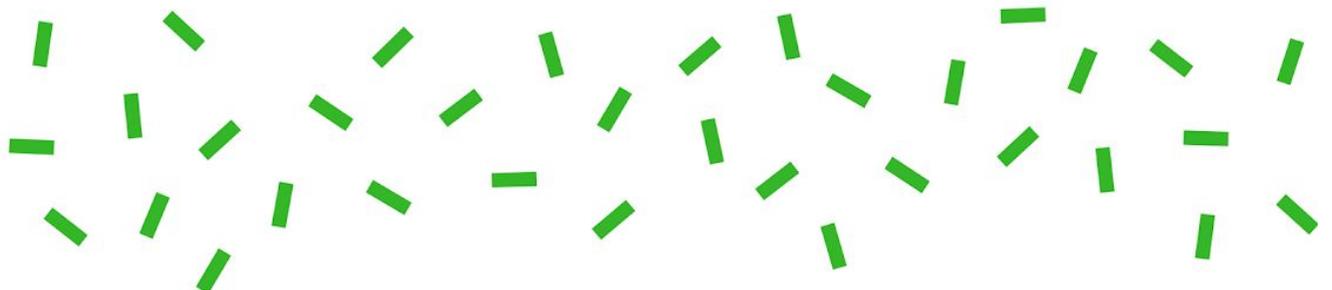
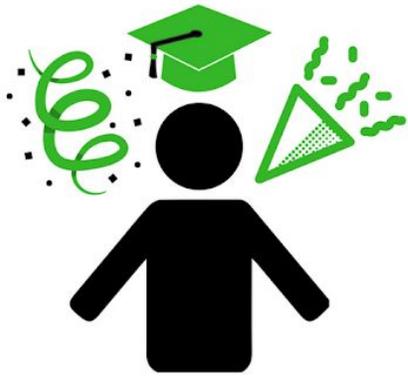


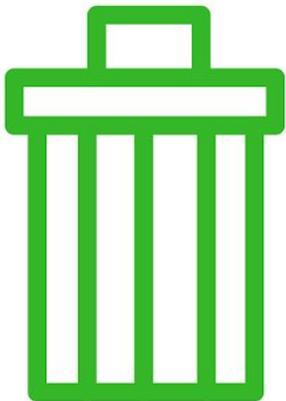


**GUIDE TO GREEN  
TRASHING**



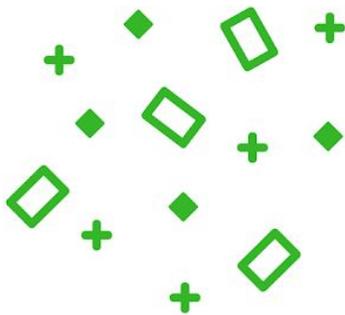


## **GREEN TRASHING CAMPAIGN**



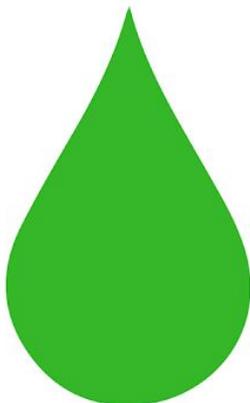
### **RECYCLE**

Remember to recycle any empty bottles, bags or other recyclable waste from trashing.



### **KEEP IT SIMPLE**

Use simple products like paper based confetti and champagne rather than complex products.



### **PROTECT RIVERS**

If you have toxic or plastic products on you remember to wash them off before jumping in rivers.

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## CONFETTI FACTSHEET

Confetti is often used at trashings, it can be made from a number of materials, including plastic and metal. A large bag of confetti can provide all the trashing equipment needed for a group of friends.

### KEY INFO

- Glittery confetti is made out of plastic/metallic material, which can be eaten by birds, end up in landfill or get washed by the rain into rivers which endangers aquatic life. It is dangerous for wildlife as it is mistaken for food, but non-digestible, clogging up their guts and often killing them. [SOURCE](#)
- Tissue paper and rice paper confettis are biodegradable, although they do take time to disappear, this is less than with glitter and metal ones.

### ALTERNATIVES

- Avoid the more complex glitter and plastic based confettis and stick to biodegradable ones, remembering to recycle the bag it comes in. Rice and tissue paper work but there are also petal based confettis. Look at the material when you buy them.
- <https://www.confettisupermarket.com/biofetti/> A confetti based website which has a specialist biodegradable section.
- <https://www.rosepetalshop.co.uk/> Here you can buy petal based confettis, there is a free sample system as well!
- You could get crafty and make your own confetti from newspaper!

