

MeetGreen 2022 Annual Retreat Sustainability Report



MeetGreen Annual Retreat

2022 Sustainable Event Report

Who: 10 MeetGreen staff

When: 7/18/22 to 7/21/22

What: 2022 Annual Retreat

Where: Netarts Bay, Oregon

Why: We ask events and client partners numerous questions related to sustainability all year long, and we wanted to hold ourselves to the same standard of our **10 MeetGreen event best practice minimums**. These learnings can help us better understand nuances of these actions through implementation, as well as doing our very best to “walk the talk” day-in and day-out in our work.

How: Our sustainable events team reviewed our Annual Retreat through the same baseline lens it would for any meeting or conference via an onsite audit. We hope you will enjoy our findings, and that sustainability and events can be fun and actionable to implement for the entire team.

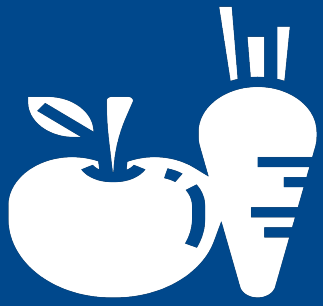


Reusable Service Ware

By utilizing **reusable service ware** for its core meals, it is estimated the MeetGreen Annual Retreat 2022 saved the following:

- **10 kilograms of waste**
- **2,610 liters of water**
- **22 kilowatts hours of energy**
- **195 kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions**





Plant-Based Meals

All four MeetGreen Retreat breakfasts were **100% meat-free**

All lunches and Monday + Wednesday Dinner menus were **90% meat-free.**

It is estimated that from the Monday and Wednesday dinners alone, prepared onsite in Netarts, an estimated 113 kg of CO₂e was saved compared to standard meat options:

- *That is equivalent to saving the carbon emissions from two roundtrip car trips from Portland to Netarts and back!*



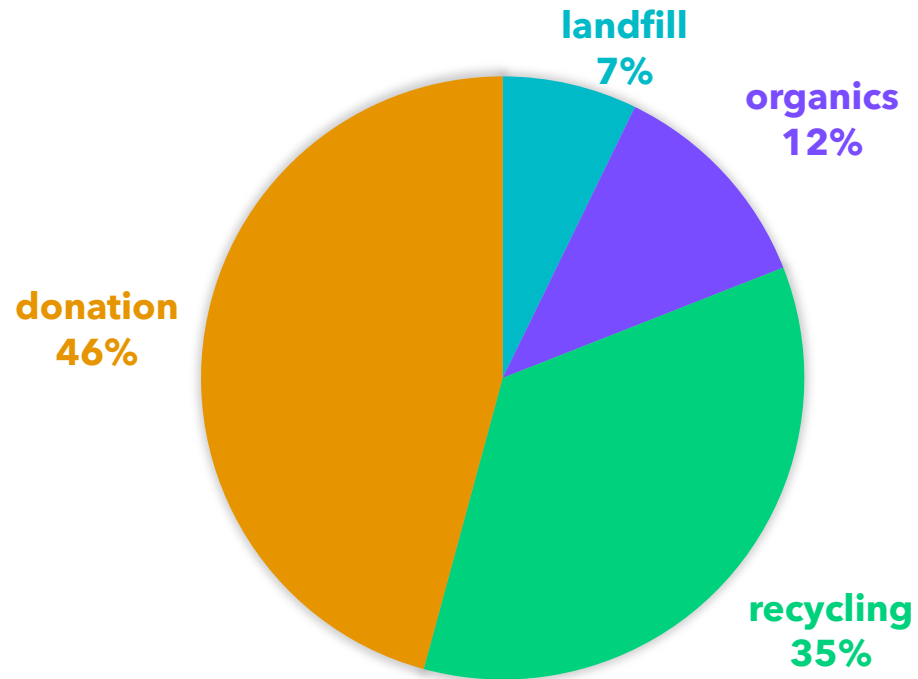


Recycling

Not only did MeetGreen recycle its event waste, it also composted or donated it. Our onsite scale, yielded the following waste stream data:

93%

Diversion Rate
From Landfill





Menu Options



Homemade dessert with seasonal and local Pacific Northwest berries



Vegetarian "plant-based" sushi made by using low-carbon mushroom caps



Pasta salad made from reclaimed ingredients from the previous day's dinner



Swag

The only gifting items at the MeetGreen Retreat 2022 were a sand dollar found locally in the Netarts Bay that attendees used in a closing ceremonies and took home after, and a small bell each attendee was given. These bells were made by and purchased from a small artisan business.





