

Educational Materials

Introduction

Welcome to the NYC Film Green Designation Program! The following materials will help to guide productions through the NYC Film Green program and help to contextualize the New York Entertainment Industry in the larger sustainable production movement.

NYC Film Green is a program from the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MoME). MoME encompasses the key economic and creative sectors of film, TV, theater, music, advertising, publishing, digital content and real estate as it relates to these industries. In total, these sectors account for over 305,000 jobs, and an economic output of \$104 billion.

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Basic background on climate change, its causes, and the role of human impact. Includes definition of key terms.

Key Terms & Concepts

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How New York City can combat the causes and effects of climate change. Includes glossary of key terms, stats on New York's greenhouse gas emissions, waste and sustainability resources in the city.

Key Terms & Concepts

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A Changing Planet | Climate Change 101

While Earth's climate has gradually changed from natural causes in the planet's 4+ billion year history, human actions have accelerated the process and put the current global population and planet at risk. For more information, see excerpts from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency below.¹

Our Earth is warming.

Earth's average temperature has risen by 1.5°F over the past century, and is projected to rise another 0.5 to 8.6°F over the next hundred years. Even these small changes in the average temperature of the planet can translate to large and potentially dangerous shifts in climate and weather.

The evidence is clear.

Rising global temperatures have been accompanied by changes in weather and climate. Many places have seen changes in rainfall, resulting in more floods, droughts, or intense rain, as well as more frequent and severe heat waves.

The planet's oceans and glaciers have also experienced some big changes – oceans are warming and becoming more acidic, ice caps are melting, and sea levels are rising. As these and other changes become more pronounced in the coming decades, they will likely present significant challenges to our society and our environment.

Humans are largely responsible for recent climate change.

Over the past two centuries, human activities have rapidly released a large proportion of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. The majority of greenhouse gases come from burning fossil fuels to produce energy, although deforestation, industrial processes, and some agricultural practices also emit gases into the atmosphere.

Greenhouse gases act like a blanket around Earth, trapping energy in the atmosphere and causing it to warm. This phenomenon is called the greenhouse effect, and it is natural and necessary to support life on Earth. However, the human-fueled buildup of greenhouse gases is changing the Earth's climate and resulting in dangerous effects to human health and welfare and to ecosystems like desertification, habitat change and a host of other issues.

The choices we make today will affect the amount of greenhouse gases we put in the atmosphere in the near future and for years to come.

¹EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/climatechange/climate-change-basic-information

We can reduce the risks we will face from climate change.

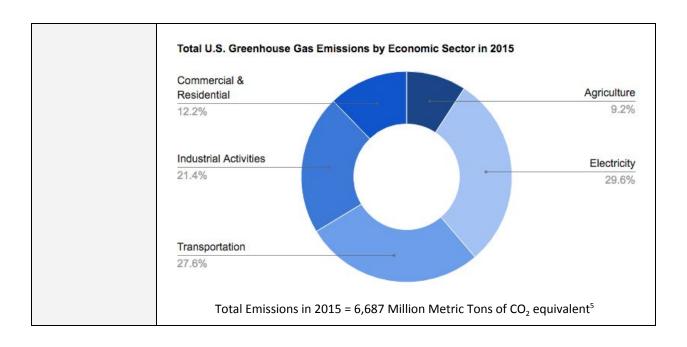
By making choices that reduce greenhouse gas pollution, adapting to new conditions and changing current wasteful and emission-heavy habits, we can reduce some of the future risks posed by climate change. Our decisions today will shape the world our children and grandchildren will live in.

Key Terms & Concepts			
Climate Change	Climate change refers to any significant change in the measures of climate lasting for an extended period of time. In other words, climate change includes major changes in temperature, precipitation, or wind patterns, among other effects, that occur over several decades or longer. ²		
Global Warming	Global warming refers to the recent and ongoing rise in global average temperature near Earth's surface. It is caused mostly by increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Global warming is causing climate patterns to change. ³		
Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)			

² EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/climatechange/climate-change-basic-information

³ EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/climatechange/climate-change-basic-information

⁴ EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/overview-greenhouse-gases



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⁵ EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/ghgemissions/sources-greenhouse-gas-emissions

Sustainable NYC | What Can New York Do?

