

# DIRECTORY

## Eco-weddings are easy to plan

**Green** options are available for food, wine and décor

A destination wedding can have numerous eco-friendly benefits, from instantly streamlining the guest list to minimising the need for much décor. And couples who are concerned about the environmental impact of jetting off to another country can offset their worries with carbon credits.

But with creativity and more resources available, planning an eco-wedding on your home turf is just as feasible. Wedding planner Sonya Yeung of Bliss Creations says the natural surroundings of a destination beach or garden wedding often form the basis of the décor with just a few additional props, and this can easily be replicated for a local wedding.

"Adding in green elements to a wedding can be very easy when considering each small detail. By evaluating how décor can be



**Recycled bottles can be used in table décor.**

Photos: Sean Creamer

accomplished in a greener way, couples will be surprised at the amount of options available, from sourcing locally grown flowers to printing invitations on recycled paper or creating props from found objects. Even food waste can be collected for composting," Yeung says.

Bliss Creations recently organised a

wedding for a couple that wanted a heavy emphasis on its eco-credentials and all the romance of such a momentous event. "We didn't want to create huge amounts of waste as big events tend to do. We also wanted the celebration to reflect our values, so incorporating as many local, organic and handmade elements as possible," the bride says.

The wedding was held at an organic farm in the New Territories, which suited the couples' desire to give their guests a taste of the outdoors while avoiding the conventional ballroom banquet.

"The rustic, outdoorsy feel of this farm was love at first sight. It did take vision, though - a working farm needs a lot of creativity to transform into a magical evening wedding venue," the bride says.

The couple chose vendors aligned with their priorities, including using



**Holding a wedding celebration at a farm calls for creativity with the décor.**

locally sourced, organic produce to create the menu, and choosing wine made from organically grown grapes. The groom crafted tabletops from wine crates, props and decorations were made from recycled materials sourced from friends, and farm materials were given a new function - hay bales were covered in blankets for casual seating, while an old tractor was used as a beer bar.

"We recycled glass milk jars and tin cans for the flowers as well as incorporating lots of props that the farm already had ... while maintaining the existing character and style of the location. Fabric scraps were used to create colourful bunting around the space. All of these small details added up to one very eco-friendly and beautiful wedding," Yeung says.