

# Earth Day 2019 – Zero Waste Vendor Tips



## ***Let's make Earth Day a zero waste event!***

Zero Waste means waste prevention, reducing consumption, reusing, recycling, and composting with nothing going to landfill or incineration. Large events can generate a huge amount of trash, but by reducing food waste, eliminating unnecessary handouts/event materials, and purchasing products that are easy for you and your customers to recycle or compost, we can prevent waste from going to landfills.

Zero Waste saves money by reducing trash service and conserving resources. We believe that, together, it's possible to set an example that encourages our community to live sustainably.

## **At Earth Day, you will see containers available for:**

- **ORGANICS:** food scraps and food-soiled paper including napkins and towels, waxy produce boxes, greasy pizza boxes, and uncoated, non-shiny paper plates and serving boats.
- **MIXED RECYCLABLES:** plastic bottles, metal cans, and mixed paper.
- **LANDFILL:** items that cannot be recycled or composted will go to the land fill.

**For recycling and composting related questions: contact the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency at (707) 565-3579 or [recyclenow@sonoma-county.org](mailto:recyclenow@sonoma-county.org). Additional waste reduction information can be found at: [Sonoma County Recycling Guide](#)**

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## **QUICK TIPS:**

Consider the following steps to help reduce waste while also saving money, helping the environment, and potentially making food available to those in need:

- **Waste Stations:** Dispose of all materials in the appropriately labeled collection container (organics, recycling or garbage). A map of waste station locations will be provided prior to the event. Trained volunteers will be located at the waste stations to help ensure best sorting practices.
- **Handouts and Event Materials:** Please make sure to only distribute items that are locally reusable, recyclable, or compostable (in that order). Review the Sonoma County Recycling Guide for a list of items that can be recycled locally.
- **Rethink and Reduce:** Only bring what is needed at the event and rethink what you are planning on bringing with the aim to make it reusable, recyclable, or compostable.
- **Use paper products instead of plastic or Styrofoam™:** Plastic, polystyrene and Styrofoam™ will not be allowed at the event. Replace these items with items that made from paper with recycled content or compostable products.
- **Buy supplies with low environmental impact:** Purchase products that have recycled content, or with low environmental impacts, such as non-toxic cleaners.