As the largest city in the United States, New York City has a great opportunity to take action against climate change as the city's actions can have a ripple effect across the country. MoME's NYC Film Green Program is one of the larger initiatives being taken to make the city more sustainable. The New York City Mayor's Office of Sustainability's⁶ OneNYC campaign is making strides to advance Mayor DeBlasio's goal of making New York City "the most sustainable big city in the world and a global leader in the fight against climate change."

Taking the lead from the Bruntland Commission, The Office of Sustainability believes that "sustainability means the activities we undertake today will not compromise the present generation's or future generations' ability to meet their own needs". "Everything that we need for our survival and well-being depends, either directly or indirectly, on our natural environment." Therefore, to be sustainable means to be aware of the impacts that certain actions have on the environment, work to mitigate the emissions those impacts have, and adapt by taking actions that are less harmful.⁸

Key Terms & Concepts		
Sustainability	To ensure that current actions will not compromise the present generation's or future generations' ability to meet their own needs. ⁹	
Best Practices	Actions that help to reduce waste and harmful GHG emissions.	
Waste	Any item or material that cannot be reused or repurposed and must be disposed of.	
Landfill Waste	Waste that cannot be recycled or turned into compost and must be sent to a landfill.	
Organic	 Relating to or denoting compounds containing carbon and chiefly or ultimately of biological origin. Produced or involving production without the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, or other artificial agents. 	
Organic Waste	Waste that is made of organic material and can be composted. This includes food scraps, yard waste, and certain compostable bioplastics.	

⁶ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/site/sustainability/index.page

⁷ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/site/sustainability/initiatives/urban-sustainability.page

⁸ EPA.gov, https://www.epa.gov/sustainability/learn-about-sustainability#what

⁹ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/site/sustainability/initiatives/urban-sustainability.page

Compost	Organic matter that has been decomposed and recycled as a fertilizer and soil amendment.	
E-Waste	Electronic products nearing the end of their "useful life." Computers, televisions, VCRs, stereos, copiers, and fax machines are common electronic products that can be recycled.	
Recyclables	Materials that can be broken down to be turned into other items. These materials include many kinds of glass, paper, and cardboard, metal, plastic, tires, textiles, and electronics.	
Source Separated Recycling	A system of recycling where recyclable materials must be sorted by material type with metal glass and plastic separated from paper and cardboard.	
Single Stream (Mixed) Recycling	A system of recycling where all common recyclable materials (metal, glass, plastic, paper, cardboard) can be accepted in the same receptacle and are sorted into separate material streams at a material recovery facility.	
Textile Recycling	A process in which fabric scraps are broken down and used to create other materials.	
Material Recovery Facility (MRF)	A specialized facility that receives, separates and prepares recyclable materials for sale to end-user manufacturers. It is important that the materials which come out of the MRF are clean, properly sorted and relatively free of impurities. ¹⁰	
Greenwashing	A term that merges the concepts of "green" (environmentally sound), and "whitewashing" (to gloss over wrongdoing) to describe the deceptive use of green marketing which promotes a misleading perception that a company's policies, practices, products or services are environmentally friendly. "Eco-Friendly," "organic," "natural," and "green" are just some everyday examples of widely used labels that can be confusing, even misleading. ¹¹	

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https://www.forbes.com/sites/realspin/2012/03/20/greenwashing-deceptive-business-claims-of-eco-friendliness/#24c211633d9a

¹⁰ Fairfax County.gov, http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/recycling/mrfintro.htm

¹¹ Forbes.com,

New York City's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Statistics

More than 68 percent of total citywide GHG emissions can be attributed to the energy used to power, heat, and cool buildings, which includes the emissions from burning fossil fuels both to produce heat and hot water in buildings and to generate electricity from power plants.¹²

Approximately 78 percent of the total emissions attributed to the waste sector are the result of methane generated by New York City's landfilled waste.¹³

