

PLASTIC FREE MOTION



The Mackay Festival of Arts,

Noting with concern the significant issue that single-use plastics pose to the general and marine environments, and the burden and high cost they represent to the waste management sector,

Recognising that the Festival is committed to reducing the quantity of single-use plastics procured and used within the local community and to lead by example,

Also recognising that the Festival is committed to operating under sustainable practices; protecting land, marine and coastal environments; reducing waste and increasing resource recovery, and promoting local, ethical and sustainable products,

The Mackay Festival of Arts will introduce a Plastic Free Guide for all of our events, and:

1. effective immediately, ban the use of single-use plastics (water bottles, coffee cups and lids, straws, food ware [cups, plates, cutlery, etc], takeaway containers, and plastic bags) at all Festival events. The ban affords existing facilities and vendors a 6-month grace period to source alternatives to single-use plastics. The Festival will facilitate the provision of information on sourcing alternative options.
2. require that single-use plastics are replaced with reusable or 100% compostable items, or, if captured in a closed loop system, items eligible under the Container Refund Scheme, and that balloons and polystyrene packaging are not used, sold or distributed.
3. undertake an education campaign about the impacts of single-use plastics and the alternatives to these items, with particular emphasis on promoting BYO strategies.
4. work to provide information to everyone attending our events on sourcing alternatives to single-use plastics and encourage businesses within the community to adopt these strategies.



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