### FURTHER READING

- <https://www.bridalguide.com/blogs/bridal-buzz/eco-friendly-confetti>
- [https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/22/eco-friendly-wedding\\_n\\_5187751.html](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/22/eco-friendly-wedding_n_5187751.html)
- <http://star.txstate.edu/2016/11/confetti-for-graduation-photos-harms-the-environment/>

## GLITTER FACTSHEET



Glitter is not as pervasive in the tradition of trashing as say shaving foam, champagne, and others. But it has become a recently popular item and all signs point to it being well used in this year's celebrations.

### KEY INFO

- Most glitter is made of aluminium and a plastic called PET, which is a microplastic.
- Microplastics enter environments, such as oceans and rivers, and impact the creatures who live there. [SOURCE](#)
- Dr Trisia Farrelly, an environmental anthropologist at Massey University has investigated how PET can break down to release chemicals that disrupt hormones in the bodies of animals and humans. Such chemicals have been linked with the onset of cancers and neurological diseases. [SOURCE](#)
- Research even suggests that small plastics can be used as “lifeboats” for dangerous bacteria to survive longer in water. [SOURCE](#)

### ALTERNATIVES

- Use biodegradable confetti rather than complicated glitter!
- <https://ecostardust.com/> Made from plant cellulose and 10% of profits go to charity.
- <https://www.ecoglitterfun.com/> Made from a certified biodegradable cellulose film.
- <http://www.the-mermaid-cave.co.uk/all-products/?category=Glitter> Zero Waste, Vegan friendly, biodegradable plant-based glitter.
- <https://wildglitter.com/> Vegan, biodegradable plant based and EU certified.

### FURTHER READING

- <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsbeat/article/42038411/the-eco-friendly-guide-to-glitter>
- <https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/glitter-ban-environment-microbead-impact-microplastic-s-scientists-warning-deep-ocean-a8056196.html>
- <https://www.1millionwomen.com.au/blog/glitter-why-its-not-so-glitzzy-environment/>

## PAINT FACTSHEET



Paint and coloured powders are common in trashings, in both cannon forms and as a powder sprinkled over individuals. Paints are some of the most complex trashing products

### KEY INFO

- Paints vary massively between manufacturers, some with environmentally friendly credentials and some with none. More information can be found here: <http://www.greenspec.co.uk/building-design/paint>
- Most paints are made from inorganic materials, as a result they do not biodegrade and can exist in ecosystems for a long period of time.
- Paint chemicals can have impacts on animals which ingest them but prolonged exposure can also impact the health of humans.
- Greenwashing, where a company presents itself as eco-friendly to boost sales, is common in the paint industry but many companies are not as environmentally friendly as they present themselves.

### ALTERNATIVES

- Biodegradable confetti can provide a similar effect to powdered paints without the risks!
- If paint is felt to be necessary then a simple bag of powdered paint produces less waste than more complex products such as cannons.
- There are very few suppliers of powdered paint with full environmental disclosure, one possibility is to make your own, emulate holi powders such as these: <https://www.mylittlemoppet.com/7-eco-friendly-homemade-holi-color-powder-recipe/>

### FURTHER READING

- <http://www.greenspec.co.uk/building-design/paint>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2009/feb/09/eco-natural-paints-guide-best>
- <http://www.hercenter.org/facilitiesandgrounds/paints.cfm>
- <https://www.unearthedpaints.com/pages/what-are-natural-paints>



## PARTY POPPERS FACTSHEET

Party poppers are quite a common item at trashing, there are two possible impacts that can be quickly seen, the plastic packaging that these products come in and then the impact of the products themselves

### KEY INFO

- Most party poppers consist of three main components, the plastic container, the gunpowder, and the paper-based confetti. Alongside this there are usually small pieces of cardboard found in there as well.
- The paper can vary in composition, some confetti is made from recycled materials, some is not and can be coated in materials which make it non-recyclable. Usually in trashing, the paper will breaking down due to exposure to liquids and is non-recoverable by this point. It is likely best to put any recovered paper in the compost. [SOURCE](#)
- The plastic aspect is the largest component of party poppers and on many occasions is non-recyclable, this is something that must be checked with each brand, if non-recyclable these simply create waste.