While New York City has the highest proportion of trips by modes other than private vehicles of any large U.S. city (including public transportation, biking, walking and more), ¹⁴ the transportation sector is responsible for 28 percent of citywide GHG emissions. ¹⁵

New York City's Waste Statistics

Everyday, New Yorkers generate 18,500 tons of waste.¹⁶

Every week, the average New Yorker throws out nearly 15 pounds of waste at home and another nine pounds of waste at work and in commercial establishments.¹⁷

The Department of Sanitation efficiently and sustainably manages more than 3.7 million tons of material annually. 18

Organic waste makes up about one-third of the waste that New Yorkers send to landfills every day.¹⁹

Discarded textiles comprise six percent of our waste—nearly 190,000 tons each year.²⁰

 $http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/sustainability/downloads/pdf/publications/New\%20York\%20City\%27s\%20Roadmap\%20to\%2080\%20x\%2050_Final.pdf$

http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/sustainability/downloads/pdf/publications/New%20York%20City%27s%20Roadmap% 20to%2080%20x%2050 Final.pdf

http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/sustainability/downloads/pdf/publications/New%20York%20City%27s%20Roadmap% 20to%2080%20x%2050_Final.pdf

http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/sustainability/downloads/pdf/publications/New%20York%20City%27s%20Roadmap% 20to%2080%20x%2050_Final.pdf

¹² NYC.gov,

¹³ NYC.gov,

¹⁴ NYC.gov,

¹⁵ NYC.gov,

¹⁶ NYC.gov, http://www.nyc.gov/html/onenyc/downloads/pdf/publications/OneNYC.pdf

¹⁷ NYC.gov, http://www.nyc.gov/html/onenyc/downloads/pdf/publications/OneNYC.pdf

¹⁸ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/downloads/pdf/about/inside-dsny/2016 annualreport 12.15.pdf

¹⁹ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/2016SP.pdf

²⁰ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/2016SP.pdf

Sustainability Reso	urces for New Yorkers		
Waste Disposal	Recycling Labels & Decals Electronic Waste Food Scraps & Yard Waste Green Market Food Scrap Collection Green Market Textiles Collection Safe Disposal		
Energy saving	Rebates and Tax Credits for energy efficiency NYSERDA: Residents & Homeowners Guides NYSERDA: Home Energy Efficiency Programs Federal Income Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency Energy efficient appliances		
	Switching energy providers to renewable energy sources Green Mountain Energy Clean Choice Energy		
Donations	Donate NYC Refashion NYC BIG Reuse Materials for the Arts		
Water	Tap vs Bottled Water The Story of Stuff: Bottled Water NRDC Study Natural Resource Defense Fund Study Findings NYC drinking water NYC Environmental Protection		
Sourcing	Green product certifications Mother Nature Network Green product certification: 21 symbols you should recognize		
	Animal Welfare Approved Bird Friendly Cradle to Cradle Certified Demeter Certified Biodynamic Design for the Environment	Forest Stewardship Council Certified Global Organic Textile Standard Green Seal Marine Stewardship Council Rainforest Alliance Certified/Verified	

		Salmon-Safe USDA Organic WaterSense Business Claims of "Eco-Friendliness" umers Find Out If a Corporation Is "Greenwashing"
GHG Emissions & Carbon Footprint	Tools to calculate GHG emissions and carbon footprint TerraPass Carbon Footprint Calculator EPA Household Carbon Footprint Calculator Cool Climate Network Carbon Calculator	

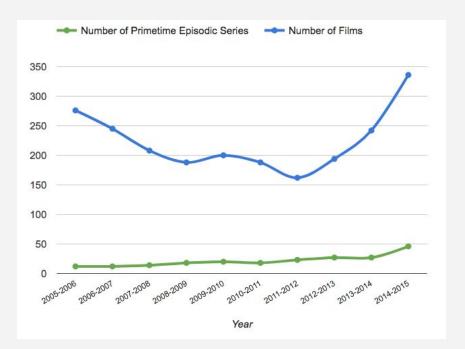
Made in NY | How Does Entertainment Fit In?

