

Green Wedding Tips:

While all this may seem overwhelming, “greening” a wedding is a lot simpler than you think. Here are 14 ideas that can turn your white wedding ...green:

1. **RINGS** When choosing your ring think about conflict-free diamonds and recycled metals or visit greenkarat.com
2. **YOUR DRESS** When buying your dress, consider natural fibers at fair-trade factories, rent your gown or purchase it from a shop that donates a percentage to charity.
3. **REGISTRY** Register for organic cottons and energy efficient appliances or create a ‘charitable giving registry’ where a portion of sales is donated to your charity of choice.
4. **INVITATIONS** Work with refined recycled or tree-free invitations and printed with vegetable inks or elegantly designed e-invitations
5. **VENUE** Stage your celebration in a neutral and natural setting like a park, beach or garden versus a grand reception hall.
6. **DÉCOR** Find companies that have biodegradable or recycled event décor
7. **TRANSPORTATION** Arrive in style and luxury with ingeniously manufactured hybrid limousine and car services.
8. **GIFTS/FAVORS** Create elegant gifts for your guests with organic and eco-conscious products.
9. **FOOD** Hire top chefs to prepare delicious, organic food down to the last eco detail using banana sticks to replace wasteful wooden skewers.
10. **WASTE** All surplus food should either be composted or, donated to charitable organizations
11. **RENTALS** Reduce the carbon footprint with rental and catering trucks that run on vegetable oil or bio-fuel
12. **PHOTOGRAPHY** Capture the essence of every moment by working with leading eco conscious wedding photographers. Have your photographer print your images on recycled paper or create an online wedding album
13. **HONEYMOON** Pay for carbon offsets or allow- The Leading Hotels of the World to make a donation for you. If you book your reservation through their website lhwgreen.com, they help to make your stay carbon neutral by purchasing offsets for their guests. You can also visit greenhotels.com for a list of conscientious resorts and hotels around the world.
14. **WEDDING PLANNER** If you are not planning your own wedding, find a creative wedding planner who is able to bring your dreams to life through their knowledge and sensitivity for the environment.

Every wedding is an expression of love. Why not express your love with Mother Nature. Or in the words of Kahlil Gibran "Marriage is... the union of two souls in a strong love for the abolishment of separateness..... It is the golden ring in a chain whose beginning is a glance, and whose ending is Eternity. It is the pure rain that falls from an unblemished sky to fructify and bless the fields of divine Nature".

Cheers, Mazel-Tov and Congratulations to Marrying GREEN!