

Sustainable Events



Find out more

www.ucl.ac.uk/greenucl



[@GreenUCL](https://twitter.com/GreenUCL)



facebook.com/greenucl/

GREEN 

Events are forward facing and usually make up our audiences view of whether UCL is sustainable or not.

There are some really easy switches you can make, but we're always happy to problem solve and work out your challenges.

Use this guide for inspiration on how to organise a sustainable event.



Awards made out of teak from the Bloomsbury Theatre refurbishment.

Sustainable Events: Freebies

Freebies can be really unsustainable. When thinking about freebies, first ask yourself if you need them.

If the answer is yes, think about what your audience might want or need, so that they won't be binned after a few minutes?

Think about their material. Can we give out something that is long lasting and made from sustainable materials e.g. not plastic?

Can we give something that will help our audience transition to a zero-waste lifestyle e.g. water bottle/coffee-cup?



Sustainable Freebies



Sustainable Events: Food

Food waste

Food waste is the unfortunate by-product of many events. It occurs through the mishandling of food, through over-supply and under-eating. This is a waste of resources, time, effort and money!

Food into landfill is a major cause of landfill methane emissions, a global greenhouse gas emissions contributor.

There is a tendency to order more food than needed at events, so it doesn't run out. But ask yourself, when was the last time you ran an event and there wasn't leftover food. Try experimenting with ordering less food.

**One third of the world's food is wasted
– 1.3 billion tonnes per year**



**enough to feed 3 billion people,
or 10 times the population of the USA**

source: Tristram Stuart/FAO

Sustainable Events: Food

Food waste

If there is food leftover, ask attendees to take some away or take some back to the office. Some departments organise leftovers to be taken to homeless shelters prior to the event.

Ask Sodexo for a food bin at the very least.



“We’re a new project at UCL that wants to tackle food waste on campus. We re-distribute food from UCL cafés to homeless shelters, from where it is in excess to where it is scarce.”

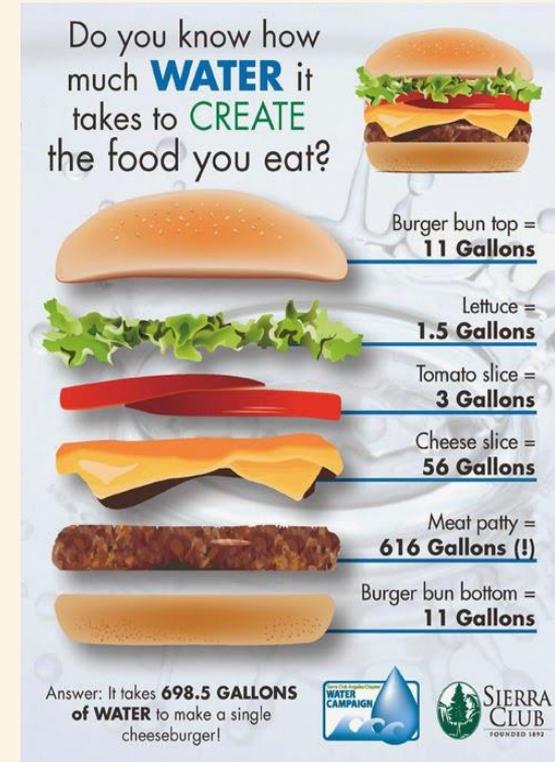
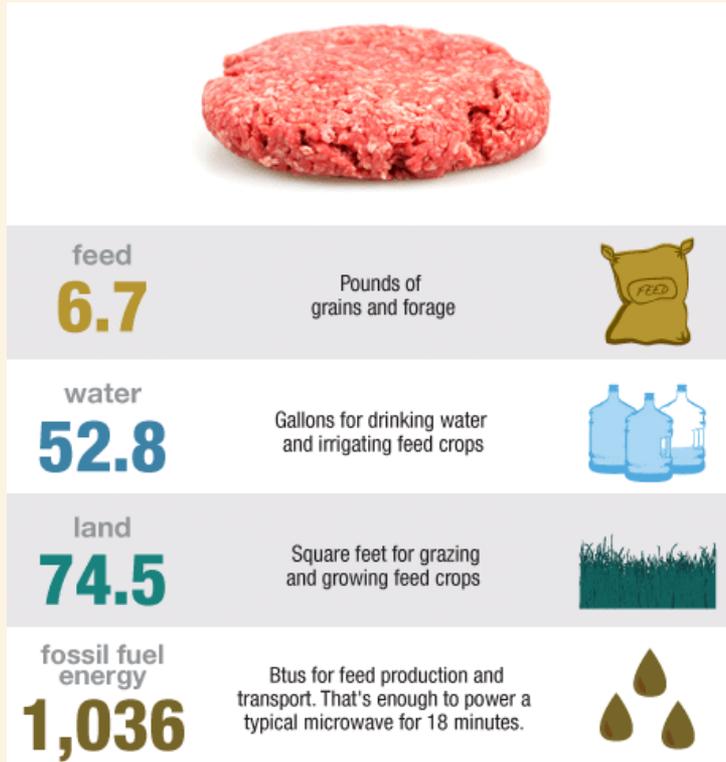
Sustainable Events: Food

Meat Vs Plant

Meat is very resource intensive and typically more expensive.

Make your events 50% vegetarian/meat as a minimum.

Sodexo have lots of vegetarian options.



Sustainable Events: Food

Ditch disposables

Ask Sodexo to provide crockery instead of disposables.

Ask attendees to bring their own cups/bottles.

Sodexo's supplier are in the process of making the sandwich platters etc. plastic free.



Sustainable Events: Get Creative



Get creative, if you are planning an event, thinking about sustainability can be fun. The student union organised a bike-powered cinema during Wellcome Week 2017.

Grab students attention by doing bio-degradable glitter at events- depending on your audience and objectives of course!



Sustainable Events: Get Creative

We have lots of academics and students researching and creating new innovative sustainable technology. Ask them to power your events.

UCLU society PPL PWR produced hydrogen-powered mulled wine for us during our Christmas Switch Off campaign.

If you need any resources, inspiration or help, get in touch!



Find out more

www.ucl.ac.uk/greenucl



[@GreenUCL](https://twitter.com/GreenUCL)



facebook.com/greenucl/

