

# Rock The Ocean Staff & Volunteer Sustainability Guide

## Tortuga Music Festival 2025



### Alternative Transportation

Consider traveling to your shift in a more eco-friendly way such as carpooling, public transportation, walking, biking, rideshare, train (Brightline) or flights with sustainable aviation fuel (SAF).



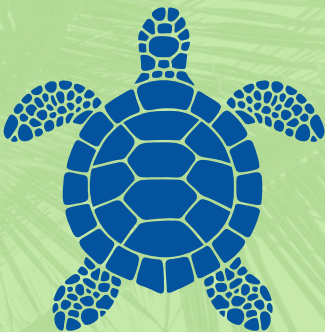
### No Single-Use Plastic Water Bottles

Free water refill stations are available and canned water will be available for purchase. We will do our best to provide free canned water, if available.



### Properly Dispose of All Waste

- **RECYCLE** – Cardboard, cans, plastic bottles/jugs, glass, paper
- **COMPOST** – Food waste & festival cups
- **SAVE FOR DONATION** – Unwanted usable items
- **ECO EXCHANGE & QUARTER MASTER** – Used zip ties, cigarette butts
- During load out, make sure **NO** trash is left behind in your area.
- **REFER TO THE 'TRASH MAP' ON THE NEXT PAGE** to locate proper disposal for all types of waste



### Keep The Beach Clean!

Littering on the Tortuga site is strictly prohibited. Trash left on the ground can be deadly to the marine life that inhabits our beach. Please help us protect these animals!

- If you see any trash or recycling on the beach, pick it up
- Encourage fans to stop by the Eco Exchange to get involved



### Promote Sustainability!

Tortuga Music Festival is working to create a culture of sustainability and reduce the impact of our event! Every sustainable product you give away, every piece of trash you pick up off of the sand & every ocean-minded conversation you have helps us Rock The Ocean!



# Sustainability Initiatives

## Tortuga Music Festival 2025



Rock The Ocean's Tortuga Music Festival is working hard to become the most sustainable, large-scale music festival on the planet! Below is a list of some of our sustainability initiatives. For more information visit: <https://www.rocktheocean.com/sustainability/>

The three pillars of our sustainability initiatives are:

## REDUCE·RETHINK·RESTORE

### REDUCE

#### ELIMINATING PLASTIC

- No plastic water bottles! We provide free water refill stations and only sell water in infinitely recyclable aluminum cans.
- Fans can purchase a reusable aluminum cup for liquor drinks, incentivized by a discount on refills.
- No plastic service ware is used. All service ware is certified compostable including cups, bowls, plates, napkins, cutlery, etc.
- Plastic straws banned from site, paper straws available by request only.
- Plastic cups have been replaced PHBH cups that compost completely in just 10 weeks, are 100% biodegradable in both marine and landfill environments, and are also reusable.

#### WASTE DIVERSION

- We have a team backstage dedicated to sorting all trash into compost, recycling, & donations to minimize the amount of waste going to the landfill.
- Single stream recycling includes cans, plastic bottles/jugs, paper, cardboard, and glass.
- Specialty recycling at the Eco Exchange and BOH includes cigarette butts, disposable gloves, micro plastics, flip flops, plastic bags, snack wrappers, and plastic film.
- All scrap wood is recycled.
- Site-wide composting is available at every point of trash for fans and vendors.
- Approximately 115 tons - 81% of generated waste - was diverted from the landfill in 2024.

#### REUSE & DONATIONS

- Donation programs are in place for all leftover food, beverages, usable items, etc. We even donate our leftover salad bar scraps to feed turtle patients!
- All artificial turf used on site is donated for reuse.
- Signage and banners are reused year over year.

#### REDUCE CO2 EMISSIONS

- In 2024, 72% of fuel switched from diesel to a biodiesel.
- Adding more solar and energy saving equipment such as Energy Storage System generators every year.
- "NO IDLING" policy in place for all vehicles on site.
- Hybrid vehicles added to staff/artist transportation fleet.
- Carbon emissions calculated by a third party to best set reduction goals.
- Fans are encouraged to walk, bike, rideshare, carpool, or water taxi to the event.
- A travel survey will be conducted on site to help better understand our full carbon footprint.



# Sustainability Initiatives

## Tortuga Music Festival 2025



# RETHINK

## SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES

- Free reef-friendly sunscreen provided to fans across site.
- Festival wristbands are made from recycled fabric reducing the amount of virgin plastic used.
- Wristband packages sent to fans contain an overall reduced amount of materials and contain no plastic.
- Plastic trash bags have been partially replaced by reusable options when cleaning the beach.
- Vendors and sponsors are required to meet strict sustainability requirements for all promotional items including no single-use plastic packaging or items that are likely to become pollution (i.e., pamphlets, beach balls, etc.).

## SUSTAINABILITY TEAM

- Tortuga Music Festival has a year-round Sustainability Team to focus on all initiatives and assist every department in identifying aspects of operations where environmental impact can be reduced.
- At the festival, there is an entire team dedicated to waste diversion, as well as a team of over 100 people educating fans about ocean conservation and raising money for Rock The Ocean's Conservation Partners.
- A team of "Recovery Specialists" are stationed throughout the site to educate staff and fans about properly disposing of their trash and help keep our waste streams clean.

## RESPONSIBLE FOOD & BEVERAGE

- Food vendors are required to serve antibiotic-free meat and sustainably-sourced seafood.
- Food vendors are encouraged to use local produce, organic foods, and products certified by the Rainforest Alliance.
- All food vendors required to provide a clearly labeled vegan option.
- Vegan and vegetarian options always available in staff/artist catering.

# RESTORE

## CONSERVATION VILLAGE

- Rock The Ocean has partnered with over 100 nonprofit organizations since 2013.
- Rock The Ocean has raised over \$5 million for ocean conservation efforts since 2013.

## "BETTER THAN WE FOUND IT"

- Tortuga fans and artists have planted 31,000 sea oats since 2013.
- Rock The Ocean hosts/sponsors monthly beach cleanups.
- Eco Exchange encourages fans to help clean up the beach by offering prizes for trash.
- Free reusable pocket ashtrays distributed to fans to keep cigarette butts off the beach.
- "Tab-free" tyvek wristbands used to avoid litter.

## FAN & STAFF EDUCATION

- Rock The Ocean invites 30+ non-profit organization to the festival every year to educate our fans at no cost to the organizations.
- Rock The Ocean's Passport to Conservation is an activation that incentivizes fans to visit groups from each of our 5 Core Conservation Issues: Sea Turtles, Sharks, Coral Reefs, Marine Mammals, & Marine Habitats.
- Since Tortuga's site is a turtle nesting beach, all production staff are required to attend a Turtle Safety Meeting led by NSU Broward County Sea Turtle Conservation Program to learn the importance of following the protocols as not to disrupt or harm any turtles.