

# Broadway Green Alliance's

## Best Practices

### DESIGNERS:

- Design for the environment by designing scenery that reduces the amount of material used in its construction.
- Design with LED lighting (or another energy efficient alternative) when possible.
- Reuse sets or costumes from previous productions when designing a new show.
- Encourage scenic, costume and lighting shops to use recycled materials.
- Utilize vendors who provide recycled materials and reduce their own company's emission of greenhouse gases.
- Utilize local vendors as opposed to having products shipped across the country.
- Specify use of FSC certified wood/plywood and non-rainforest-sourced luan in your designs.
- Implement green practices in your office.
- Ensure that any waste produced is sent to a local recycling facility.

### SHOPS:

- Establish a greening policy and implement green practices for your shop, including the office
- Put someone in your operation in charge of green procedures as a resource for all your employees and clients.
- Utilize recycled and reusable materials when possible.
- Utilize a local waste management company that is committed to recycling
- Adopt construction methods that reduce the amount of material used.
- Use non-toxic, biodegradable materials in the construction and maintenance of costumes and sets.
- Use vendors who use green practices in their product development and deployment.
- Use FSC-certified wood and plywood and minimize or do not use luan harvested from rainforests.
- Use local vendors when possible.
- Develop special effects (e.g., fog, fire) with environmentally responsible materials.
- Utilize LED lighting when possible.
- Use rechargeable batteries in battery-operated devices and recycle any non-rechargeable batteries
- Offer designers ways to re-purpose sets and costumes from previous productions.
- Partner with local material donation organizations (e.g., [Materials for the Arts](#), [WasteMatch.org](#)) to facilitate the re-use of sets, costumes and props
- Maintain facilities for the storage of sets, costumes and lighting for re-use.
- Encourage producers and general managers to recycle sets and costumes upon the closing of a show.

## **DEPARTMENTAL EFFORTS:**

- **Wardrobe:**
  - Use eco-friendly detergents. (Go to the [NRDC](#) for a list of suppliers.)
  - Wash clothes in cold water.
  - Air-dry clothes when possible.
  - Reuse old t-shirts as rags(or donate to textile recycling)
- **Sound:**
  - Use rechargeable batteries whenever possible. (but do NOT throw in the garbage)
  - Recycle partially used batteries.
- **Carpentry / Props:**
  - Consider environmentally-sound versions of paints, glues, solvents, etc.
  - Properly dispose of hazardous liquids, such as paint, paint thinners, glues, etc.

## **LONG-RUNNING SHOWS:**

- Meet with the entire company to discuss the implementation of these better practices, and point out all recycling areas in the building.
- Post reminders for the company throughout the building.
- Make a "green package" to hand out to new company members along with their welcome package and give them a list of the ways that the company is trying to reduce their carbon footprint.
- Point out recycling centers to new company members when they get their tour of the theatre.

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY:**

- Seek out a local utility to complete an energy audit, to provide a baseline for energy and cost saving discoveries.
- Convert all exterior and ancillary lamps, where feasible, to energy-efficient CFL or LED bulbs.
- Turn off lights when not needed. For example, the house lights can be turned off after the cleaning crew and porters have finished in the morning. Lights do not need to stay on for the entire shift while staffers clean other areas in the venue.
- Encourage actors and production staff to turn off window air conditioners and unplug all unnecessary electronics when they are not in use.
- Invest in more energy-efficient HVAC systems as venues are restored/upgraded.
- Investigate the addition of motion-sensor lighting where practical.

## **WASTE MANAGEMENT:**

- Commit to a more aggressive recycling policy, including waste and refuse from production staff, concessions, maintenance crew and patrons.
- Ensure proper recycling of lamps containing mercury.
- Ensure proper recycling of batteries, toners and electronic waste.
- Utilize greener administrative practices in executive offices, including a commitment to reduced paper usage.

**PROCUREMENT:**

- Convert to green cleaning products, which alleviate staff and patron environmental health exposures. (the BGA [ServCo](#) program may be able to help)
- Use recycled paper products that contain at least 30% post-consumer content.
- Make environmentally informed choices during theatre renovations as facility projects arise.

**WATER CONSERVATION:**

- Conserve and manage water consumption and sewer waste.
- Examine investment in water-efficient bathroom fixtures, including low-flow sinks and waterless urinals.

**GENERAL:**

- Establish a greening policy for your operation. (The [NRDC](#) can help).
- Implement green practices in administrative offices.