### ALTERNATIVES AND ADVICE

- When purchasing party poppers there are things to look for, what the confetti is made from, whether the plastic is recyclable and what the packaging is made from.
- Purchase environmentally friendly confetti and throw that rather than using party poppers (See the confetti guide).
- If one is very desperate to use a party popper there are “push poppers” which involve less chemicals and use biodegradable petals. These are found on [Etsy](#), but are generally rather expensive.

### FURTHER READING

- <https://www.howitworksdaily.com/how-do-party-poppers-pop/>
- <http://www.recyclethis.co.uk/20081231/how-can-i-reuse-or-recycle-party-poppers>



## SHAVING FOAM FACTSHEET

Shaving foam is a popular choice for completely covering your friends at trashings, however there are some environmental factors to consider when purchasing your trashing supplies. Shaving foam has two main downsides; the non-recyclable pressurised can and the impact of the foam itself on the wider environment.

### KEY INFO

- Most shaving foams and gels are comprised of an outer layer of plastic or metal packaging, and then a foam made from stearic acid, triethanolamine, lanolin, glycerine, polyoxyethylene sorbintan monostearate and water.
- The foam may also contain parabens, phthalates and triclosan, all of which are classed as toxic chemicals, and which may have detrimental impacts on ecosystems and wildlife around Oxford (especially if you are considering jumping into the river or a lake afterwards!)
- Shaving foams and gels are often tested on animals and can contain palm oil.
- The main body of the can is generally non-recyclable, which results in the creation of more general waste for landfill.

### ALTERNATIVES AND ADVICE

- If you are set on covering your friends, alcohol will probably go down as well as shaving foam (especially if it fizzes!)
- When purchasing shaving foam, check that it meets your satisfaction in terms of ethics and long-term disposal (i.e. is the packaging recyclable?)
- If possible choose an option with fewer parabens and chemicals, such as one from an environmentally conscious retailer (e.g. the Body Shop)
- Consider trashing with another material that is eco-friendly, such as biodegradable confetti or biodegradable glitter

### FURTHER READING

- <http://www.ethicalconsumer.org/buyersguides/healthbeauty/shavinggelfoam.aspx>
- <https://health.howstuffworks.com/skin-care/men/shaving-tips/shaving9.htm>



## SILLY STRING FACTSHEET

Silly string is a common tool for a top quality trashing, you can create a large impact from a distance that looks colourful and impressive. However the chemicals in these products are uncertain and likely damaging to the environment.

### KEY INFO

- A necessary ingredient of a can of silly string is the propellant, these used to be Ozone depleting chemicals, but since banning other chemicals are used.
- The actual composition of original silly string is complex, with companies guarding what constitutes the solvent and surfactant, but for many silly strings the main substance is a plastic.
- As a result the environmental impact of silly string can be as large, the string tends to break down into small pieces of plastic which can enter into ecosystems and have similar impacts to other microplastics.

### ALTERNATIVES

- Similar to other complex products the best alternative is to switch to something biodegradable and non-plastic such as paper or petal confetti.
- If used, please seek to recycle the can if possible and make sure that none of the string ends up in waterways.

### FURTHER READING

- <https://entertainment.howstuffworks.com/silly-string2.htm>
- <https://www.wired.com/2015/10/whats-inside-silly-string/>
- <https://howtoadult.com/silly-string-biodegradable-4608226.html>



## FIZZY DRINKS FACTSHEET

Fizzy drinks, such as champagne and prosecco, are the most common trashing product, creating a huge impact and providing refreshment at the same time!

### KEY INFO

- Bottles of fizz or cans of drink are some of the simplest products used at trashing, with little to no plastics and toxic chemicals within them.
- The key thing to remember is to keep the bottle/can and recycle it in the appropriate bin, as it may not be recycled if placed in general litter.
- Drinks also provide a great way to wash off anything you have been covered in which may enter river ecosystems.



## FANCY DRESS FACTSHEET

Fancy dress such as wigs and lais, as well as balloons are increasingly common at trashings. These can vary extremely in impact!

### KEY INFO

- Fancy dress can be reused for multiple trashings, so may provide a great mechanisms to set your college apart and reduce regular purchasing of trashing items.
- Individuals should try and avoid throwaway items however, especially if made from plastic such as balloons, and try and use products repeatedly if the need for fancy dress items is felt.
- Avoid losing these kinds of items, particularly letting necklaces float down the river. If they last till the end of trashing season, reuse them next year!