Due to its iconic skyline, top notch film crews and ease of production, New York City rivals Los Angeles as one of the nation's top entertainment production hubs. In recent years, there has been more filming activity in New York City than ever before. While this has translated into increased economic activity for our City, we are also mindful of how this impacts our environment.

Below are some quick facts on the film and television industry's growth in and impact on New York.

New York's Entertainment Industry Stats

In 2015, 46 prime time episodic television series and 336 feature films were shot in New York



Film and television production has added a total of \$8.7 billion to the local economy.²¹

Approximately 130,000 New Yorkers are employed in film and television production.²²

NYC is one of only three cities in the world (along with LA and London) with a filming community large enough

²¹ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/mome/pdf/bcg-report-10.15.pdf

²²NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/mome/pdf/bcg-report-10.15.pdf

to enable a production to be made without needing any cast or crew to be brought in from outside the region.²³

The increase in TV production has enabled New York to have a thriving freelance economy by providing opportunity for crews to work year-round by combining projects.²⁴

While there is a wealth of information on the impact of the entertainment industry in New York City, there is a dearth of information around this sector's environmental impact. The Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment is working to address this issue with the NYC Film Green program by gathering more information while also reducing emissions and waste produced by the entertainment industry.

For more information on sustainable production and resources to help productions go green, see the below materials from the <u>Producer's Guild of America Green Production Guide</u>.

Sustainable Production Resources

Production
Environmental
Accounting Report
Carbon Calculator

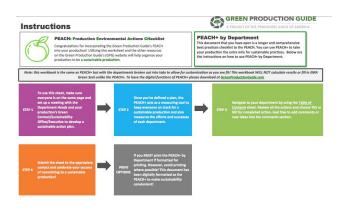
Carbon Calculato
(PEAR Carbon
Calculator)

A tool for productions to assess their environmental impact based on inputs from utilities, transportation and travel; and record waste, donations, and other environmentally-impactful purchases like water, lumber and paper.



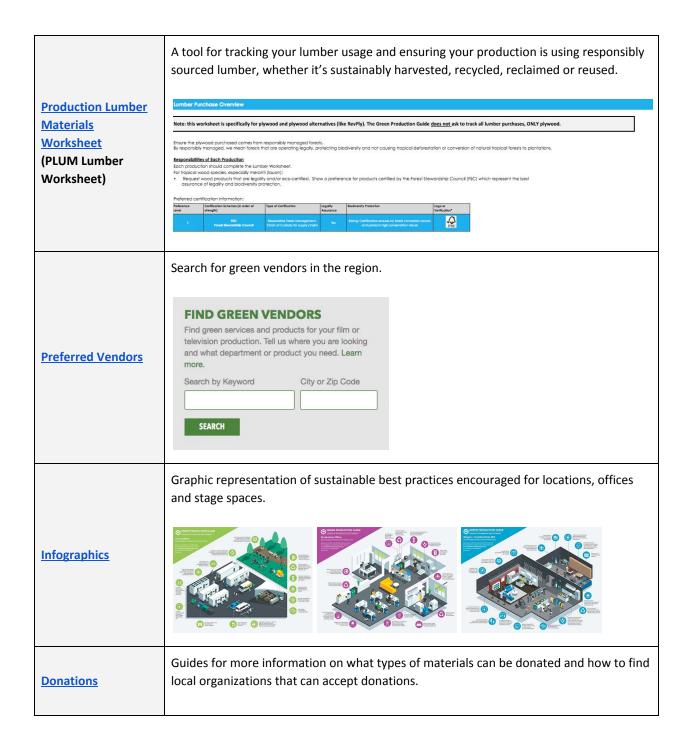
An overview of best practices for sustainable production based on the experience of a wide range of producers and cross-referenced with other guides and practices around the world.

