



Sort Your Waste at Special Events



Tips for staff and volunteers on sorting garbage, recyclables and compostables at events

Seattle's Recycling and Composting Laws:

- All food service businesses in Seattle, including event food vendors, **must use compostable packaging** for food items. **Beverages may be served in recyclable cups, cans, or bottles.**
- The City of Seattle **prohibits** all businesses, including event producers and vendors from **disposing of recyclable or compostable materials in the garbage.**
- Events in Seattle **MUST provide recycle and compost collection bins** in areas including public, vendor and staff areas to collect appropriate materials for recycling and composting.

Tips for Sorting COMPOST

Compost: YES!

- All food
- Food-soiled paper like napkins, paper plates and paper food trays
- Approved Compostable Packaging



BEWARE!

- Paper Plates, food trays, etc. that are **shiny** have a plastic coating—they are **not compostable**
- “Sustainable,” “Biodegradable,” “Green” does **not** mean compostable. **Only compost packaging** that is clearly labeled as compostable.

Tips for Sorting RECYCLING

Recycling: YES!

- **EMPTY** aluminum cans, plastic and glass bottles, paper and plastic cups
- Lids >3 inches (most cup lids are fine)
- **CLEAN** plastic containers



BEWARE!

- If drink containers are not empty, have them **dump the liquid into the compost** first
- **Caps (< 3 inches) are only recyclable if on the bottle**
- **Plastic containers cannot contain food** or excessive food residue—if they do, they are garbage

Tips for Sorting GARBAGE

Garbage: YES!

- Caps
- Snack bags and plastic wrap
- Straws and utensils
- Portion Cups
- Food-soiled plastic containers



***When in doubt,
throw it out!***



Food+ Compostables



Recycling



Garbage

