



## FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

### REUSABLE IS BEST



Single-use disposable plates, cups, and cutlery may seem economical and convenient, but replacing these items with alternatives that can be reused, recycled or composted can reduce costs, minimize waste, and attract new customers.

Reusables cost more per item to purchase than their disposable counterparts, but they are more durable and can be used thousands of times. Over time, replacing disposable with reusable tableware can drastically reduce the cost of doing business by minimizing the number of disposables purchased and the associated garbage hauling fees incurred for disposal of these items.

Use this calculator to determine your breakeven point for the cost of reusable items. The breakeven point is the number of uses required to recover your investment. As soon as you exceed the breakeven point for a particular item, you'll be saving money.

#### **Breakeven point calculator:**

**Cost of reusable (each) = \$\_\_\_\_\_ ÷ Cost of disposable item (each) = \$\_\_\_\_\_ Breakeven point = \_\_\_\_\_ uses**

Example: Reusable cup = \$1.00 each ÷ Disposable cup = \$0.05 each Breakeven point = 20 uses

## AFTER THAT YOU ARE SAVING MONEY!



## FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

### FIBER COMPOSTABLE IS GREAT



Products made entirely from uncoated paper or plant fibers are accepted in the residential and commercial green container within Sonoma County as they break down easily in a commercial composting facility or in a backyard compost pile. Note that **compostable plastics are not accepted** in the green container for a variety of reasons.

Please refer to the Supplier List below to purchase uncoated paper products for your food/beverage establishment.

#### **Fiber compostable**

- Uncoated white / natural plant fiber paper plates, boats, clamshells, cups, utensils, straws
- Uncoated white / natural deli wrap and parchment paper
- Paper napkins
- 100% wood, bamboo or palm leaf utensils, plates, boats, bowls
- **Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) [www.bpiworld.org/](http://www.bpiworld.org/)** America's leading certifier of compostable products and packaging.

The organization ensures independent testing and verification according to scientifically based standards.

**BPI certified fiber products are preferred.**

**Products with intentionally added fluorinated chemicals (PFAS) are prohibited.**



## FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

### RECYCLABLE IS GREAT



**Recyclables** The following items should be clean and empty:

- Plastic drinking cups and containers larger than 4" in diameter
- Plastic clamshells or other to-go containers
- Aluminum trays and to-go containers
- PET #1\* and HDPE #2\* plastic items are preferred over #3- #6 plastics, as they are the easiest to recycle

\*Postconsumer recycled content products support manufacturers using recyclables collected through curbside or commercial pickup and require less virgin plastic to produce.

### NOT ACCEPTED

**Compostable plant/bio-plastic products** (Although technically biodegradable, they cannot be composted locally.)

- Coated paper food containers (If it has a shiny surface, it is likely coated.)
- Plastic or "compostable" plastic utensils
- Plastic sids/dressing cups (Plastics smaller than 4" in diameter can't be recycled locally.)
- Plastic bags/plastic wrap
- Polystyrene foam (Styrofoam)
- Plastic Straws

**If an item is not recyclable or compostable at local facilities, it must be sent to the landfill.**

Exemptions will be allowed for disposable hot beverage or soup containers, as there are no truly compostable or recyclable products available at this time.



