

October Update

Well, it has been a busy few months since the launch of Keep Paradise Plastic Free so we'll try to bring you all up to speed:

Plastic Bag Free July

We had an awesome response to Plastic Bag Free July with 91 participants vowing to be disposable plastic bag free for the whole month.

- 93% said they own reusable bags but 80% use disposable plastic because they forget to take them, 40% because they reuse bags as bin liners and 30% because shop doesn't provide alternatives.
- Supermarkets, especially fruit and veg, are the biggest contributors, followed by takeaways, meat and markets. We did find a couple of butchers willing to use the customer's container if asked.
- Every respondent said they would use fewer plastic bags if they had to pay for them

Business Ambassador Program



The Business Ambassador Program is picking up speed with 52 businesses, from market stalls to the Wildlife Habitat, committing to refrain from distributing single-use plastic bags in return for rights to display the Keep Paradise Plastic Free logo and certificate and be promoted on Facebook and website. Yes, new website in development! If you know any retailers who can make this commitment, put them in contact with PFD.

World Cassowary Day



Organisers say World Cassowary Day at Cape Tribulation on 24 September was a huge success. We had a ball at the Plastic Free Douglas stall, spreading the message to people from around Australia and the world; lots of great feedback and new registrations.

Get Involved

Volunteers needed for market stalls

We are looking for volunteers to help at occasional stalls at Port Douglas and Mossman markets. If you have a couple of hours to help save the world from single-use plastic bags, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Louise at loula_d@bigpond.com.

Kids' art workshop and exhibition

Plastic Free Douglas will be holding a workshop for kids, turning plastic waste into art, at Port Douglas Community Centre on Saturday morning 19 November.

We will then exhibit the art as part of a litter and marine debris education display in the Council's foyer through the rest of November. RSVPs to CEOUnit@douglas.qld.gov.au.

Eco-friendly Christmas

For something a bit different, through November and December, we will be holding a campaign promoting eco-friendly options for Christmas: sharing ideas for green gift wrapping and decoration, sustainable present buying etc.

We would love to hear your ideas and tips.