

Dalhousie Food Service Ware Procurement Guidelines Halifax Campuses

Issued by the Office of Sustainability
Dalhousie University

June 2017

Introduction

Dalhousie seeks to achieve 70% waste diversion by 2020 and reduce the weight of waste created per campus user. Significant waste diversion efforts require the participation of all campus stakeholders.

The best way to reducing packaging waste is to provide and encourage reusable items. This includes offering metal spoons at coffee stations instead of disposable stir sticks, providing ceramic mugs for sit-in coffee, and supporting a reusable container exchange program. The next best choices for dining ware are compostable products and then recyclable products. Chosen items should align with the sorting guidelines of Dalhousie University and the municipality.

With many packaging types on the market, both customers and waste processing facilities have difficulty appropriately sorting food service packaging. These guidelines are intended to communicate the optimal single-use packing items for food services at Dalhousie and provide examples of packaging items that are difficult to sort, not accepted by the municipality's composting or recycling facilities, and/or are garbage and thus should be avoided.

What is Compostable?

Dalhousie University and the Halifax municipality accept compostable material as follows:

- Kitchen paper towel and food napkins
- Paper bags/sleeves
- Paper plates
- Paper food wrapping
- Parchment paper
- Fibre-based or paper compostable food containers

NOT accepted are compostable coffee cups and compostable plastics, including compostable corn-based cutlery.




What is Recyclable?



Dalhousie University and the Halifax municipality accept recyclable material as follows:

- All beverage containers (e.g. for pop, water, juice)
- All plastic containers
- Glass bottles and containers
- Tin, steel, and aluminum cans
- Un-soiled aluminum foil and plates
- Plastic bags/wrap including bread bags, bubble wrap, frozen food bags, plastic wrap


NOT accepted are Styrofoam and non-container plastics, including straws, cutlery, bottle caps, and condiment cups. Dalhousie has worked to eliminate Styrofoam from food service packaging.


Hot Drink Cups and Lids

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Paper cup with plastic lining	Widely available	Goes in the garbage.
	Plastic lid	Widely available	Goes in the garbage.
	Uncoated paper sleeve	EcoGrip® Cup Sleeves EG-2000	Goes in the organics bin.

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Styrofoam cup		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.
	Compostable plastic lid		Can contaminate recycling system; not accepted at municipal composting facilities.

Cold Drink Cups and Lids

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Recyclable plastic cup and lid (un-coloured plastic)	Widely available	Recyclable

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Styrofoam cup		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.





Compostable plastic cup and lid



Can contaminate recycling system; not accepted at municipal composting facilities.

Bowls and Lids

Choose


	Description	Example Product	More info
	Fibre bowl	Pactiv Earth Choice 12 oz. Placesetter [®] Preferred [™] Bowl (unlined bagasse) MC500120001	Goes in the organics bin; best suited for serving food that will be consumed in an adjacent seating area.
	Fibre-based PLA lined soup bowls with fibre-based lid	Pactiv Earth Choice 12 oz. PLA Lined Hot Soup Cup PHSC12ECD with Vented Compostable Hot Soup Lid LMC81216EC	Goes in the organics bin.



Avoid

	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable plastic soup bowl lids		Not accepted by municipal facilities.
	Plain plastic-lined soup bowls.		Often mistaken for organics but should go in the garbage bin.




Plates


Choose



	Description	Example Product	More info
	Uncoated, fibre paper plate	Pactiv Earth Choice 10" Fiber Plate	Goes in the organics bin.

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
		Plastic-coated paper plate	Garbage; often mis-sorted as organics.
	Styrofoam plate		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.





Containers

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Certified compostable paper or fibre clamshell or folded box	ECO Products Folia™ Renewable & Compostable Take-Out Container	Goes in the organics bin.
	Certified compostable paper tray	Renewable & Compostable 1lb Food Trays, Kraft, Green Leaf Print Design EP-FT100	Goes in the organics bin.
	Clear plastic container	Pactiv Earth Choice Recycled PET Smartlock® 16 oz. Clear Hinged Container OCA910160000	Goes in the recycling bin.



Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable plastic container		Can contaminate recycling system; not accepted at municipal composting facilities.



	Styrofoam clamshell		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.
	Plastic lined paper container	HPE-BPRN-3, #3 Natural, HYPAX Bio-Plus Food Container, 8.5"x6.25"x2.5"	Garbage, but often mistaken for a compostable product. Bottom of container (improperly) directs consumer to recycle it.

Food Wrap


Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Paper sleeve	Eco-Products Grease Resistant Paper Sleeve - 9 in. EP-PSLV9	Goes in the organics bin.
	Paper food wrap		Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic bag/wrap		Goes in the recycling bin.
	Cellophane		Goes in the garbage bin.