Bottled Water

There was no bottled water served during the 2022 MeetGreen Retreat. The tap water comes from local Falls Creek. This yielded the following savings:

- 60 single use PET plastic bottles eliminated
- 1 kilograms of waste
- 30 liters of water
- 57 kilowatts hours of energy
- 26 kilograms of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions





Leftover Food

By using 28 years of sustainable event planning strategies and expertise, the MeetGreen 2022 Annual Retreat minimized food waste at the source by closely tracking ordering quantities and utilizing smaller serving vessels.

Photos on the right depict very limited amounts left over which were easily consumed by a staff member as a snack break.

The MeetGreen Retreat 2022 donated a total of 38 pounds of food, split between three local staff members, with the weight primarily being leftover canned beverages.

38 pounds of food donated





Event Materials



Repurpose: Event badge buttons saved from prior events were repurposed in MeetGreen activities



Reuse: This banner has been used for multiple events over the past 1.5 years. It is unbranded with date and will be used for many more!



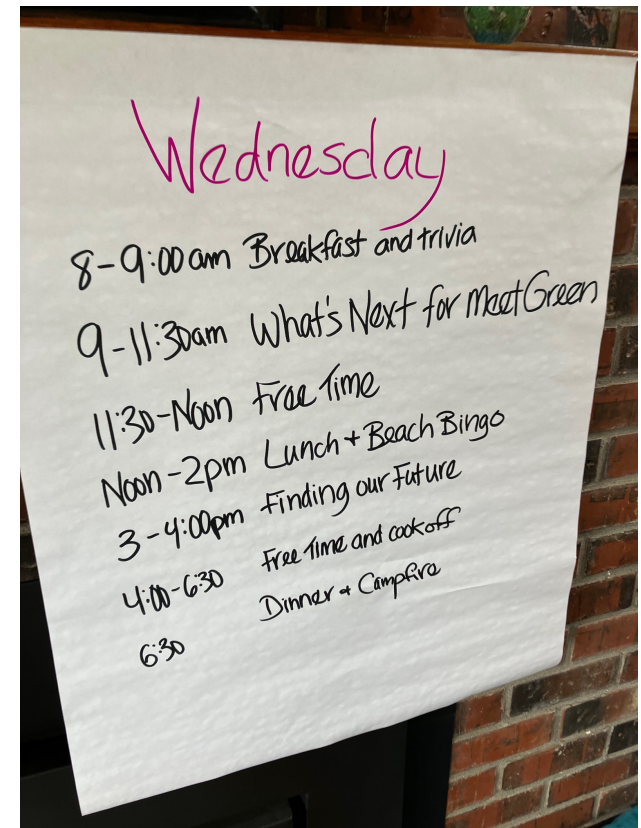
Recover: 14.8 pounds of litter and trash were picked up during the MeetGreen Beach Clean-Up



Printed Materials

There were no physical handouts or printed documents for the MeetGreen Annual Retreat 2022.

The only paper utilized onsite was about 10 pages of Chartpak paper for daily agenda and capturing team actions items. This paper was reused from a previous event.





Hybrid

For 2022, a virtual attendance option was made available to all staff members. 100% staff chose to attend in-person.

This was the first time the MeetGreen staff have all convened in-person for 3 years!



