























Sustainable Foodservice Purchasing Guide


PRODUCT AND PURCHASING GUIDELINES FOR THE NORTH SHORE

	Cold beverages	Hot beverages	Containers for dry foods	Containers for wet or hot foods	Utensils
BEST 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reusable cups for on-site dining ✓ Reusable cups brought by customers ✓ Participate in a cup share program 		 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reusable containers for on-site dining ✓ Participate in a container share program 		 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reusable utensils for on-site dining
GOOD 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Cups made from an easily recyclable plastic 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Paper cups lined with plastic ✓ Easily recyclable plastic or fibre lids 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unlined, paper/fiber containers ✓ Containers made from easily recyclable plastic 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aluminum containers ✓ Heat safe plastic 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Uncoated wood utensils ✓ Distribute by request
AVOID 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Plastic cups and lids labelled compostable or biodegradable 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Foam cups 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Plastic containers and lids labelled compostable or biodegradable 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Foam containers 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Plastic utensils ✗ Plastic utensils labelled compostable or biodegradable

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Quick Facts

- Reusable items are the best option
- Choose products that contain recycled content
- Choose uncoated wood products over bamboo
- Choose easily recyclable plastics 
- Most paper products are compostable
- Paper products coated with plastic cannot be composted
- Compostable plastics are not accepted in municipal composting and recycling programs – many compostable plastics do not break down at regional composting facilities

If your business uses bags or straws:



- Distribute by-request only
- Source high quality reusable bags capable of being used and machine washed at least 100 times
- If using paper bags, choose bags that contain at least 40% recycled paper content
- Avoid plastic bags



- Use sippy cup lids that don't require straws
- Distribute paper straws by-request only
- Avoid plastic straws – including plastic straws labelled compostable or biodegradable