Proactive Waste Management Solutions

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1. **Do you think food festivals should implement more sustainable waste management programs? Why or why not? List pros and cons.**

Food festivals provide tourist attractions and build a unique and conducive social setting allowing consumers to taste, learn, and experience diverse cuisines and cultures. The study indicates that consumers are constantly looking for green events involving sustainability policy to incorporate long-lasting, sustainable practices (Martin, Demen, Gössling & Cornuz, 2018). Such practices seek to create and manage businesses to meet or satisfy the consumer needs of future generations. Food festivals need to implement more sustainable waste management programs using alternative solutions to minimize food packaging waste.

The study reveals that industries can provide successful alternatives, including reusable dishware programs, compostable food packaging, and biodegradable products to replace polystyrene products. Such options help minimize food wastage, plastic exposure, and the use of other non-biodegradable materials (Martin et al., 2018). These alternative programs prevent industrial dishwashers from reaching food festive sites. Besides, they use a deposit refund system that is convenient, successful, and cost-effective in encouraging compostable and biodegradable wastes. The system controls illegal dumping, monitor, evade, and enforce methods to prevent pollution. The deposit return system promotes recycling and transformation of materials into secondary products easy decomposition.

Despite the advantages, the deposit return system is costly to implement and maintain. It requires more collection points, such as reverse vending machines whose installation is expensive. Besides, transporting, maintaining, and administering the system needs more unaffordable expenses (Martin et al., 2018). Notably, the system may disadvantage the final users leading to a decreased demand. On the same note, suppliers may suffer inflation based on the required product costs and deposit fees, reducing their needs. The deposit return scheme may essentially allow customers to purchase drinks or bottles in cash deposit and accept the return of such items at the collection points. Such collection points store the returned glasses, plastic bottles, and metals, thereby endangering the surroundings.

1. **Do you think food festival attendees would be willing to participate in green initiatives at food festivals if there was an additional cost? Explain your reasoning.**

Food festival attendees may be willing to participate in green initiatives based on their ability to reduce the environmental pollution of hotel operations. Green initiatives increase sustainable practices responsible for limiting carbon footprint, save costs and discourage policy changes. Such initiatives seek to respond to or meet consumers' environmental consciousness to save costs and more excellent customer value (Cabral & Jabbour, 2020). The green procedures focus on improving customers' experience or behavior for the decision-making process. Such issues provide myriad benefits to food festive attendees for potential sustainable practices responsible for preventing pollution and protecting the environment.

1. **If you were a festival planner, would you prefer reusable dishware or biodegradable and compostable food packaging? Provide justification for your choice.**

As a festival planner, I would prefer using biodegradable and compostable food packaging rather than reusable dishware. Microorganisms can easily break down biodegradable materials in landfills under specific conditions, including increased temperature and moisture. Such materials are eco-friendly and can be recycled once used to avoid wastage (Cabral & Jabbour, 2020). I would effectively dispose of these materials to prolong the earth's existence by adopting innovative and convenient remedies to sustain the resources. Biodegradable packaging provides the best solution for long-distance transportation and products preservation under specific conditions required for effective decomposition.

The study indicates that biodegradable packaging facilities compose ultraviolet lights and high temperatures catalyzing the decomposition process. Biodegradable packaging involves using glass containers, stainless steel, bamboo, rice husk, gelatin films, and other options beneficial to the environment. Glass containers are durable, recyclable, reusable, and easy to maintain (Cabral & Jabbour, 2020). Bamboo is biodegradable and includes various desirable traits that are durable and heat resistant for food packaging. Rice husk is cheap, renewable, and easily decomposed based on its bio-absorbent features. Similarly, gelatin films are the best for food packaging favored by their traits. They have nontoxic components, are reliable, less expensive, and safe for a food additive.

1. **Other Sustainable Practices Festival Planners Employ at Food Festivals**

Festive planners may employ various sustainable practices to curb pollution and protect the environment for better lives. For instance, water management has used different methods such as wastewater recycling, rainwater irrigation, reuse of greywater, and groundwater depletion Navarro (Gausa, Pericu, Canessa & Tucci, 2020). Such practices seek to collect, prepare, dispose, and protect water resources to conserve the environment. Besides, water management helps to control storage and water flows to avoid wastage. Festive planners need to employ information systems to improve efficiency, recycle stormwater, protect energy, and improve water storage. They should identify non-conventional water sources to regenerate and recover aquifers to improve water storage.

Managing waste will help festive planners to achieve economic and environmental benefits such as obtaining a clean and healthy environment for sustainable development. Addressing this issue is beneficial in realizing the zero waste principle responsible for minimizing waste generation (Gausa et al., 2020). This practice ensures waste collection, separation at the source, recycling, and securing the remaining wastes to a sanitary landfill. Food and beverage also need effective management to create value, improve livelihood, and creating safe communities. Implementation of management policies and procedures should be designed to penalize those found illegally dumping wastes and provide affordable waste collection, engineering landfills, providing secure waste disposal to create wealth and improve the well-being of individuals.

**Conclusion**

In summary, the event industry faces tremendous changes that require immediate attention to meet the public demand responsible for sustainable development. Festive planners must meet the needs of attendees and local governments in reducing adverse environments regarding food festivals. The industry should adopt advanced technology to help managers implement avoidable waste strategies to prevent exposure to non-biodegradable practices. Besides, festive organizers are responsible for marketing, communicating, and educating the significance of green strategies to festive attendees to increase and promote event revenue to gain a competitive advantage.

References

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