NYC Green Screen

Tips, Resources and other environmentally friendly information for NYC productions to save energy and production costs.

Before the shoot…

- Bring your own: reusable water bottle; coffee or tea mug; reusable cloth bag.
- Reduce paper waste
  - Use printer and copier paper made of recycled content.
  - Print and copy double-sided. Set printers and copiers default to duplex.
  - Choose digital – using e-mail and flash drives can help you prevent paper waste.
  - Reuse large envelopes, file folders, and boxes instead of purchasing new ones.
- Save Energy
  - Turn off all lights in rooms that aren't in use, and all lights at the end of the day.
  - Turn off and unplug electronics and appliances when not in use.
  - Replace standard light bulbs with compact fluorescents.
  - Switch to renewable energy - enroll your office in Con Edison's Green Power program.
- Conserve Water: use a water filter or water cooler instead of individual water bottles.
- Sustainable Purchasing
  - Bring a reusable cloth bag, reuse old bags or choose paper bags.
  - Buy in bulk to avoid excess packaging.
  - Choose natural or nontoxic cleaning products.
  - Use rechargeable batteries.
- **Recycle in the Production Office**: All NYC businesses are required by law to recycle through arrangement with a private carter. Check with your building manager or private carter/recycler to find out how your building recycles.
  - For what to recycle - follow the NYC commercial recycling regulations for businesses.
  - Post signs to notify employees and visitors about what and how to recycle in your office.
  - Place mixed paper containers by copiers/printers and bottles & cans containers in kitchen areas/vending machines.

During the Shoot…

- On Location
  - Turn off production vans and vehicles when not in use, do not idle. It's the law!
  - Do not park generator trucks in front of residential buildings.
  - Make certain that trucks and campers fit under trees to avoid damage to branches.
  - Use elastic bands or string when posting resident letters or parking signs. Tape, staples or thumb tacks severely damage trees. Remove all signage at the end of the shoot.
  - Rent fuel efficient vehicles.
- Craft Service
  - Reduce the use of Styrofoam and plastic plates, cups & utensils. Try reusable items or paper plates and paper cups.
  - Have a water cooler on set or a water filtration system for crew to use.
  - Provide local or organic food.
- Art Department: Use sustainable wood products. Utilize used construction materials for set construction.
- Reduce paper waste
  - Only print updated pages for script changes.
  - Reuse location signage.
- **Recycle During the Shoot**: Bottles, cans, paper and cardboard can be recycled on set through arrangement with a waste collection service. Make arrangements in advance for the collection of recyclables & garbage from your production.
  - What to recycle depends on the type of collection service your particular production site receives. Check with your Location Manager to find out how your production is recycling.
  - Recycling Set Up
    - Set up bins or bags wherever waste is routinely discarded and label clearly. Place bottles & cans bins near craft service, place paper & cardboard bins near production team.
    - Post signs notifying crew about what and how to recycle.
    - Place recycling bins directly next to every trash bin to prevent contamination.

After the Shoot…

- Props, art department supplies, food, lumber, equipment and expendables can be given to shelters, schools, or other organizations at the end of production.
- Make a clean sweep of the area to ensure that nothing is left behind: equipment, garbage, all resident letters, parking signs and VTU signs.

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Resources…

Recycling Information

- **NYC WasteLe$$** is NYC's resource for waste prevention and recycling information. www.nyc.gov/wasteless
- **Earth 911:** Guide to local resources including recycling centers, how to recycle, pollution prevention, and how to help protect the environment. www.earth911.org
- Try the "How Do I Dispose of…" feature on www.nyc.gov/sanitation
- **GrowNYC**: Hands-on non-profit that greens local neighborhoods, promotes waste prevention and recycling, and runs the largest farmers market program in the country. www.grownyc.org

Donation/Reuse

- **NY Wa$teMatch**: A free materials exchange service sponsored by the NYC Department of Sanitation. They can help you find a home for your surplus & used materials. Establish contact during pre-production or as soon as possible before production wrap. www.wastematch.org
- **NYC Stuff Exchange**: A quick and easy way to find out where to donate, buy, or sell gently used goods in New York City. www.nyc.gov/nycstuffexchange
- **Materials for the Arts**: the City's very own creative reuse program providing art supplies to public schools and the nonprofit arts community free of charge. Plan your donation at your very first pre-production meeting. Drop offs can be arranged by calling 718-729-2065 or e-mailing donations@mfta.nyc.gov. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. www.mfta.org
- **Build It Green! NYC**: Buy or donate used construction materials. www.bignyc.org
- **New Homes for Old Stuff** on NYC Wastele$$: List of some organizations that accept donations, listed by item type including how to donate leftover food. www.nyc.gov/wasteless
- **Rock & Wrap It Up!**: Boxes up prepared but untouched meals then delivers to local food banks and charitable agencies, www.rockandwrapitup.org

Vendors

- OFTB's **"Made in NY"** discount program. www.nyc.gov/html/film/html/production_resources/card.shtml
- Find **NYC Greenmarket Farmers Market** locations for fresh, local food. www.grownyc.org/greenmarket
- Con Edison's **Green Power** Program. www.conedsolutions.com/GoGreen
- **Tristate Biodiesel**. NYC based company providing biodiesel fuel. www.tristatebiodiesel.com
- **Metro Biofuels**. NYC based company providing biodiesel fuel. www.metroenergy.com
- **Sprague Energy**. Provider of biodiesel fuel with NY area locations. www.spragueenergy.com
- **GreeNow**. Biodiesel generators and recycling services for production and events. www.greenow.org

Other Resources

- NY Production Alliance (NYPA) & Producer's Guild of America (PGA) **Green Production Guide**. www.greenproductionguide.com
- **MillionTreesNYC.** Public-private initiative to plant 1,000,000 trees across NYC's five boroughs over the next decade. www.milliontreesnyc.org
- Organizations promoting environmentally-minded production practices:
  - **PGA Green**. www.pgagreen.org
  - **Earth Angel**. www.earthangelnyc.com

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