

Disclaimer:

The following pages provide an overview of products that are available from a variety of sources for similar prices and do not provide an exclusive list of all options available to your business. The following is provided by AWARE for information and does not represent any endorsement/recommendation from program funder the Resort Municipality of Whistler.

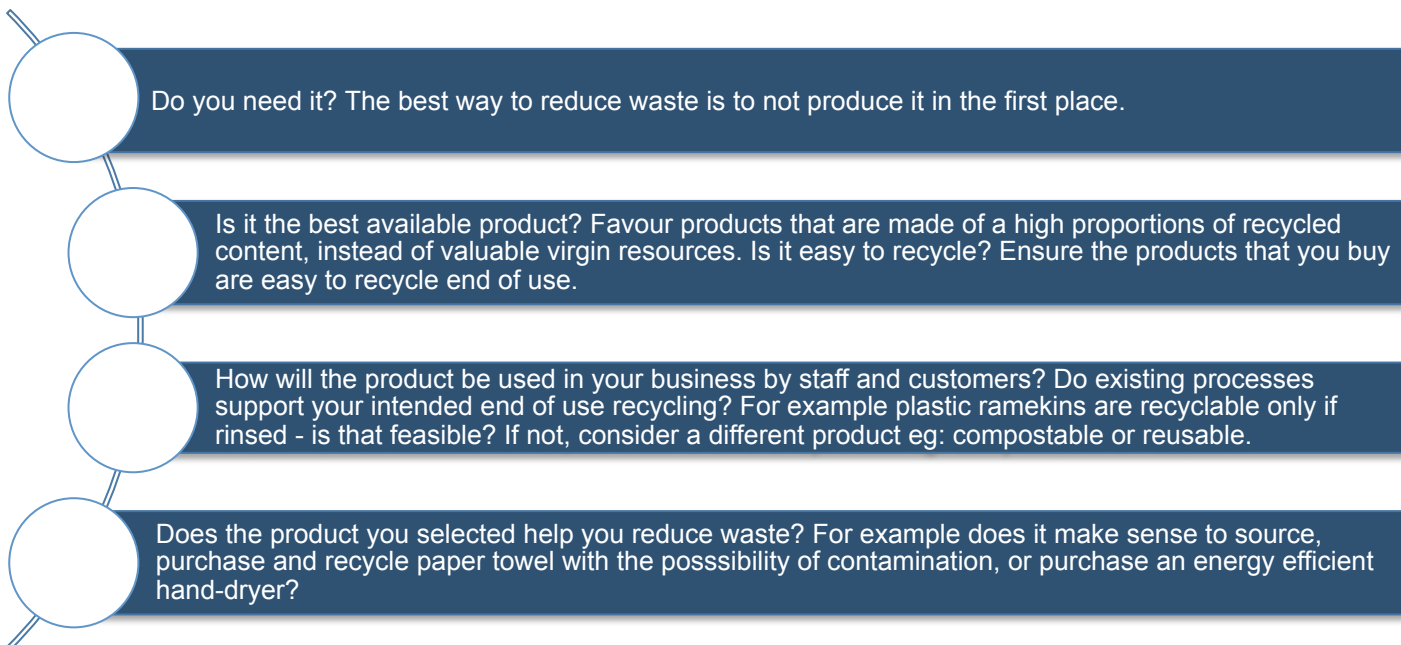
Product prices and items highlighted in this document are provided for indication only and reflect availability at the time this document was compiled.

Managing Product Purchases For Streamlined Waste Segregation:

The main priority in waste management is to focus on reducing the amount of waste generated. Careful consideration of the need you are seeking to fill by buying a particular product should be accompanied by consideration of alternative options that may generate less waste. Periodically reviewing processes will help to identify options to reduce or eliminate the amounts of waste being created in your business.

An example of the above would include adopting a drinking straw by request policy in your establishment. This change can be highlighted to staff and customers as a green initiative but will also create cost savings as straw usage is reduced. These savings can be used to offset the purchase of more expensive compostable straws that can then go in the organics bin with fruit slices and garnish scraps from the bar, meaning staff don't have to spend time manually removing straws from the waste stream. Another example of planning for waste is the use of paper towel in bathrooms for drying hands. This choice can lead to huge amounts of paper towel being paid for at purchase and disposal. Sorting through bathroom tissue to remove contaminants is not feasible for most businesses and the need to do so can again be designed out of your processes by using an alternative solution such as an energy efficient electric hand-dryer.

When considering product purchases consider the following the points in sequence:



In today's convenience society, single use items have been rapidly adopted. As people become more conscious of the environmental and societal impacts of large-scale waste generation there is also a continuous flow of new products, which are seeking a place in the growing 'greener product market'. Remember to reduce waste by buying less wherever possible and stay alert for greenwashed products, which pretend to be environmentally friendly and are not as low impact as portrayed. We hope the information in the following pages will provide a useful and timely guide as you review your product mix in the context of the upcoming change in bylaw.

When you work with suppliers be sure to use the language in the 'look for' section as a guide and stay away from products described by language in the 'avoid' section. One area that generates a lot of confusion due to the number of available products and a high level of greenwashing is compostable plastics. Below we have attached some labeling information that we collected to help you navigate this particular item more easily.