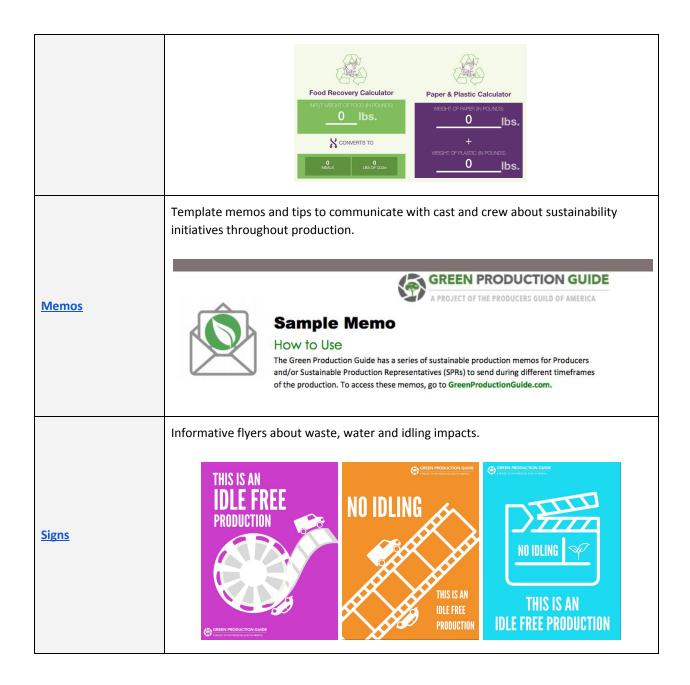
Production
Environmental
Accounting Checklist
(PEACH Best
Practices)



²³ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/mome/pdf/bcg-report-10.15.pdf

²⁴ NYC.gov, http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/mome/pdf/bcg-report-10.15.pdf





NYC Film Green Designation Program | Steps to Sustainability

Overview

The NYC Film Green designation is a first-of-its-kind environmental sustainability designation program for New York City's film and television productions, spearheaded by the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MoME). This <u>voluntary</u> initiative encourages productions to engage in sustainable practices in order to reduce their environmental impact and create a sustainable production environment in New York City.

The primary goals of NYC Film Green are to help productions reduce their impact on the environment, to highlight productions already reducing their impact, and to encourage other NYC based projects to join in by sharing sustainable best practices. As robust industry participation is important, we hope to make involvement in NYC Film Green as simple and straightforward as possible.

Benefits of Enrollment

Enrolling in NYC Film Green will establish productions as green leaders in the entertainment industry. This cutting-edge program is an opportunity for your production to be recognized by your viewers as a thought leader and making a difference. MoME will work with productions to apply for recognition for such efforts. Once a production achieves an NYC Film Green designation, it will receive a NYC Film Green mark of distinction that can be placed in end credits and in any marketing and promotional materials in connection with the production. MoME will recognize productions that have demonstrated exceptional efforts in sustainability.

Program Timeline			
Step 1 Apply	Prep	 Production submits Application Form. Production's accounting department sets up environmental data tracking related to required Green Production Guide's Production Environmental Accounting Report Carbon Calculator (GPG PEAR Carbon Calculator) categories. 	
Step 2 Meet Program Requirements	Production	1. Production tracks basic environmental metrics in GPG PEAR Carbon Calculator including: a. Utilities (electricity, and natural gas and heating oil) b. Fuel (total gallons used per type of fuel, i.e. diesel, propane, gasoline, biodiesel) c. Housing (number of nights stayed, types of accommodations), d. Commercial Air travel (number of air miles traveled) e. Charter & Helicopter Flights	

		2. Production completes all Core Requirements and at least 5 Electives.	
Step 3 Submit	Wrap	Production presents Submission Packet including: a. Completed GPG PEAR Carbon Calculator	
		b. Submission Form (including requirements table and	
		questionnaire) c. Affidavit to ensure accuracy of all submitted materials	

Step 1 | Apply

To apply for the designation, productions must submit a completed Application Form that details basic production information and which requirements they are planning on completing to attain the designation.

Click the image below to get to the **Application Form**.



Step 2 | Meet Program Requirements

To complete the NYC Film Green Program, productions must:

Part A Complete a Green Production Guide (GPG) PEAR Carbon Calculator

Part B Meet requirements for sustainable actions taken on and off set

Part A | Carbon Footprint & Carbon Calculator

To adequately understand the environmental impact of a film or television production, the amount of carbon dioxide equivalent it releases, or its carbon footprint, must be assessed.

