



# Envirohub

MARLBOROUGH



## ZERO WASTE WITH ENVIROHUB: HOW DOES IT WORK?

Envirohub Marlborough's Zero Waste Dishwashing Trailer and team of staff & volunteers are here to help you and your event go Zero Waste with the help of our Zero Waste Dishwashing Trailer!

This information is to outline our service, how we make it work for the event organisers and and what we ask of your food vendors who wish to attend the event.

We understand that going zero waste can seem rather daunting, but we are here to make it as easy as possible for you. Thank you for your support and your cooperation - zero waste in our community is a team effort!

### Thank you for helping this event go Zero Waste!



# ZERO WASTE DISHWASHING TRAILER

## How it works!



### We supply the gear

We supply hygienically clean mugs, plates, bowls, cutlery, crockery... you name it!

We can provide you with your own stash to provide to your customers AND we will have stations (including in front of the zero waste dishwashing trailer) where the public can pick up their own to take to you.



### Serve your food and drink

Use the reusables to serve your food & drinks.

If your event is completely zero waste, we ask all vendors use only reusables on the day. We also ask you serve customers on their own dishes/containers/picnic sets etc if they BYO or on ours that are supplied to you and at stations on the day.



### Collecting & Washing

Once finished, we ask the public (with signage) to return the used dishes etc to the dishwashing trailer OR collection stations around the eating area of the event.

We scrape, wash, sanitise and dry all dishes in accordance with Food Safety standards.



### Fresh dishes are returned!

Our team will return clean and ready to use cutlery, crockery and/or cups to you directly OR to the pick-up stations ready for the public to use again!



# WHAT WE ASK OF THE FOOD VENDORS

1

If someone brings their own plate/bowl/cup etc PLEASE ACCEPT THESE. Otherwise provide them with one of ours.



2

Need something specific? Cups, bowls not plates, large plates not small etc?

Please let us know prior to the event by emailing us at [zerowaste@envirohub.co.nz](mailto:zerowaste@envirohub.co.nz)



3

Please don't feel the need to explain the system to your customers each and every time. Just offer a reusable plate.

There will be ample signage and collection stations to drop off the used plates. Our trailer will also be central and visible and will act as a collection station.



4

We will provide some signage for you to help your customers understand the process on the day. Please display these on your cart.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING TO BE  
A PART OF THE SOLUTION!

Every single reusable plate, bowl, cup or cutlery is preventing these items going straight to landfill - every little bit helps!

## Welcome to this ZERO WASTE event!

### 1. Pick up or ask for a reusable

bowl, plate, utensil or cup... These are FREE and sterile! Collect from our stands or from the vendor directly.



### 2. Go ZERO WASTE!

Take your reusables to the vendor of your choice and have your food/drink served on these - Hooray! You're helping to make a difference!



## HOW IT WORKS



### 4. We clean & sterilise

all of the reusables in our Zero Waste Dishwashing Trailer! We then bring out the clean reusables for use again... and again and AGAIN!



RETURN HERE!

### 3. Return your reusables

to our Zero Waste trailer OR look for a collection bucket around the grounds (they will be labelled!)



Zero Waste

## ZERO WASTE HOW IT WORKS POSTERS

We will provide posters like these for your cart and place these around the event so people understand how the system works.

## Dirty dishes here please!



## All done?

Drop off your used cups, plates, bowls, cutlery right HERE!

We'll collect, clean and sterilise everything in our

Zero Waste Dishwashing Trailer so they can be used again and again... and AGAIN!

## COLLECTION STATIONS for dirty dishes

There will be multiple locations around the event, including by our Zero Waste Trailer, where people can return their dirty plates etc. Please don't feel you have to collect these from the patrons. If you do, we can provide you with a bin close to your cart.

# ZERO WASTE DISHWASHING TRAILER

## FAQ's from Zero Waste organisations

### How much does it cost to build?

This will depend highly on many factors. Our trailer cost approx. NZ\$30,000 to have custom-built. Transport costs, GST, signage and additional items to fully kit the trailer cost a total of around \$35K. We are happy to share our trailer's specs and details on request, but each trailer is likely to differ in size etc depending on needs and therefore cost will also vary.

We currently don't have a dishwasher/steriliser unit, which would be an additional \$5K depending on size and abilities.

### What are it's capabilities?

We are still determining just how many items we can pump out at each event. Our busiest event in the past year we washed over 1000 items in a four-hour event. This is without a dishwashing unit! At present we can 100% cater to around 5 vendors for an entire event, but will often attend larger events with over 20 vendors, where we will cater as much as we can to as many vendors as possible as we work toward normalising reusable use in Marlborough.

