



Food Service Requirements



RECYCLING: Seattle businesses are not allowed to put recyclable items in the garbage.

COMPOSTING: Seattle businesses are not allowed to put compostable items in the garbage.

PACKAGING: Seattle food service businesses must use compostable or recyclable food and beverage packaging.



Recyclables Not Allowed in Garbage: Seattle Municipal Code (21.36.083)
Requires all businesses to separate paper, cardboard, glass bottles and jars, plastic and paper cups, plastic bottles and jars, aluminum and tin cans, and yard waste from the garbage. These items are not allowed in the garbage (Effective July 1, 2014).



Food Not Allowed in Garbage: Seattle Municipal Code (21.36.082)
Requires all businesses to separate all food and food-soiled uncoated paper, such as paper napkins, paper towels and pizza boxes, from the garbage. These items are not allowed in the garbage (Effective January 1, 2015).



Food Packaging Ordinance: Seattle Municipal Code (21.36.086)

- 1. Dine-in:** Restaurants and food service businesses that sell or provide food in one-time-use containers are required to use compostable items for dine-in service. Plastic or plastic-coated paper products may be used for dine-in service only if after use they are clean enough to be collected for recycling.
- 2. Take-out:** Packaging may be recyclable or compostable for take-out service. (Effective July 1, 2010).
- 3. Banned:** Businesses are prohibited from using plastic foam (Styrofoam™) packaging. (Effective January 1, 2009).

Keeping recyclable and compostable material out of the landfill reduces waste and pollution. By switching to recyclable or compostable packaging, businesses can reduce their garbage service and save money. Using only compostable service ware gives businesses the advantage of an easy, one-step disposal process into a compostables collection bin.

Contact the Seattle Public Utilities Green Business Program for free assistance and resources for complying with these ordinances.

For interpretation services, please call 206-684-3000.
如需要口譯服務，請撥電話號碼 206-684-3000。
통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-684-3000. 으로 전화하세요.
Wixii turjubaan afka ah ku saabsan, Fadlan la soo xariir taleefoonka: 206-684-3000.
Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al 206-684-3000.
Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa 206-684-3000.
Vê dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi 206-684-3000.

Seattle
Public
Utilities



Free Resources



Order FREE posters and bin labels or create your own custom posters at www.seattle.gov/util/ForBusinesses/SolidWaste/FoodYardBusinesses/Commercial/WastePosterOrderForm.

Restaurant Dining Area (Set of Three)

Restaurant Kitchen Collection (Multiple languages available)



Collection Bin Labels



Collection Service Providers

RECOLOGY
CleanScapes
WASTE ZERO

RECOLOGY CLEANSCAPES

GARBAGE | RECYCLING | COMPOSTING
206-250-7500
info@recologycleanscapes.com

WM
WASTE MANAGEMENT
Think Green!

WASTE MANAGEMENT

GARBAGE | RECYCLING | COMPOSTING
800-592-9995
recyclenw@wm.com

REPUBLIC SERVICES

REPUBLIC

RECYCLING | COMPOSTING
206-332-7777
infoseattle@republicservices.com

CEDAR GROVE

CEDAR GROVE

RECYCLING | COMPOSTING
877-994-4466
help@cgcompost.com

SEADRUNAR
RECYCLING

SEADRUNAR

RECYCLING
206-467-7550
help@seadrunarrecycling.com

Vendor Information

Contact the Seattle Public Utilities Green Business Program for more packaging, bins, and service information.

Packaging

Contacts for suppliers and manufacturers of compostable and recyclable packaging.



Collection Bins

Contacts for suppliers and manufacturers of interior collection bins.



Collection Services

Contacts for service providers for compostables and recyclables collection.

