

## 21 Environmental Statement

Glastonbury Festival recognises that running the event at Worthy Farm has a direct impact (both positive and negative) on the environment. The Festival is committed to enhancing the environment through our operations wherever possible, and minimising any negative impact.

The Festival also commits to maintaining the rich and diverse environment that has evolved through alternative land usage. Holding a festival once a year in the middle of the growing season prevents the use of environmentally damaging conventional farming practices which would have a more intrusive impact on the ecology.

This statement will focus on litter management, sewage management, management of the general ecology of the site and environmental messaging to Festival goers - and also includes our "Smoke free" policy. The Festival is committed to working with the grain of nature and complying with all environmental legal requirements. To this end, from 2007, the Festival has employed Meegan Jones as Sustainability Manager. She is an expert in the field and will pull together a report on sustainability each year to focus where further improvements can be made.

### Litter Management

Any event with 180,000 attendees will generate significant levels of litter. The Festival is committed to minimising the amount of waste, and managing the on site collection of that waste efficiently. The Festival works to the key environmental management principals of "reduce, reuse and recycle". The Festival is equally committed to quickly and effectively clearing any litter caused by the Festival in the local community.

The Festival commits to continuing its policy of reducing the percentage of waste that goes to landfill, by placing controls on what is brought on site by staff, contractors, sponsors and traders – and by emphasis on their responsibility not to bring items that will end in landfill, to think recycling when bringing materials on site, and to remove items brought on site which otherwise would end in landfill. The strap line "Leave no Trace" will be promoted to the public through articles and initiatives in advance of the Festival, encouraging people to limit what they bring on site, and from the stages during the event, encouraging them to clean up behind them. The Festival has issued waste bags when the public come through the gates for many years. In 2008 additional bags were available from the campsite stewards – and there is a push on the Sunday to encourage Festival goers to be responsible for their litter

The Festival is also committed to continuing the composting initiative first developed in 2004, to minimise the amount of waste that goes to landfill. It is Festival policy that all disposables provided to food traders by Festival wholesalers will be biodegradable, and manufactured in environmental friendly fashion. This is closely monitored and enforced.

The Festival will actively promote recycling to Festival goers and will research further recycling options. The Festival will continue to aim to exceed MDC's own recycling targets – which has been achieved in the previous three Festivals. The MDC target was that 24% of all waste should be recycled in 2008.

In 2008, the Festival recycled 194 tonnes of composted organic waste, 400 tonnes of chipped wood, 9.12 tonnes of glass, 54.26 tonnes of cans and plastic bottles, 41.76 tonnes of cardboard, 66.77 tonnes scrap metal and 11.2 tonnes of tents. A total of approximately 788 tonnes of waste was recycled, with 863 tonnes going to landfill, making the percentage of waste recycled 48%. The Festival commits to work with the statutory authorities on recycling and litter management issues.

## **Managing Sewage and Waste Water**

The Festival commits to transporting sewage and waste water offsite, with the use of the lagoon as a temporary holding facility, in full consultation with the Environment Agency and Wessex Water.

The Festival undertakes to provide containers for waste water and direct all employees and traders that there must not be any discharge of any contaminated water to surface or ground waters. This will continue to be closely monitored and managed. All foul drainage from the market areas and traders will be collected and transported to the lagoon for subsequent disposal. The levels of the effluent collection in the lagoon will be continually monitored, with effluent being transported on a continuous basis to approved sewage treatment works during the event. The lagoon will be thoroughly cleansed before it is returned to agricultural use. The Festival undertakes to commit to the standards set by the Environment Agency with regards to sewage disposal and to an ongoing process of consultation with the Environment Agency and Mendip District Council with regards to minimising any environmental damage caused by the Festival.

The Festival will protect watercourses to minimise the potential of pollution during the event and undertakes to provide more urinals and toilets than recommended by the Event Safety Guide, siting the additional facilities at potential pollution hot spots. The Festival will also monitor the streams during the event.

The Festival will be working with Ecover, the manufacturer of ecological cleaning products to limit the impact on waste water of detergents used by traders.

The Festival also is committed to investigating further developments in technology, which may result in minimising the volume that needs to be transported off site, which in turn will reduce the impact from carbon emissions caused by the tankers. Any developments will only be progressed with the approval of the appropriate authorities.

## **Managing the Potential of Light Pollution**

The rural location of the Festival, combined with the topography of the land, means that the potential of light pollution impacting on the local community is limited. However it is taken into account during the planning of the event.

