



Tips for "GREENING" your event

Have you ever wondered what you can do to make your event(s) more eco-friendly?

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and RENT!

1. Select a Location for your event that is LEED Certified. LEED is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.
2. Offset the energy used at your event by purchasing Pure Power from Ameren UE (or your local power company). Offsetting your event's electrical consumption counteracts the negative emissions produced by your event. Pure Power funds renewable energy projects which are clean and emission-free. When you offset with renewable energy, you are supporting a clean source of power which displaces the emissions produced from traditional sources of electricity.
3. Select "Green" vendors. Some caterers use local and/or sustainable foods, and liquor. Some florists use locally grown or organic flowers. If unsure, you can always ask your prospective vendors if they have any green options for your event.
4. Work with your caterer or venue to have all glass, plastic, and aluminum cans recycled. Request that recycled trash bags be used to collect non-recyclable waste from your event. Also work with your caterer to compost food waste from your event.
5. Make sure any paper products (postcards, invitations, envelopes, menu cards, etc.) used for your event are made from recycled paper or are recyclable (and request that guests do so on the actual print out). Or even better yet, add a sustainable touch to your invites by having them printed with soy or vegetable based ink.
6. Choose energy efficient LED lighting for your event. LED lighting options use about 90% less energy than traditional lights!
7. Use other green decor options such as using soy votive candles or battery operated light-up votives. Soy votives are 100% natural and burn cleaner air than regular wax candles.

8. Re-use or gift the decor items from your event. Donate centerpiece (floral or non-floral) arrangements to guests, a school, or a nursing home.

9. Renting equipment for your event, by nature, is earth friendly. It promotes reuse and eliminates waste.

Why renting from Aries is even more earth-friendly? We have several green business practices that reduce our negative footprint on the earth.

- Aries Company Garage Sale – An annual sale of gently used rental items providing a new and extended life for the company’s rental and technical inventory. We also recycle lightly damaged linens by selling them at our sale or cutting them up into color samples.
- We send reusable canvas bags, versus disposable plastic, with outgoing linen orders for the return of dirty linens after an event. We are also diligently working on a program that will recycle our plastic “dry cleaning”- type bags that the linen rentals are sent out in.
- All retired tech equipment is sent to Web Innovations and Technology Services Inc. where it is safely recycled or reused.
- Showroom and offices are cleaned by a green cleaning company that uses only environmentally safe products and limits waste water by using a special filtration system on its mop bucket.
- All office and warehouse waste paper, junk mail, and cardboard is recycled.
- Staff shares magazine and journal subscriptions limiting paper waste.
- Our warehouse has heat boosters in our dishwashing department, which allows us to preheat the incoming tap water before it goes into the heaters-this uses less energy heating our water this way.
- We shut down our linen press in the warehouse every two days and only run our boilers when necessary to save energy.
- We use programmable thermostats throughout our entire building

Aries' Showroom Green Attributes:

- All paint is low VOC paint which limits the amount of toxins released into the air, as well as reducing groundwater and ozone depleting contaminants
- Recycled fiber bond carpet
- Entrance flooring is made of 50% recycled material
- Baseboards and crown molding are made of recycled wood

- Energy efficient windows
- Lighting fixtures are energy efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs which reduce the emission of greenhouse gases.