Compostable Plastics – Looks like plastic and feels like plastic, but it's an entirely different product. Know what you are buying with the help of the information below and check you have processes in place to ensure compostable plastic goes in the organics bin not the plastics recycling.

IS IT A CERTIFIED COMPOSTABLE PLASTIC?

If it looks like it contains plastic, it must be a certified "bio-plastic" to be safe for soils.

<p style="text-align: center;"> Products that appear to contain plastic must be certified compostable by the following certifications:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> BPI COMPOSTABLE <small>IN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES</small> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> COMPOSTABLE <small>www.compostable.info</small> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> OK compost VINÇOTTE </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> PLA <div style="border: 1px solid gray; padding: 2px; font-size: 8px;">Must have letters PLA</div> </div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">ASTM D6400</div> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">ASTM D6868</div> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;"> These do NOT mean compostable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BIODEGRADABLE MADE WITH RECYCLED MATERIAL MADE FROM PLANTS MADE FROM PLANT STARCH OXO-DEGRADABLE NATURAL BIO ECO ECO-FRIENDLY EARTH-FRIENDLY GREEN CERTIFIED GREEN <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 10px;"> <small>Association of Whistler Area Residents for the Environment</small> </div>
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Product Specific Purchasing Guidelines:

Drinking Straws	Top Tips	<p>Adopt a 'straws on request' policy.</p> <p>Ensure your team are trained to explain to customers that the policy is a green initiative aimed at reducing the use of single-use disposable items in your business and the community.</p>
	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compostable • PLA • Paper
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic • Biodegradable • Oxo-degradable
	Brands to Consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ardvark, paper straws • Greenmunch • Eco-Product (read comments for more info)
	Comments	<p>There has been a lot of progress made around compostable straws within the last 12 months. Locally Slope Side Supply has sourced a great option that is available at around \$8 for a box of 400. This product is not susceptible to the downfalls that compostable straws have showcased in the past, such as cracking.</p> <p>Product code: ST C8GS</p> <p>NB: This product is not made for hot beverages.</p>

To-Go Containers	Top Tips	<p>Encourage guests to stay and enjoy their food / drinks.</p> <p>Portion control is a huge factor in food waste levels but also in creating or reducing demand for to-go containers.</p> <p>Staff language is another opportunity to highlight your green initiatives to your customer. For example, have staff ask: "Did you need that packed up to-go or shall I put it in the compost?".</p>
	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compostable • Fibre ware • Sugarcane • PLA Plastic (plant-based) • PLA lined paper products • ASTM D6400 • BPI Compostable
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper products with plastic coatings or liners • Plastic (especially products not made with a high recycled content or that are non-recyclable).

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodegradable • Styrofoam
	Brands to Consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco Bowl • Bio Plus TERRA II • Greenware
	Comments	<p>Compostable plastics may be susceptible to melting under high temperatures – ask your supplier what testing has taken place before you buy.</p> <p>Bio Pak packaging (brown) are made out of 100% recycled material but they are NOT compostable. The Bio Plus TERRA II is the only compostable product from this line.</p>

Disposable Cutlery	Top Tips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the uptake of disposable cutlery by avoiding having it available for guests to help themselves too.
	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compostable Plastic • Compostable Wood • Recyclable Plastic (Must have a recycle symbol on back. Many plastic utensils are made of low-grade plastic mixtures that are too costly to isolate and recycle).
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taterware • Plant based plastics that are not labelled compostable, such as Taterware • Non-recyclable plastic • Virgin plastic
	Brands to Consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspenware compostable wood cutlery
	Comments	<p>Recyclable plastic cutlery must be rinsed before recycled. Plastics undergo a chemical process when recycled and food impurities impede that process creating a contaminated end product that cannot be salvaged.</p> <p>Most plant based cutlery, such as taterware contains a resin that does not allow the end product to be recycled in plastic recycling or food scraps & organics, and is therefore garbage.</p> <p>Compostable bio-plastic cutlery is susceptible to melt under high heats, but does not need to be rinsed before going into the food scraps & organics bin.</p> <p>Wooden cutlery is the most ideal option for disposable cutlery. Although it has a mouth feel that some people do not enjoy, the product is distinguishable and easily recognized as belonging in the organics and food scraps bin.</p>

Garnish / Burger Skewers	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compostable bamboo • Compostable wood
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic • Decorative additions (e.g. foil / plastic frills)

Ramekins	Top Tips	Use reusable ramekins for within the property and follow the guidelines below for take away ramekins. Metal ramekins are available as a cost effective alternative to ceramic with much greater longevity.
	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compostable • Fibreware • PLA lined paper products • ASTM D6400 • BPI Compostable
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper products lined with plastic • Plastic • Biodegradable • Styrofoam

Compost Bin Liners	Top Tips	Go linerless by emptying your food scraps directly into your food scraps & organics bin in garbage rooms. This will save you liner costs while eliminating the need for product manufacture.
	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ASTM D6400 • BPI Compostable
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plastic • Biodegradable
	Brands to Consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco-Safe • BioBag

Thermal Paper	Comments	Thermal paper is plastic lined and NOT recyclable. Outfit your business with impact printers and recycle your paper with paper recycling or in your food scraps & organics bin.
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Napkins	Look for	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High recycled content paper
	Avoid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virgin paper products • Inks and dyes