 plastic water bottles thrown away at the Festival. You'll also save on money on purchasing drinks and send a good message to the kids not to fill up on sweet fizzy drinks.

Leftover Makeover (LOMO)

NSW households throw away more than \$2.5 billion dollars worth of edible food per year. We can show you how you can save more than \$1,000 per year by planning your meals, storing food correctly and using some creative leftover cooking tips.

Visit the Council stall at the Granny Smith Festival and learn smart and easy cooking ideas while sampling our great recipes. You'll make your food go further and reduce waste too.

Worm Farming Demonstration

As you know, Granny is a great fan of composting. In fact, the first Granny Smith Apples sprouted from the remains of some crab apples that she threw onto the compost heap, and now she's famous throughout the world!

You can learn about composting and worm farming at the Granny Smith Festival Council stall. Find out how to get started with worm farming and what resources your Council can provide to assist you.

Festival Stall Waste Wise Audit

All Festival stall holders are expected to be waste-wise and Council staff will be carrying out on the spot audits to ensure that everyone is doing the right thing to reduce waste and

meet their sustainability requirements. All 280 stalls will be monitored, and those who meet the guidelines will be issued with a certificate of accreditation to display on their stalls.

Here's a quick check list of what the Audit Team will be looking out for:

Waste Reduction (the Do's)

- Keep Cups
- Reusable bags
- Reusable cups
- Paper straws
- Corn starch plates
- Bamboo cutlery

Non Compliant Material (the Don'ts)

- Plastic – bottles, bags, cups, coffee cup lids, film wrap, straws, takeaway containers
- Polystyrene – cups, packaging
- Sugar packets
- Sauce packets
- Excessive packing

Make sure you do your bit too by using the clearly identified waste and recycling stations that will be dotted throughout the Festival precinct for patrons.

Media contacts: City of Ryde: Lee Kirkland Media Officer 9952 8083.