Because entertainment production is such a unique field with many moving parts and practices taken from many different industries, it can be difficult to calculate its entire carbon footprint. The Producer's Guild of America's Green Production Guide (GPG) has worked to develop the Production Environmental Accounting Report (PEAR) Carbon Calculator that encompasses the many facets of physical production that result in carbon emissions.

Participation in the NYC Film Green Program requires productions to use the GPG PEAR Carbon Calculator to track the following data:

- 1. Utilities (electricity, and natural gas and heating oil)
- 2. Fuel (total gallons used per type of fuel, i.e. diesel, propane, gasoline, biodiesel)
- 3. Housing (number of nights stayed, types of accommodations),
- 4. Commercial Air travel (number of air miles traveled)
- 5. Charter & Helicopter Flights

Click the image below to get to the **Green Production Guide PEAR Carbon Calculator** and a methodology and tutorial for the calculator that includes screenshots and step-by-step instructions for completing the calculator.



PEAR (CARBON CALCULATOR) EMISSION METHODOLOGY

DOWNLOAD THE PEAR (CARBON CALCULATOR) TUTORIAL

All of this data tracking can be done using the production's accounting software to code certain purchases.

Part B | Sustainable Actions

The requirements for production to receive the NYC Film Green mark of distinction are divided into seven categories which can be seen below.

Category	Description	
Carbon Emissions	Measure production's carbon footprint with the GPG Pear Carbon Calculator (see Part A	
Waste Diversion	Divert waste as much as possible in all offices, workshops and shooting locations.	
Transportation	Create an action plan to reduce emissions from transportation.	
Waste Reduction	Donate or repurpose unwanted items and resources.	
Energy Use	Conserve energy in offices and workshops.	
Education	Educate cast and crew about sustainability measures and set departmental goals.	
Sourcing	Source environmentally friendly products and services.	

Each category has one to five Core Requirements, one to five Electives, and one to five Extra Credit Actions. To receive the NYC Film Green mark of distinction productions must:

Complete **all** <u>Core Requirements</u> in **each category**

Complete **5 or more** of the <u>Electives</u>

Those productions that go above and beyond the Core Requirements and Electives by completing Extra Credit Actions have the opportunity to receive added recognition.

Click the image below to get to the **Requirements Guide** for descriptions of each action and see all of the possible ways that productions can receive the NYC Film Green mark of distinction. The main requirements table with all of the possible actions that the production can take is below.



Category	CORE REQUIREMENTS	ELECTIVES	EXTRA CREDIT
	All are required	Must complete five (5) or more	Not required
Carbon Emissions	1.1.1 Measure carbon footprint of production using the Green Production Guide Pear Carbon Calculator.	1.2.1 Measure carbon footprint of production using the Green Production Guide Pear Carbon Calculator including EAR metrics.	1.3.1 Purchase reputable carbon offsets.
Waste Diversion	2.1.1 Divert waste as much as possible in all offices, workshops and shooting locations through recycling programs. 2.1.2 More than 30% of discarded material is diverted from landfill.	2.2.1 Divert waste as much as possible in all offices, workshops and shooting locations through a recycling and composting program. 2.2.2 More than 50% of discarded material is diverted from landfill.	2.3.1 Extend elective waste diversion practices to post-production office operations as well as off-production operations. 2.3.2 More than 70% of discarded material is diverted from landfill.
Transportation	3.1.1 Create an action plan to reduce emissions from transportation. 3.1.2 Encourage use of low emission transportation including public transportation and zero emission transportation (biking, walking, etc.). 3.1.3 Enforce anti-idling policy. 3.1.4 Ensure all generators meet EPA tier	3.2.1 Opt for environmentally conscious hotels and housing. 3.2.3 Reduce emissions from transportation through the use of B20 biodiesel.	3.3.1 Reduce emissions from transportation through the use of B50 biodiesel. 3.3.2 Reduce emissions from transportation through the use of solar powered vehicles and/or generators.