Cutlery


Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Certified compostable birch cutlery	Eco-Gecko 6 1/2" Wooden Spoons/Knives/Forks in Bulk Pack (FSC™-certified)	Accepted into the municipal organics stream. Order directly from Jade Paper, a supplier in Ontario.
	Certified compostable bamboo cutlery	Bambu All Occasion Veneerware® Bamboo Knife, Fork, Spoon Sets	Accepted into the municipal organics stream

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic cutlery		Goes in the garbage.
	Compostable plastic cutlery		Goes in the garbage; not accepted as composting by the HRM.

Straws

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Paper straw	Green Munch White Paper Straws – 7.75"	Goes in the organics bin.



Avoid

	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic straw		Garbage. Leading litter item found in beach clean-ups.


Stir Sticks

*Offer metal spoons (with clean and dirty jars) whenever possible instead of single use stir-sticks

Choose


	Description	Example Product	More info
	Thick pasta noodles	Food supplier	Inexpensive and compostable
	Wooden stir stick	ECO Products 7" Wooden Stir Sticks NT-ST-C10C	Goes in the organics bin.

Avoid




	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic stir stick		Goes in the garbage bin. Easily avoidable. Contributes to litter.

Napkins



Choose

	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable or plain, uncoated paper napkins	Widely available	Goes in the organics bin.



Bags

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plain paper bag	ULine Flat Handle 100% Recycled Grocery Bag S-20659	If soiled with food, organics. If clean, paper.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic bag		Recycling, but hard to capture at recycling plant. Major litter item.
	Compostable plastic bag		Garbage. Can be easily mis-sorted into the recycling stream.

Condiment Cup

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Fibre-based compostable cup and lid	World Centric 2 oz Plant Fiber Souffle Cup (Unbleached)	Goes in the organics bin.
	Paper cup	Genpak Harvest Paper Portion Cups – 2 oz.	Goes in the organics bin.

Avoid

	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic cup and lid		Garbage.
	Compostable plastic cup and lid		Garbage. Can be easily mis-sorted into the recycling stream.

Dalhousie Food Service Ware Procurement Guidelines Agricultural Campus

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Introduction

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The best way to reducing packaging waste is to provide and encourage reusable items. This includes offering metal spoons at coffee stations instead of disposable stir sticks, providing ceramic mugs for sit-in coffee, and supporting a reusable container exchange program. The next best choices for dining ware are compostable products and then recyclable products. Chosen items should align with the sorting guidelines of Dalhousie University and the municipality.

With many packaging types on the market, both customers and waste processing facilities have difficulty appropriately sorting food service packaging. These guidelines are intended to communicate the optimal single-use packing items for food services at Dalhousie and provide examples of packaging items that are difficult to sort, not accepted by the municipalities' composting or recycling facilities, and/or are garbage and thus should be avoided.

What is Compostable?

Dalhousie University and the Colchester municipality accept compostable material as follows:

- Kitchen paper towel and food napkins
- Paper bags/sleeves
- Paper plates
- Paper food wrapping
- Parchment paper
- Wax paper
- Fibre-based or paper compostable food containers
- Compostable coffee cups and soup bowls

We recommend that you do not select compostable plastics and corn-based compostable cutlery as they are easily confused with recycling or garbage items, contaminating our waste streams on and off campus. The exception to this is PLA lids for compostable coffee cups and bowls.







What is Recyclable?

Dalhousie University and the Colchester municipality accept clean and dry recyclable material as follows:


- All beverage containers (e.g. for pop, water, juice)
- All plastic containers
- Glass bottles and containers
- Tin, steel, and aluminum cans
- Un-soiled aluminum foil and plates
- Plastic bags/wrap including bread bags, bubble wrap, frozen food bags, plastic wrap
- Styrofoam



NOT accepted are non-container plastics, including straws, cutlery, bottle caps, and condiment cups. Styrofoam is not recommended for food service packaging due to its environmental impacts. Dalhousie has worked to eliminate Styrofoam from food service packaging.

Hot Drink Cups and Lids



Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable paper cup with PLA lining	ECO Products 12 oz. GreenStripe® Hot Cup EP-BHC12-GS	Goes in the organics bin.
	Compostable plastic lid	ECO Products 10-20 oz. Renewable & Compostable Hot Cup Lid EP-ECOLID-W	Goes in the organics bin.
	Uncoated paper sleeve	EcoGrip® Cup Sleeves EG-2000	Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Styrofoam cup		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.
	Paper cup with plastic lining		Goes in the garbage.
	Plastic lid		Goes in the recycling.



Cold Drink Cups and Lids

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Recyclable plastic cup and lid (un-coloured plastic)	Widely available	Recyclable

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Styrofoam cup		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.
	Compostable plastic cup and lid		Can contaminate recycling system.


Bowls and Lids

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Fibre bowl	Pactiv Earth Choice 12 oz. Placesetter [®] Preferred [™] Bowl (unlined bagasse) MC500120001	Goes in the organics bin; best suited for serving food that will be consumed in an adjacent seating area.
	Fibre-based PLA lined soup bowls	Pactiv Earth Choice 12 oz. PLA Lined Hot Soup Cup PHSC12ECD with Vented Compostable Hot Soup Lid LMC81216EC	Goes in the organics bin.



Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable plastic soup bowl lids		Not accepted by municipal facilities.
	Plain plastic-lined soup bowls.		Often mistaken for organics but should go in the garbage bin.

Plates

Choose




	Description	Example Product	More info
	Uncoated, fibre paper plate	Pactiv Earth Choice 10" Fiber Plate	Goes in the organics bin.




Avoid

	Description	Example Product	More info
		Plastic-coated paper plate	Garbage; often mis-sorted as organics.
	Styrofoam plate		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.




Containers

Choose

	Description	Example Product	More info
	Certified compostable paper or fibre clamshell or folded box	ECO Products Folia™ Renewable & Compostable Take-Out Container	Goes in the organics bin.
	Certified compostable paper tray	Renewable & Compostable 1lb Food Trays, Kraft, Green Leaf Print Design EP-FT100	Goes in the organics bin.
	Clear plastic container	Pactiv Earth Choice Recycled PET Smartlock® 16 oz. Clear Hinged Container OCA910160000	Goes in the recycling bin.

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable plastic container		Can contaminate recycling system.
	Styrofoam clamshell		Hard to recycle material; especially dangerous litter item.
	Plastic lined paper container	HPE-BPRN-3, #3 Natural, HYPAX Bio-Plus Food Container, 8.5"x6.25"x2.5"	Garbage, but often mistaken for a compostable product. Bottom of container (improperly) directs consumer to recycle it.

Food Wrap

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Paper sleeve	Eco-Products Grease Resistant Paper Sleeve - 9 in. EP-PSLV9	Goes in the organics bin.
	Paper food wrap		Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic bag/wrap		Goes in the recycling bin.



Cellophane

Goes in the garbage bin.

Cutlery

Choose



Description
Certified compostable birch cutlery

Example Product
Eco-Gecko 6 1/2" Wooden Spoons/Knives/Forks in Bulk Pack (FSC™-certified)

More info
Accepted into the municipal organics stream. Order directly from Jade Paper, a supplier in Ontario.



Description
Certified compostable bamboo cutlery

Example Product
Bambu All Occasion Veneerware® Bamboo Knife, Fork, Spoon Sets

More info
Accepted into the municipal organics stream

Avoid



Description
Plastic cutlery

Example Product



More info
Goes in the garbage.



Description
Compostable plastic cutlery




More info
Can confuse consumers and contaminate other waste streams.

Straws


Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Paper straw	Green Munch White Paper Straws – 7.75”	Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic straw		Garbage. Leading litter item found in beach clean-ups.

Stir Sticks


*Offer metal spoons (clean and dirty jars) whenever possible instead of single use stir-sticks



Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Thick pasta noodles	Food supplier	Inexpensive and compostable
	Wooden stir stick	ECO Products 7" Wooden Stir Sticks NT-ST-C10C	Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic stir stick		Goes in the garbage bin. Easily avoidable. Contributes to litter.

Napkins





Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Compostable or plain, uncoated paper napkins	Widely available	Goes in the organics bin.

Bags

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plain paper bag	Uline Flat Handle 100% Recycled Grocery Bag S-20659	If soiled with food, organics. If clean, paper.

Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic bag		Recycling, but hard to capture at recycling plant. Major litter item.
	Compostable plastic bag		Garbage. Can be easily mis-sorted into the recycling stream.

Condiment Cup

Choose			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Fibre-based compostable cup and lid	World Centric 2 oz Plant Fiber Souffle Cup (Unbleached)	Goes in the organics bin.
	Paper cup	Genpak Harvest Paper Portion Cups – 2 oz.	Goes in the organics bin.
Avoid			
	Description	Example Product	More info
	Plastic cup and lid		Garbage.
	Compostable plastic cup and lid		Can contaminate the recycling stream.



August 2, 2017

Jennifer Allott
Waste Management Officer
Office of Sustainability
Dalhousie Agricultural Campus
Truro, Nova Scotia

RE: Dalhousie Food Service Procurement Guidelines – Agricultural Campus

Dear Ms. Allott:

The Municipality of the County of Colchester supports the recommendations that have been identified in the Dalhousie Food Service Procurement Guidelines for the Agricultural Campus in Bible Hill, Nova Scotia.

The containers when being sorted for recycling at the point of generation should be empty, clean, and dry. The recommendations for procurement selection and avoidance support both the Compost and Material Recovery Facilities sorting and processing operations.

We appreciate the opportunity to review the document and welcome any future occasions to assist with your environmental goals of sustainability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darlyne Proctor".

Darlyne Proctor
Waste Reduction Manager

CC: W.Wamboldt, Director of Solid Waste
J. MacFarlane, MRF Manager
C. Spencer, Compost Technician