

Greensweep / BGG Litter and Recycling Report 2007

Compost.

This year the Licence decreed we could not compost on site. Somerset Council will not take commercial compost so we were forced to deliver to Eco Composting Ltd in Bournemouth. This entailed hiring skips and a skip removal truck, and increasing the event cost by £2434, and caused us to use an extra 194 litres of diesel thus increasing our carbon footprint by 520kg. Big thanks to John Cossham, Compost Cath and the other (willing or persuaded) compost sorters, as all our compost was accepted by the picky Eco Compost Ltd, (they refused Glastonbury Festival's compost this year) and will be on a field somewhere in the South West by now.

	2005	2006	2007
Compost	8 tonnes est	12 tonnes	11.92 tonnes
Glass		5 est	7 est
cardboard, paper		2.76	
plastic bottles		1.78	
cans & ferrous	21.86 co-mingled	3 est	8.54
total recycled	29.86	24.6	27.46
Landfill	36.8	35.32	37.10
total output	66.48	59.92	64.56
Recycling rate	44.9%	41.1%	42.53%
CO2 emissions	937 litres diesel @ 2.68kg CO2/litre		2.51 tonnes

est = estimate, CO2 emissions based on three work vehicles, - compactor truck, skip truck and site VW tipper.

Crew.

We had 140 crew working 21 hours plus around another 60 casuals or so for the week after. We had 2 x 3 hour shifts am & pm. Much respect to the lovely crew and the top Team Leaders - Tanya Smart, Ram, Zulu, Ade Kelsey, Dave Clark & Seb for taking good care of their teams and areas. Thanks also to Janetta in the BGG office and Mike Hannis, our BGG link director, who between them got us the crew we needed and provided clarity in changing circumstances.

Location.

Our new location worked OK from a litter logistics point of view but a bit of a disaster for our Cafe, which subsidises providing around 1900 litter crew meals. Our Cafe income dipped from £3100 last year to £1100 this year. Next year we would appreciate being a bit nearer passing people.

Health and Safety.

All safe and healthy.

Return of site.

With extra crew we were able to fine pick the site and be finished by the following weekend, (with the exception of the last lived in areas of the crew field.) The first fields were returned to the sheep on Tuesday evening and Andrew the Farmer seemed happy.

Our general feeling was that the 2007 Gathering was about the cleanest we have ever seen the BGG or any other festival. Having a choice of 6 bins seemed to have made people choose more carefully how to dispose of their packaging. There was little cross contamination (the wrong stuff in the wrong bin), leading to an overall recycling rate of just over 42%. We are not aware of any event with a higher recycling rate.

Shane Collins
Greensweep Litter and Recycling co-ordinator