



Quick Guide – Alternatives to Single Use Plastics

| Single Use Plastic Product | Best Option | Next Best Option | Handy Hints | Image |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plastic bags | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable bags • Request Boomerang Bags to make bags available • Sell reusable bags at the event for a small fee | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100% recycled paper bags or FSC-certified paper bags | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate early with participants/customers to BYO reusable bag • If participants/customers forget their reusable bag, consider charging a small fee for a paper bag | Fabric reusable bag  |
| Bottled water | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable drink bottles • Provide drinking water at a water fountain, kitchen or portable water station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no next best option! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate early with participants/customers to BYO reusable bottle • Direct people to nearby taps or drinking fountains with signage • Set up a bulk water supply in a prominent location | Stainless steel bottles  |
| Disposable cups and lids (paper, polystyrene, plastic) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable cups • Provide reusable cups (e.g. ceramic mugs and facilities to wash up) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no next best option! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate early with participants/customers to BYO a reusable cup to the event | Reusable cup or ceramic mug  |
| Disposable plates, bowls and cutlery | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable plates, bowls and cutlery • Provide reusable items (e.g. ceramic crockery and facilities to wash up) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper serviette • Paper/cardboard plates, bowls and cutlery (recyclable) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid polystyrene containers • Communicate early with participants/customers to BYO plate and cutlery • Check that paper and cardboard products don't have a plastic lining • Provide cutlery only on request | Reusable plates and cutlery  |
| Takeaway containers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable food containers • Provide reusable containers that can be washed and returned | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper/cardboard food boxes (recyclable) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid polystyrene containers • Provide an incentive for participants/customers who bring their own container | Reusable containers  |
| Straws | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No straw | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BYO reusable straws (metal, glass) that can be returned and washed • Paper or bamboo straws (compostable) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only provide straws on request. • Better quality paper straws last longer and dye doesn't run | Bamboo straws  |
| Balloons (rubber, latex) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reusable festive decorations e.g. banners, bunting, flags, spinners, kites etc. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper pom poms, wireless paper balloons, paper chains, cardboard decorations, etc. (all recyclable) • Flowers and leaves (compostable) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good quality decorations will last longer, and can be used again and again, so make sure to store them appropriately after the event | Reusable banner  |
| Cling wrap | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beeswax wraps • Silicone food covers • Silicone lids • Sandwich wrap/pouch • Reusable containers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer leftovers to reusable containers to store food | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean your beeswax wraps after use using cool to warm water and mild detergent | Beeswax wraps  |