We currently carry several hundred reusable items within the trailer. These are 99% sourced from second hand and thrift shops, so are heavy but durable; mismatched but if things go missing is not the end of the world; and do take up a large amount of space. We are hoping to invest in some matching sets of reusables for hire or for use at upmarket events.

### How much do you charge?

We have calculated that to run without a loss, we do need to charge a minimum of \$100/hour to cover all our costs. The table to the right outlines a breakdown of our costs. We are working on finding a way to subsidise our costs to make our service more equitably accessible

regardless of budget. For large-scale or private events we do charge a much higher fee. For some events we have even sourced our own funding (e.g. the local Matariki festival at the Waikawa Marae) to provide our zero waste service for free to the community.

Currently our charge depends heavily on who wishes to use us and is evolving over time and what zero waste services we provide, and how many paid staff we require at each event.



Zero Waste Dishwashing Trailer Service only		
Cost Breakdown item	Per hour cost for event	Notes
1x paid staff	\$30.00	Require one paid staff member to run each event
4x volunteers	\$0.00	We have, on average 3-4 volunteers helping us at every event each hour
Pre & post Prep	\$35.00	The larger/longer the event, the more prep time is required, so this is generally averaged out/proportional (includes volunteer recruitment & coordination, logistics, planning, trailer pre-and post-prep)
Supplies & goods used during service	\$15.00	Includes washing/cleaning required after each event, supplies of environmentally friendly cleaning/dishwashing products etc
Wear/tear + maintenance	\$10.00	
On-road costs	\$10.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	
Recycling Stations add-on		
1x paid staff	\$30.00	Require 1x full time staff to run & coordinate volunteers
<b>TOTAL SERVICE</b>	<b>\$130.00</b>	Includes full trailer service
Additional costs:		
mileage	add-on	Charged per event dependant on location

# ZERO WASTE DISHWASHING TRAILER

## FAQ's from Zero Waste organisations

### Things to watch out for!

Our journey has certainly been an interesting one! We have learnt many lessons the hard way, and are keen to share possible pitfalls and things to watch out for to hopefully make things a little easier for others in future.

#### 1. WATER CARRIERS & TAUMATA AROWAI

When we initially built the trailer, the new water regulations had come into effect and under their definitions we had been classified as a 'water carrier'.

We worked around this challenge by applying for an exemption under the Food Act from our local council. If you have more than one council you deal with, this is something to clarify quickly. As we are unique in that we do NOT sell food, but clean items that require good hygiene practices and food safety, this puts us in an unusual position that is relatively undefined.

For the same reason, don't use your trailer to carry water for human consumption. This will automatically make you a 'water carrier' and automatically complicates everything!

We also don't recommend you use your water tanks for supplying drinking water as you'll generally need every drop for your service. Our trailer has 2x 100L tanks and this usually lasts us for an entire event (5-6 hours average) sometimes with a slight top up.



#### 2. POWER SOURCES AND CABLES

Make sure you have various power capabilities as each event will have different requirements and different capabilities. We looked into a solar generator option but none in existence (at least current to when we investigated) provided enough power for us to go off grid (and that was without a sterilising unit!).

Our custom build ended up with an electric

connection that wasn't compatible with what we needed - be careful of this!

We currently carry 16Amp, 32Amp and house power adapters and fuses/converters to be able to draw power from a variety of sources. Many (especially smaller events) will only have house power, so keep this in mind.

House power is tricky as the heating system alone draws a HEAP of power. House power means anything else plugged in may trip your fuses while water is heating.

#### 3. HEATING METHODS - HOT WATER SYSTEMS

During construction we were informed that they couldn't provide a heating unit that was larger than 11L. This is NOT big enough! We were also assured that the system would heat in 3-5 minutes. This is NOT the case! Most heating systems, regardless, can retain their heat for hours but take at least 20-30minutes to initially heat. Keep in mind a gas califont may be fast, but will only heat 20 degrees more than the ambient temperature, so will likely not be hot enough for your needs.

We have since upgraded our system to one that is twice as large and with both gas and electric capabilities. We have been assured that connecting both will speed up our heating process and also allow us to go off grid. This will be far more capable for a sterilising unit as well!

#### 4. BE CAREFUL WHO YOU USE TO BUILD!

We believe our trailer wasn't built to the standard that we paid for or were sold. As a small non-profit, we feel that this is also being taken advantage of, as our resources are limited when arguing our case. We are hoping the buyers group will help to identify affordable but also high quality sources of trailer builds and resources!