Light shows and lasers are planned and executed with great care to ensure they are not directed into areas that could impinge on the sleeping and living space of local residents, or on crew sleeping space. The timings of such light shows are planned to minimise any potential disruption and will be agreed in advance with the licensing authority.

Public lighting is kept to the minimum necessary for health and safety and security reasons, and stages and traders lighting is switched off when not operating, to minimise any impact on the local community and on residential wildlife, and in particular bats and migrating birds.

## **Managing the Ecology of the Site**

The Festival is committed to maintaining the high level of bio-diversity that was found on the Festival site by the independent bio-diversity audit carried out by Liz Biron of Somerset Environmental Records Centre in 2003. The Festival aims to further increase this level by continuing its commitment to protecting vulnerable habitats, its new county wildlife sites, badger

sets, ponds, streams, hedges and ditches, in nature reserves and non public zones or by fencing them off.

The Festival will continue to try to increase both the abundance and diversity of wildlife, by:

- actively enhancing habitats on site by tree planting, hedge planting, pond creation and maintenance, establishing and maintaining a reed bed, coppicing and hedge laying etc;
- continuing to allow the process of succession from inherited improved grassland to more diverse unimproved grassland;
- allowing a significant level of agricultural weed species to exist on its core site.

The Festival will continue to protect vulnerable species individuals by establishing, on a need basis, new temporary reserves. This was successfully initially achieved in 2003 by creating a new reserve within the core site for three deer trapped within the site by the perimeter fence. This temporary reserve was so successful that the deer stayed in this locality long after the fence was removed. In fact in 2004 the deer moved into the nature reserve of their own accord. In 2005 an additional reserve was created for a deer that emerged in Hawkwell, by the pyramid stage, when the public arrived on site on the Wednesday. Using 500m of heras, a three acres reserve was created in the heart of the site, from which the deer emerged unscathed at the end of the Festival.

Another practical reality of this commitment is that the Festival, for the eighth year running, will be enhancing the environment of its core site by more trees and hedge planting on site. The planting to date has brought the total number of native tree and hedge plants planted to over 10,000 since 2000.

### **Environmental Messaging**

The unique environment of the Festival brings together many NGOs and environmental groups, and through participation in the Festival, the public are exposed to many positive influences highlighting environmental values – and hopefully influencing subsequent behaviour. Glastonbury Festival is committed to:

- having a “green” message central to marketing campaigns, to dissuade Festival goers from urinating in streams, ditches and hedges.
- including environmental messages in Festival publications such as the Fine Guide, the programme, the daily paper and on the Festival website, which has direct links to environmental and humanitarian organisations.
- using the screens at the main stages only to promote environmental and humanitarian messages.
- employing the services of environmental organisations in the running of the event, increasing the amounts these organisations can raise towards their objectives – and increasing their profile.
- promoting “the green fields”, the largest area of its kind dedicated to environmental awareness. Many different environmental concerns that enhance the fabric of our society, from international organisations such as Greenpeace, to small woodland trusts, place a high value on this facility. The Festival is the biggest single regular donor to Greenpeace and offers a fertile recruitment ground for members and for promoting environmental campaigns.
- continuing to give trading opportunities to green organisations, and making decisions on which traders to invite based on green credentials.

### **EH Monitors**

A team of Environmental Health Monitors will be engaged by GFL. These monitors will carry out constant checks throughout the licensed period on the sanitary facilities on site. See the Toilet Management Structure in appendix 30.

### **Managing Air Purity**

Running an event of this size will inevitably have an impact on air purity, but significant steps are taken to minimise that impact.