	3 standards. 3.1.5 Reduce unnecessary travel.		
Waste Reduction	4.1.1 Donate or repurpose unwanted items. 4.1.2 Eliminate single-use plastic water bottles on and off set. 4.1.3 Donate all leftover food after meals.	4.2.1 Reduce use of single-use, disposable items (such as coffee pods, soda cans, other individually wrapped items). 4.2.2 Donate or repurpose 30% or more of constructed set and scenery material that are not stored. 4.2.3 Opt for reusable dishware and cutlery at lunch rather than disposables.	4.3.1 Construct for deconstruction rather than demolition, and repurpose 50% or more of construction material. 4.3.2 Use programs to digitize production documents and reduce paper consumption.
Energy Use	5.1.1 Conserve energy in offices and workshops by powering down.	5.2.1 Reduce energy use in offices and workshops by retrofitting with efficient lighting and heating.	5.3.1 Reduce emissions from energy use by utilizing renewable sources of energy (i.e. solar, wind, geothermal).
Education	6.1.1 Organize a sustainable production meeting during prep to announce the show's commitment to sustainability. 6.1.2 Set departmental sustainability goals.	6.2.1 Make environmental education available and keep cast and crew up to date on sustainability efforts with regular updates. 6.2.2 Include green facts on daily call sheet. 6.2.3 Make a final sustainability report available to all production personnel, detailing sustainability progress and shortcomings.	6.3.1 Hire an environmental consultant and/or production assistant to oversee sustainability management. 6.3.2 Engage in community give-back efforts.
Sourcing	7.1.1 Use a percentage of recycled content paper.	7.2.1 Purchase second-hand materials.	7.3.1 Purchase set construction materials from environmentally preferable sources.

Step 3 | Submit Final Documentation

Once the production has wrapped, the production representative must complete the Submission Form. The Submission Form is designed to document which requirements the production completed in order to qualify for the NYC Film Green mark of distinction. The production may submit additional documentation of its sustainability efforts along with this form but additional documentation is not required.

Click the image below to get to the **Submission Form**.



Frequently Asked Questions

Can my production enroll in NYC Film Green?

Yes! Open applications will be made available in June 2017.

Who is eligible to enroll in NYC Film Green?

Any feature film or episodic scripted television production with at least one day of production taking place in NYC may apply to be a part of the NYC Film Green program. The enrollment process requires productions to pledge to undertake a number of sustainable actions, and work with their various production departments to develop a sustainability plan.

Does participation in NYC Film Green affect my production's ability to receive a permit?

NYC Film Green is entirely voluntary; although participation is encouraged! <u>Participation is not a prerequisite</u> <u>for productions to obtain permits in New York City.</u>

What are the different actions a production must take in order to receive the designation?

There are core, elective, and extra credit sustainable actions. All productions must take on the core and some elective actions in order to receive the designation. The actions fall under the umbrellas of education, waste reduction, energy use, transportation, and waste diversion. Waste diversion is ensuring that materials that might just be thrown away and sent to landfill are instead be recycled, composted, or donated.

How are you tracking each production's adherence to the program?

Every production enrolled in NYC Film Green will be responsible for documenting their participation with the PGA Green PEAR Carbon Calculator. MoME will use the Submission Form to verify the data that is entered into the Carbon Calculator.

What does a production get from MoME for participating?

While there is always the value of doing our part to reduce our carbon footprint, productions have the opportunity to be among the first green leaders in the entertainment industry, and be recognized by their viewers as such. Every production that successfully completes the requirements for NYC Film Green will receive an NYC Film Green mark of distinction to use in marketing materials and end credits. Additionally, productions that go above and beyond to increase their sustainability will be eligible for special recognition.

What happens if a production signs on to participate but does not meet the qualifications for the designation (ie does not reduce its footprint enough)?

The production will not be eligible to use the NYC Film Green mark of distinction, but will still have contributed to the important work of sustainability. MoME will not publish a list of program applicants.

Why is this program voluntary?

Many productions understand the value – both financial and moral – in increasing the efficiency and sustainability of their productions. We are offering an opportunity for productions to be recognized for the efforts they are already making, as well as encouraging further sustainability from the film and television industry.