**Sustainability Checklist for Scripted Development**

**Checklist Created by**

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Stories have the power to capture hearts and minds. Whether or not your project is directly focused on the environment, there are many ways you can help your audience become more environmentally-conscious. “Green storytelling” can have [significant impacts](https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2021/nov/27/successions-plot-twist-prompts-thousands-to-leave-money-to-greenpeace-in-their-wills) on viewers’ attitudes and behaviours regarding climate change, biodiversity, and other sustainability topics.

With that in mind, please consider (with your writers) the ways your program can inspire positive change. How many of the opportunities below can you and your writers commit to? Please check them off and remember to also save a copy for yourself and for your writers so you can keep track of your progress!

COMPANY NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT NAME:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Green Storytelling Considerations**

**(in order of approximate highest greenhouse gas emissions impact)**

Showing the following on screen through cast/characters written into outlines; scripts etc

Eco-friendly travel (ex: walking, biking, public transit, electric vehicles) Renewable energy (ex: solar panels, rechargeable batteries)

Energy conservation (ex: turning off lights/appliances when not in use, not using air conditioning)

Reusing/repairing/repurposing items (ex: carrying reusable water bottles/food containers, mending toys and clothing, etc.)

Taking responsibility for trash (ex: intentionally avoiding excessive packaging, avoiding littering, cleaning up litter)

Vegetarianism/veganism where culturally appropriate; taking measures to avoid food waste

Intersectionality between climate impacts and equity-deserving communities (ex: the disproportionate effects of pollution on BIPOC, heat waves on the elderly) Voting, volunteering, and other public advocacy for the environment

Conversations about the environment and sustainability

Appreciating and respecting nature and animals

Your suggestions *(write your ideas in here)*: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Not showing the following on screen (unless directly relevant to the story or beyond the control of the producer)

Idling vehicles

Material and utilities waste (ex: water running while brushing teeth or doing dishes, sprinklers watering lawns, lights on in empty rooms)

Single-use plastics (ex: plastic bags, straws, cups)

**Sustainable Production Considerations**

**(in order of approximate highest greenhouse gas emissions impact)**

Example: if shooting a demo or organizing a writing room

**Travel and transportation**: no idling, choose hybrid/electric vehicles, opt for road/rail instead of air travel, use carrier bikes for crew to transport gear

If you must fly: prioritize daytime flights, direct routes, and economy seats; limit travelling companions

**Use virtual meetings** where appropriate

**Reuse archival/stock/existing footage** where possible and appropriate

**Locations**: consider the environmental impacts of filming in each production location

**Energy conservation**: power down equipment not in use, use energy-efficient equipment, use renewable energy wherever possible

**Materials**: source locally, go paperless, rent/reuse/repurpose items that are made of eco-friendly materials and easy to reuse/repurpose/recycle instead of landfilling

**Waste reduction**: reduce, reuse, repurpose, repair, recycle materials; consider hiring a sustainable waste vendor

**Catering and craft services**: go plant-based, where possible; source meals that use local and in-season ingredients; donate leftovers; request reusable/biodegradable cutlery and flatware; request low/no-emission food delivery methods

**Communication**: use signage, e-correspondence, and meetings to communicate sustainability actions and goals to all stakeholders

**Draft a** [**sustainable production checklist**](https://sites.google.com/cbc.ca/guideforindies/home) **or complete the** [**CBC Sustainability Plan**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kFUBNTdSXIvFcSeRMlIYS5exhqD6kgdC/view)

**Leave workspaces and filming locations better than we found them** (ex: plant trees where possible, advocate for permanent renewable energy options, support local nonprofits, engage with relevant community groups)

**Your suggestions** *(write your ideas in here)*:

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**More Resources to Help**

● [albert Editorial Tool](https://wearealbert.org/editorial/editorial/tool/): “The tool allows you to choose your programme’s genre before answering a series of questions which then indicate how ‘planet friendly’ your programme is. Throughout the journey, you’ll be presented with case studies, reports and impact study findings to further inspire your ideas!”

● [Good Energy Playbook](https://www.goodenergystories.com/playbook) for Screenwriting in the Age of Climate Change: “Created by writers, for writers, this interactive resource is here to help creators explore the endless ways the climate emergency complicates characters and colors story worlds.”

● [CBC Green Production Guide](https://www.cbc.ca/businessandrights/production-information/green-production): Links to various tools and resources on sustainable production, carbon calculation, green storytelling, events, and reports from Canada and around the world

● [Updated Telefilm budget template:](https://telefilm.ca/wp-content/uploads/standard-budget-template-production.xlsx) The latest version of the Telefilm standard budget template highlights sustainability-related line items