- No generators are allowed on site except large silent generators provided by electrical contractor which minimise emissions (the exception being the few circus and theatre performers and the like who need a small generators as part of their show.) All traders are required to use electricity provided.
- All companies with fridge trucks or coolers are instructed to use electricity from electrical company generators and not run off donkey engines.
- The possibility of providing some of the power on site by solar panels on the cow sheds is being investigated.
- To minimise emissions from cars, signage and stewards will encourage car drivers in queues (particularly when exiting car parks on Monday) to switch off engines rather than sitting in their cars with engines idling.
- The practicality of introducing a green car levy, thereby making coach travel more financially attractive, is being considered.
- Promotion of public transport and liftshare reduces the number of private cars coming to the event - and the transport emissions over the weekend.
- Campsite stewards and security patrol campsites and intervene should anyone burn any polluting material.
- All wood provided for campfires is untreated offcuts from sawmills – which is the most environmentally friendly option.
- Disposables provided by food traders are made from card, and cutlery from wood, for composting reasons primarily, but also because polystyrene and plastic disposables are a source of pollution if set alight.
- In 2007 Greenpeace worked with the Festival in piloting the Green Traders Award, encouraging environmentally aware practice. This was developed further in 2008 with an emphasis on the reduction of plastic packaging/bags.
- The Festival restricts traders, sponsors and beneficiary charities in the type of materials brought on site. (For example Oxfam were not permitted to bring large foam hands onsite which would have produced toxic fumes if burnt.) Additionally the Festival does not agree leafleting, issuing of flyers, sampling of products or the issue of “freebees”, to restrict the amount that would add to the on site waste which could be burnt.
- The regular planned collection of waste during the event limits the potential of waste being set alight.
- The onsite toilets and the grey waste water lagoon are continually monitored and emptied regularly to minimise air pollution.

- Any prevailing wind during the Festival is normally west, or west south west, which would take any smoke from campfires away from Pilton village, and in the direction of Cannard's Grave, by which time it will have dissipated.

### **“Smoke Free” Policy**

This policy explains how we will comply with The Smoke-free (Premises and Enforcement) Regulations 2006 and The Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007.

We acknowledge the right of our employees and Festivalgoers to work in a smokefree environment.

The Premise Licence Holder, Melvin Benn is responsible for the implementation of this policy with delegated responsibility to the Event Safety Co-ordinator and Site Manager at the Festival site.

### **Designation of Smoking Areas**

- On site, smoking is permitted in private accommodation and any outdoor area on the site. Smoking is not permitted inside any enclosed public or working tents or portacabin or near any fuel sources.
- We will put up "No Smoking" signage at the entrances to the entertainment tents and any other public or working tents that are enclosed. This signage will comply with the Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007.
- We will put up "No Smoking" signage on portacabin doors. This signage will comply with the Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007.
- Security and stewards will monitor this and will intervene if anyone is smoking inside the areas where smoking is prohibited.

### **Designation Of Smoking Areas – The Offices**

- In the office, smoking is only permitted outside the building.
- We will put up “No Smoking” signage at the entrances to the office and this will comply with the Smokefree (Signs) Regulations 2007.

### **Staff Welfare**

- All staff will be offered information on request about the various NHS advice lines for further information and support for giving up smoking.

### **Communication of Policy**

- Signage – see above
- We will include the statement "No smoking in enclosed public or working spaces or near fuel sources" in the site rules and the health and safety questionnaire. These documents are sent out to contractors and crews before they come on site. Additionally the site rules are displayed at the production / staff entrances and at the offices.
- We will include the statement in our health and safety policy which is disseminated to all internal staff including new employees before they start work.
- We will also include the statement “No smoking in enclosed public or working spaces” in our terms and conditions of entry which are printed on the back of each ticket and are also displayed on signage at the entrances to the campsites and arena. Please note that we are not able to display the signage specified in the Smoke-free (Signs) Regulations 2007 at the public entrances to the site as only the enclosed public or working spaces

inside the site would be designated as no smoking areas and therefore the sign would be misleading as it would suggest that the entire site was a no smoking area. We would therefore propose the alternative statement outlined above.

### **Consultation and Review**

- We will communicate this policy to all staff and ask for their feedback as part of the consultation process. Feedback will be monitored and this policy will be reviewed as necessary.

### **Additionally the Festival is committed to:**

- creating awareness among its employees and subcontractors about the “reduce reuse recycle” mantra and about the importance of minimising any negative impact on the environment.
- employing safe work practices, developing contingencies and implementing measures to prevent, eliminate or reduce pollution,
- encouraging Festival-goers to use environmentally sound transport options, by promoting the use of public transport and liftshare, through literature sent out when tickets are purchased, and through the Festival website.
- Future Forests have planted over 7,500 naturally occurring deciduous trees in the woods in the South West of England because of their involvement with the Festival. (When the trees planted at Worthy over the last five years are taken into account as well, there is now a significant carbon sink.)
- improving energy efficiency, seeking green alternatives where possible.

**The Festival will review the effectiveness of implementation of the above on a regular basis and, constantly seek to improve environmental performance according to the above criteria.**