## SUPPLIER LIST FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

COMPANY NAME	CONTACT INFO	RECYCLABLE PRODUCTS	COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS	REUSABLE PRODUCTS	WEBSITE
<b>Armstrong Paper Group</b> COTATI	707-546-6300		X		
<b>Cogent Solutions &amp; Supplies</b> RICHMOND	510-307-4242	X	X		<a href="http://www.oakpackaging.com">www.oakpackaging.com</a>
<b>Cotati Food Service</b> COTATI	707-795-4489	X	X	X	<a href="http://www.cotatifoodservice.com">www.cotatifoodservice.com</a>
<b>Excellent Packaging and Supply</b> RICHMOND	800-317-2737 <a href="mailto:sales@excellentpackaging.com">sales@excellentpackaging.com</a>		X		<a href="http://www.excellentpackaging.com">www.excellentpackaging.com</a>
<b>Fishman Supply</b> PETALUMA	Leland Fishman <a href="mailto:Lfishman@fishmansupply.com">Lfishman@fishmansupply.com</a> 707-763-8161	X	X		<a href="http://www.fishmansupply.com">www.fishmansupply.com</a>
<b>Green is Green</b> MILL VALLEY	<a href="mailto:info@greenisgreeninc.com">info@greenisgreeninc.com</a> 415-571-8187		X		<a href="http://www.greenisgreeninc.com">www.greenisgreeninc.com</a>
<b>JTR Area Distributors</b> SAN JOSE	Kim Taylor <a href="mailto:ktaylor@areadistributing.com">ktaylor@areadistributing.com</a> 408-975-7733	X	X		<a href="http://www.aredistributing.com">www.aredistributing.com</a>
<b>Mike Hudson Distributing</b> PETALUMA	Jamie Kensett <a href="mailto:jkensett@mikehudsondist.com">jkensett@mikehudsondist.com</a> 800-654-3636	X	X		<a href="http://www.mikehudsondist.com">www.mikehudsondist.com</a>

MORE INFO: [ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE](http://ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE)

UPDATED OCTOBER, 2019

This document, Food Service Ware Alternatives, in no way implies or conveys that Zero Waste Sonoma endorses these suppliers, nor the quality or compliance of their products with respect to the Disposable Food Service Ware and Polystyrene Foam Product Waste Reduction Ordinance. The list is provided as a courtesy, for informational purposes only, and is not a complete list of suppliers. It is the responsibility of anyone who uses this list to verify the qualifications and compliance of each product prior to purchase from the supplier. The agency is not responsible for any expenses that may be associated with using the list of suppliers.



## SUPPLIER LIST FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

COMPANY NAME	CONTACT INFO	RECYCLABLE PRODUCTS	COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS	REUSABLE PRODUCTS	WEBSITE
<b>Moresco Distributing</b> PETALUMA	Joe Conte <a href="mailto:jconte@moresco.biz">jconte@moresco.biz</a> 707-773-2500x110	X	X		<a href="http://www.moresco.biz">www.moresco.biz</a>
<b>Palo Alto Foods, Inc.</b> NEWARK	<a href="mailto:sales@paloaltofoods.com">sales@paloaltofoods.com</a> 510-456-2420x1	X	X		<a href="http://www.paloaltofoods.com">www.paloaltofoods.com</a>
<b>PFG Northern California</b> LIVERMORE	800-233-6211	X	X	X	<a href="http://www.performancefoodservice.com">www.performancefoodservice.com</a>
<b>R3 Papercraft Inc. LLC</b> National	Jim Merfeld <a href="mailto:Jim.merfeld@r3distribution.com">Jim.merfeld@r3distribution.com</a> 866-987-7373	X	X		<a href="http://www.r3distribution.com">www.r3distribution.com</a>
<b>SF Supply Master</b> SAN FRANCISCO	415-642-0700	X	X		<a href="http://www.sfsupplymaster.com">www.sfsupplymaster.com</a>
<b>Smart Foodservice</b> Warehouse Stores SANTA ROSA	707-543-5844	X	X	X	<a href="http://www.smartfoodservice.com">www.smartfoodservice.com</a>
<b>Ukiah Paper</b> UKIAH	707-463-2203	X	X	X	<a href="http://www.ukiahpapersupplyinc.com">www.ukiahpapersupplyinc.com</a>
<b>Veritiv</b> SANTA ROSA	<a href="mailto:santarosave@veritivcorp.com">santarosave@veritivcorp.com</a> 707-542-7012		X		<a href="http://www.veritivcorp.com/veritiv-express-santa-rosa-california">www.veritivcorp.com/veritiv-express-santa-rosa-california</a>
<b>Vicor Restaurant Supply</b> SONOMA	Craig Hamilton <a href="mailto:Craig@vicorsupply.com">Craig@vicorsupply.com</a> 707-266-1268	X	X		

