

WASTE WISE EVENT PLANNING

PURCHASING GUIDELINES

Purchasing compostable serving ware can be confusing as new products become available each day. These suggestions will help simplify your waste wise event purchasing.

Reusable serving ware is the most sustainable option if you have (or can borrow) the items you need. Otherwise, single-use compostable serving ware is a good option.

Compostable serving ware can be made out of paper, wood, or a special kind of plastic (PLA #7). No matter what its made from, to ensure that your serving ware is compostable, look for the words, "Certified Compostable." These words are often accompanied by a logo, but the product must still say "Certified Compostable." If an item has these labels, it can be composted by a commercial facility.



COMPOSTABLE

Biodegradable Products Institute | US COMPOSTING COUNCIL

The sources of the example products below were identified by focus group participants as common vendors for serving ware for Orange County events. All of the products listed below are "Certified Compostable."

If you represent a business that sells products with these certifications and you would like to be added as an example below, please contact the Solid Waste Management Department.

CUTLERY

- The Orange County Solid Waste Department's "Fork It Over" program has 200 sets of stainless steel utensils and 200 white polyester napkins available for loan. There is **no charge**, but the items must be returned washed and separated. For more information, e-mail recycling@orangecountync.gov or call (919) 968-2788. Buckets are also provided so that attendees can drop off their "Fork It Over" utensils and/or napkins once they have finished eating.
- Consider buying your own set of stainless steel utensils if your department or event planning committee has many events and you have access to a dishwasher.

Highmark® Compostable Cutlery Set, 6"	Office Depot	#1389196
---------------------------------------	------------------------------	----------

Ivory		
LC Industries Biobased, Spoons, Beige	Office Depot	# 271050
LC Industries Biobased Knives, Beige	Office Depot	# 271005
Eco-Products Plantware Renewable & Compostable Fork, Pearl White	Not Just Paper Staples	# ECO-EPS013 ECOEPS012
Eco-Products Plantware Renewable & Compostable Spoons, Pearl White	Not Just Paper Staples	# ECO-EPS013 ECOEPS013
Eco-Products Plantware Renewable & Compostable Knife, Pearl White	Not Just Paper Staples	# ECO-EPS013 Item ECOEPS011
Eco-Products Plantware Renewable & Compostable Cutlery Kit, Pearl White	Staples	Item ECOEPS015

PLATES

- Use any uncoated paper plate as these can be composted as well.

Eco-Products® Sugarcane Fiber 3-Compartment Plates, 10"	Office Depot Staples	# 126997 ECOEPP005PK
Eco-Products® Sugarcane Plates, 9"	Not Just Paper Office Depot Staples	#ECO-EPP013PK # 405978 812553
Eco-Products® Sugarcane Plates, 6"	Not Just Paper Office Depot Staples	#ECO-EPP016PK Item # 390813 Item 812565
Chinet® Paper Plates, 10.5", White	Not Just Paper	#HUH-VENTURECT
Chinet® Classic Paper Bowl, 12oz, White	Not Just Paper	#HUH-21230
BioGreenChoice 10" Off White Compostable Fiber/Bagasse Plate	Staples	20004949

CUPS

- Use plain unlined paper “Hot/Cold” cups as they are compostable and sturdy.
- Avoid paper cups that are lined with non-compostable plastic (i.e. not #7 PLA lining).
- For cold cups, if you want the look and feel of clear plastic, use #7 PLA cups. Take care to purchase cups with the label “Certified Compostable.”

Eco-Products® GreenStripe® Cold Cups, 16 Oz	Not Just Paper Office Depot	# ECO-EPCC16GS Item # 424923
Eco-Products® World Art™, Hot Cups, 16 Oz	Not Just Paper Office Depot Staples	#ECO-EPBHC16WA Item # 435957 Item ECOEPBHC16WAPK
Eco-Products GreenStripe Cold Cups, 12 Oz, Clear/Green	Not Just Paper Office Depot	# ECO-EPCC12GS Item # 673173
Eco-Products® World Art™, Hot Cups, 12 Oz	Not Just Paper Office Depot Staples	# ECO-EPBHC12WA Item # 435858 Item ECOEPBHC12WAPK

COMPOSTABLE BAGS FOR COLLECTING COMPOSTABLE SERVING WARE AND FOOD

Stout® Compostable Trash Bags, 32 Gallons, 0.85 Mil Thick, 48" x 33"	Not Just Paper Office Depot Staples	#STO-E3348E85 #604575 STOE3348E85
--	---	---

NAPKINS

- Paper napkins can be composted.

STIRRERS

- All wooden stirrers are compostable.