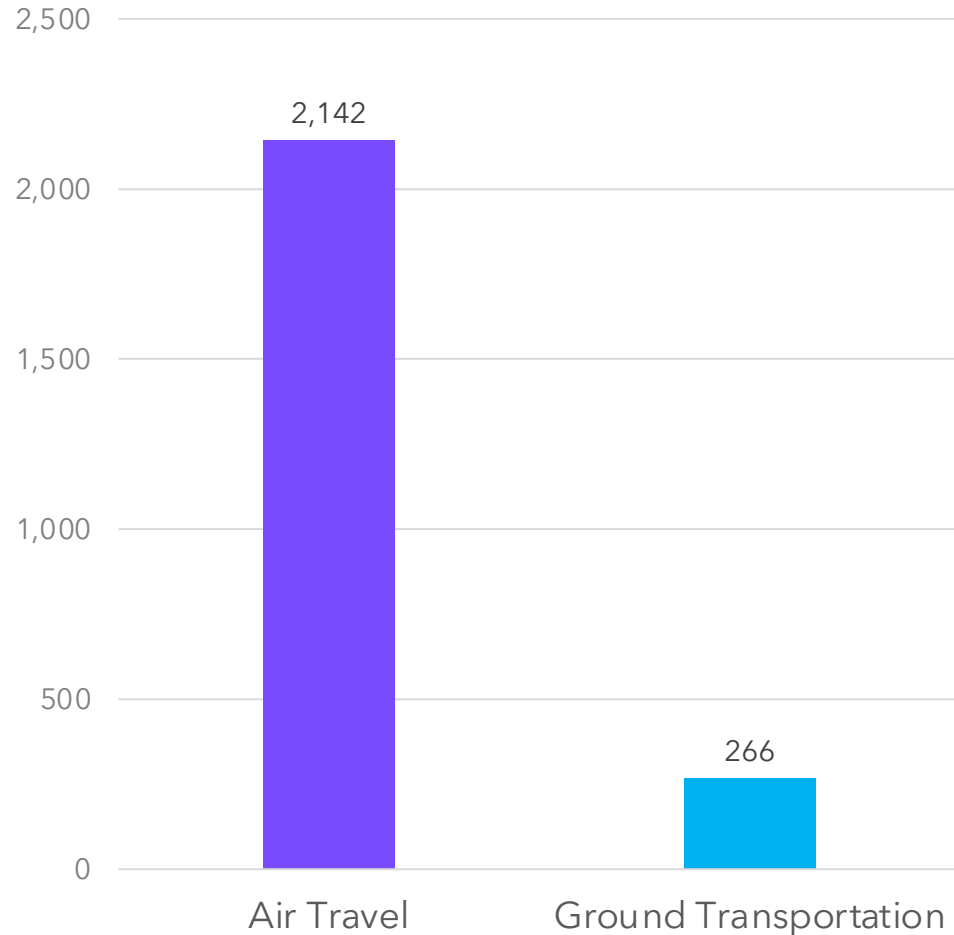
Carbon Emissions

- Of the 9 staff traveling by car from Portland, OR to the Retreat site in Netarts, OR carpooling played a major role.
- Only 4 vehicles serving the retreat inbound / outbound, but a total of **10 individual roundtrip drives were eliminated by carpooling.** This action alone **saved an estimated 790 additional miles of fossil fuel burn.**
- Of the staff that flew via airplane to Portland, OR **60% were non-stop.**
- Meeting venue, the owner's home, was **powered by 100% renewable electricity.**
- All transport and onsite emissions are calculated and accounted for as part of the MeetGreen Annual corporate reporting and are coded as part of the company's discretionary travel and "Scope 3 Emissions". All carbon impacts will be neutralized through **verified Bonneville Environmental Foundation offsets.**



Carbon Emissions

A Closer Look - Travel



Emissions Savings

- **Flying Economy Class** - business class flights produce 50% higher emissions than economy class. **This saved 1,075 kgs CO2e!**
- **60% Staff Flying Direct** - most airplane fuel is burned during take-off, causing direct flights to produce significantly fewer emissions. **This saved 334 kg CO2e**
- **Carpooling** - five of the nine MeetGreen employees carpooled. **This saved 222 kg CO2e!**

Total Travel Emissions Saved
1,631 kgs CO2e

	Total Round Trips	Distance (km)	Emissions (kgs CO2e)	% of Total
Air Travel	4	14,002	2,142	89%
Ground Transportation	4	1,525	266	11%
TOTAL	8	15,527	2,408	100%

Total Travel Emissions Offset
2,408 kgs CO2e

See you next year!



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