MORE INFO: [ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE](http://ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE)

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## Compliant Food Service Ware Product List

### Polystyrene Foam and Disposable Food Service Ware Model Ordinance

Things to remember:

1. Reusable foodware and accessories are always the best option, and will not only reduce waste but also save a food provider money over time
2. Avoid “compostable plastics,” such as those made from polylactic acid (PLA), as they are not accepted for composting in Sonoma County. Please also avoid polystyrene foam aka Styrofoam
3. All compostable foodware and accessories should be unlined/uncoated, fiber only, and free of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) to ensure it can be composted locally
4. Acceptable recyclable products include plastics accepted through local curbside programs, as well as aluminum. #1 (PETE) and #2 (HDPE) plastics are most easily recycled. Paper food ware products that come in contact with food and liquids are not recyclable, and must instead be composted.
5. Approximate costs do not consider savings due to reductions from reusable products
6. There is currently no recyclable or compostable option for hot cups, so those are excluded from the ordinance until a commercially available option comes to market

*COMPOSTABLE OPTIONS*

Single-use Foodware Type	Type	Accepted Material Types	Approx Cost per Unit*
Plate	Food Ware	Paper Fiber Bamboo Wheat Straw Palm Leaf	\$0.05
Bowl	Food Ware	Paper Fiber Bamboo Wheat Straw Palm Leaf	\$0.09
Small Clamshell	Food Ware	Paper Fiber	\$0.13
Large Clamshell	Food Ware	Paper Fiber	\$0.23
Food Tray	Food Ware	Paper Wood	\$0.33
Utensil	Accessory	Fiber Wood Bamboo	\$0.04

Chopsticks	Accessory	Wood Bamboo	\$0.03
Napkin	Accessory	Paper Bamboo	>\$0.01
Cup Sleeve	Accessory	Paper	\$0.03
Condiment Containers and Lids	Accessory	Paper Fiber	\$0.03
Straw	Accessory	Paper Bamboo Hay Wheat	>\$0.01
Stirrer	Accessory	Wood	>\$0.01
Plate Liner	Accessory	Paper sheets (soy or paraffin wax OK)	\$0.02
Bakery Tissue	Accessory	Paper sheet (soy or paraffin wax OK)	\$0.01
Splash Stick	Accessory	Wood Bamboo	>\$0.01
Cocktail Stick	Accessory	Wood Bamboo	>\$0.01
Toothpick	Accessory	Wood Bamboo	>\$0.01
Food Wrapper	Food Ware	Paper	\$0.01
Pizza Box	Food Ware	Cardboard	\$0.22
Small Bag	Food Ware	Paper	\$0.02
Large Bag	Accessory	Paper	\$0.05

**RECYCLABLE OPTIONS**

<b>Single-use Foodware Type</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Accepted Material Types</b>	<b>Approx Cost per Unit*</b>
Cold Cup	Food Ware	Plastic (PET #1)	\$0.05
Cup Lid	Accessory	Plastic	\$0.01
Food Wrapper	Accessory	Foil	\$0.02
Small Clamshell	Food Ware	Plastic (varies)	\$0.10
Large Clamshell	Food Ware	Plastic (varies)	\$0.19
Small Container	Food Ware	Aluminum w/ paper lid	\$0.14
		Plastic Deli Container (PP)	\$0.12
		Plastic to-go container (PP)	\$0.18
Large Container	Food Ware	Aluminum	\$0.20
		Plastic Deli Container (PP)	\$0.16
		Plastic to-go container (PP)	\$0.20
Condiment Containers and Lids	Accessory	Plastic (2 oz)	\$0.03
		Foil (4 oz)	\$0.04
Plate Liner	Accessory	Foil sheets	\$0.02