



Tips for a successful zero-waste event

Planning your event

- Keep your waste reduction and recycling goals in mind when buying supplies.
- Avoid Styrofoam™ and non-recyclable plastic containers, wraps, and plates.
- Plastic drinking cups are NOT recyclable in Thurston County. Consider renting durable glassware, or choose compostable paper cups. See our Organics collection page to learn more about where to purchase green products: www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org/organics.
- Serve condiments in large jars or bulk dispensers, rather than individual packets.
- Choose decorations that can be used again at future events.
- Include your waste reduction goals in any flyers, emails or other communications you distribute to guests.
- Figure out how many zero-waste stations you will need and map out where they will be located at the venue.
- Work with vendors to ensure that all of the food service materials meet your zero-waste standards (i.e. are either recyclable or compostable).
- Determine what you will do after the event with the materials you collect. For more information about your options visit www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org and click on "Recycling."



During your Event

- Set up waste stations in highly visible areas and be sure that each station includes all of the disposal options, in order to avoid contamination between containers.
- Attach sign stands to all collection bins.
- Give guests a short overview of what materials go into each bin when your event begins. For larger events schedule regular announcements to remind guests of zero-waste practices.
- If possible, assign someone to monitor each station to help guests put their materials in the correct bins.
- On windy days, tie frames together to keep them from tipping.
- For large areas, use signs to direct guests to waste stations. Consider printing out a map with station locations.
- If you are collecting glass, avoid placing the bin on concrete or other hard surfaces to avoid breakage.



Setting up waste stations

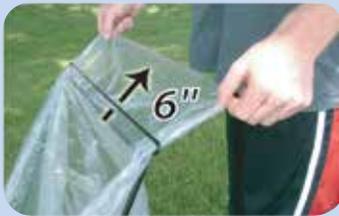
1 Open frame with double bar on top



The 80 percent recycled content, 3/8" thick steel frame literally sets up in seconds.

Make sure that the "double bar" is on top when setting up the frame.

2 Lock the bag to the frame



Pull through

Work from the inside to outside. Using two hands, pull the top edge of the bag through the double bar approximately 6".



Push over

Still using two hands, push the top edge of the bag over the double bar approximately 6", catching the corners.



Tighten

Now, grasp both sides of the bag. Pull down and in to tighten around the corners. Repeat on other side.

3 Snap the lid to the frame



With the two decals applied in advance, the lid has four hidden clips which snap securely to the frame.

You're done!



After your event

- Thank guests for helping you reach your waste reduction goals.
- Clean lids thoroughly with a rag and soapy water.
- If possible, weigh the amounts of trash, organics and recycling collected to use as a benchmark in setting goals for your next event.
- Don't forget to return your borrowed event recycling materials!

Visit www.ThurstonSolidWaste.org/events for a complete Zero-Waste event planning toolkit.



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