



## BCA ENVIRONMENTALLY AND SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE CRUISING: A list of suggestions for rendezvous coordinators

This checklist contains a collection of ideas for rendezvous coordinators to consider when coordinating their BCA events. The ESRC working group wishes to provide a wide-ranging list of suggestions rather than a list of requirements. Please consider using as many of these suggestions as makes sense for the time of year, location, and resources of your specific rendezvous. If you have any questions, or suggestions to add to this list, please feel free to reach out to: [enviro@bluewatercruising.org](mailto:enviro@bluewatercruising.org)

PLANNING	
In pre-event promotions, remind members to BYO reusable plates and cutlery to all food events, to fill water and empty holding tanks before leaving their home ports, and to pack garbage back home.	✓
Provide a digital way to access the schedule and event information (e.g. QR codes) for those who choose to opt out of paper.	✓
Encourage participants to travel to the rendezvous with favourable tides/currents and winds to reduce/eliminate motoring.	✓
Consider ESRC aims when building any welcome packages or goody bags for participating members, such as: minimal use of plastics; durable goods; compostable at end of use etc.	✓
Consider looking for any prizes from eco- and socially-conscious companies.	✓
FOOD & BEVERAGES	
Consider purchasing coffee, tea, and sugar from an ethical source such as Level Ground.	✓
Source as much baking (if applicable and practical) or other breakfast foods from the local community to ensure financial support for locals and to lower the carbon burden of transporting the food (plus it saves room on your boat!).	✓
When purchasing food from off-island, consider buying in bulk to reduce packaging.	✓
Consider the inclusion of vegetarian or plant-based options at any meals provided by BCA.	✓
Strongly discourage the use of single-use plastics at the event, and do your best to limit the use of them while preparing to host.	✓
Find out where recycling and compost bins are at your marina and let members know. Alternatively, ask them to take their waste back to their home town for disposal if the marina indicates that would be preferable.	✓
ACTIVITIES & PRESENTATIONS	
Think about offering activities that support ESRC's mission. e.g. schedule a cruiser's show and tell with a concentration on eco-friendly or socially-responsible gadgets and tools; have a beach and sea debris sculpture contest; or allow time for a brief presentation to members by the ESRC working group.	✓
Encourage participants with electric or hybrid boats to showcase their vessels. Or organize demonstrations or talks on benefits and advancements in electric propulsion systems for boats.	✓

Encourage friendly discussion about who emitted the least carbon to attend the rendezvous. Maybe consider recognition or rewards for the most miles or hours sailed.	✓
Offer ESRC-informed informational sessions, for example you might have one on eco-friendly boat maintenance including the use of non-toxic antifouling products and sustainable materials for boat repairs and upkeep.	✓
Consider incorporating educational components that focus on marine conservation, the importance of protecting aquatic ecosystems, and how sailors can contribute to environmental stewardship.	✓
Consider including a citizen science activity at the rendezvous e.g. microscopy.	✓
Consider activities that financially support the community you're visiting (e.g. optional catered meal from a nearby restaurant or a guided tour with a local guide).	✓

## WORKING WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES & FIRST NATIONS

Consider asking the local community, including First Nations what BCA can do to help when we visit—is there a volunteer activity that we could be helpful with? Is a specific donation needed which members could get behind?	✓
Offer information or guided tours that educate participants about the area's unique ecosystem, the importance of preserving its biodiversity, and how they can minimize their ecological footprint during their stay.	✓
Consider researching local First Nations groups to see if they are offering cultural or environmental programs which might be of interest to members.	✓

## POST-EVENT REPORTING

Monitor the environmental impact of the event and create a post-event report describing the efforts made and the outcomes achieved, to share with ESRC and future rendezvous coordinators. Consider writing a brief report for "Currents" on the outcomes of the rendezvous.	✓
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