

womadelaide

SOUNDS OF THE PLANET 2008

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WOMADelaide Still Ahead of the Pack with Environmental Initiatives

Australia's largest world music festival, WOMADelaide, to be held in Botanic Park March 7-9, will again set the environmental standard for major events when it teams up with the nation's largest not-for-profit environmental organisation, **Greening Australia**.

The festival intends to do this by:

- Offsetting all of its carbon emissions
- Reducing, recycling, and reusing festival waste by once again using only biodegradable or recyclable food and drink containers, composting foodwaste, and reusing waste in art works and workshops at Womad's new 'Ecoville'.
- Presenting a world of environmental inspiration, innovation and solutions through talks, workshops, activities and live displays at Ecoville Offering attendees the option to offset their own carbon footprint.
- Using 'desert cubes' in place of water in the urinals.
- Providing free secure bike parks, cigarette 'butt bins' and more.

Very few major events in Australia can boast such a minimal impact on the site which hosts it.

"WOMADelaide is again aiming to further expand its environmental program and to continue to minimise its environmental footprint," said WOMADelaide Site Manager, Adam Hornhardt.

Held in the sublime surrounds of Adelaide's Botanic Park, WOMADelaide will deliver a **carbon neutral weekend** with some of the most diverse sounds on the planet. With the help of Greening Australia organisers aim to offset the on-site carbon emissions, and those associated with travel of its performers. They will do this by biodiverse tree planting. Greening Australia's Communications Manager, Allys Todd says, *"The WOMADelaide biodiverse tree plantings are being undertaken in the Mallee region of South Australia, home to many rare and threatened bird species including the Mallee Fowl and Mallee Emu-wren."*

Greening Australia guarantees by law that every tree planted for carbon offset will remain in the ground for at least 100 years. What's more, they are also fully compliant with the **Kyoto Climate Control Treaty** and the **NSW Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme**.

March 7-9 Botanic Park ADELAIDE

PRODUCED BY WOMADELAIDE FOUNDATION LTD ABN 55 106 584 230 ACN 106 584 230 & MANAGED BY ARTS PROJECTS AUSTRALIA & WOMAD LTD
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Starting at only four dollars, patrons also have the chance to reduce their own ecological footprint at the event through the purchase of a **carbon neutral ticket**.

"For the first time we are giving the festival audience a choice in their level of offset by providing each individual ticket holder with three offset options. They can choose the level of offset which best compliments their carbon footprint," Ms Todd said.

In addition, WOMADelaide in association with **Ecoconscious** will present the brand new **Ecoville**, a place where you can chill out, be inspired by, and participate in ecotalks, workshops, displays and activities. Interactive ecotalks will be held on a broad range of up to the minute environment-focused topics, to inform and empower the audience.

In *Its not waste till you waste it* workshops, leading artists will help festival goers close the waste loop on site, by transforming wastes from stallholders to make tetra-pak wallets and purses, beautiful bags, jewelry, tin can furniture and more.

There will also be functioning eco-living elements interwoven throughout *Ecoville* such as solar power, rainwater tanks, permaculture and native plants, greywater treatment systems, and electricity-generating bikes. A chill out zone will include an interactive public art work using Womad stallholder waste; fruit, and vegetable exchanges and plant propagation workshops, organic herb teas & lemonade, Smooth Revolution pedal- powered smoothies, and more.

WOMADelaide has also adopted a waste management strategy that will utilise **waterless urinals and only biodegradable and recyclable wastes 'front of house'**.

Since 2001, the festival's 45+ food caterers and three bars have used fully biodegradable plates, cups and utensils, and since 2005, composting of biological wastes at WOMADelaide has created over 15 tonnes of compost, and diverted more than 30 tonnes of waste from landfill.

More information available at www.womadelaide.com.au

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