The city of Mumbai, constantly buzzing with activity and festivities, is preparing for the much anticipated Ganesh festival, which celebrates the arrival of Lord Ganesh to earth from Kailash Parvat with his mother Goddess Parvati/Gauri. This festival is now celebrated all across the world by the people who have their roots in India. With the Ganesh festival just around the corner, United Way Mumbai has prepared this Greensha Advisory to share some ideas to make the celebration eco-friendly this year.

**GO FOR CLAY/TREE GANESHA IDOLS**
Let’s opt for the eco-friendly idols instead of buying idols made of Plaster of Paris (PoP). Eco-friendly idols made from natural colours, fertilisers, and red soil are 100% biodegradable and easily immerses in the bucket at home.

**GO FOR ECO FRIENDLY DECORATION**
Flowers, tree leaves, colored paper, rangolis, and diyas are excellent alternative and traditional choice for decorations made of plastic to celebrate eco-friendly festival.

**MAKE USE OF ARTIFICIAL PONDS OR OPT FOR SYMBOLIC IMMERSION**
Consider immersing idols in artificially made tanks by MCGM instead of immersing them in the natural water bodies such as ponds, creeks & sea. You can also symbolically immerse your idol in a bucket or pick a metal or stone idol to be immersed at home and use it again the following year.

**MAKE COMPOST FROM NIRMALYA**
You can make a home compost of all the biodegradable items such as flowers and garlands to fertilize your other house plants.

**LIMIT TO SMALL GANESHA IDOLS**
The huge size and design of the idols often catches the eye of the beholder. Most often these huge idols are made of PoP. For households, it is better to choose simple and small idols that can be easily immersed in a tub of water at home. The big pandals, can opt for a metal/stone idol that can be used every year.

**ENERGY EFFICIENT CELEBRATION**
While lighting up the community pandals use energy-efficient lighting fixtures like LED lights or traditional earthen diyas. Make sure that excessive lights are not used to avoid wastage of electricity.
USE BIODEGRADABLE PLATES AND CUPS

Several biodegradable plates and cups are available in the market which are made from Areca/Palm leaf, Sugarcane Bagasse, Bamboo and Corn Starch.

3 R`s - REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

Reduce your consumption by opting for reusable products and recycling your waste. Spread the awareness among your neighbours, friends and family for Green celebration.

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR THE NEWLY ADOPTED SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAN.

List of banned single-use plastic items:
1. Thermocol decorations
2. Plastic cutlery (spoons, forks, knives)
3. Plastic utensils (plates and cups)
4. Plastic-wrapped products

SAFETY GUIDELINES

Follow all safety protocols including use of masks, hand sanitizer and follow social standards in public places during aarti, darshan and visarjan. Virtual aartis or darshans can be offered to relatives and friends.

GO FOR POLLUTION FREE CELEBRATION

Use traditional instruments in place of loudspeakers and avoid playing loud music to reduce Noise pollution. Do not use firecrackers to mitigate Air, Noise and Soil pollution.

BUY ECO-FRIENDLY IDOLS HERE

https://myecoganesh.com/
https://www.treeganesha.com/
https://greenpractices.in/products/subcategory/Eco-Friendly-ganesh-idols
https://www.mypoojabox.in/collections/eco-friendly-ganesha
https://utsavi.net/

Check the following pages in the link below for the list of artificial ponds in your area for your Ganesh Idol visarjan.

Source: https://bit.ly/3AXL9Pm

UNITED WAY MUMBAI

unitedwaymumbai.org  contact@unitedwaymumbai.org  +91 22 26567000

/Unitedwaymumbai  /UWMumbai
/unitedwaymumbai  /company/unitedwaymumbai
## GREENESHA ADVISORY 2022

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
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**Note:**
1. High tide timings are mentioned according to the important dates for the safety of people.
2. Avoid going for Idol Visarjan into the sea during high tide.