



# HOW TO:

## Get Compostable Materials for Your Event

**1 Are You a Group of Undergraduate Students?** That's great! Unfortunately, the Center for Sustainability is not the resource you're looking for. If your event is going to have 100 or fewer attendees, you can get free compostable materials by contacting the USG Sustainability Committee (SusCom). They can be reached at [suscomm@du.edu](mailto:suscomm@du.edu) or on their website <http://www.dususcomm.com/contact-us/>

**2 Are Staff, Grad Students, or Planning a Big Event?** Unfortunately, you are on your own in terms of getting your compostable materials. But don't fret! There are a lot of companies that sell exactly what you are looking for, by the package or by the case, depending on the size of your event. The Center for Sustainability uses EcoProducts since they are a local company (based in Boulder) and run by DU Alumni. But there are a variety of other companies if EcoProducts doesn't have what you're looking for.

**3 Remember What You Compost and What You Recycle!** Not all materials are made the same, and you should know what you should compost and what you should recycle. Regular paper coffee cups, paper soda cups, and plastic cups that are #2 or #5 plastics can all be recycled. However, if you want to keep waste sorting super simple, opt to ensure that EVERYTHING at your event can be composted. The Center for Sustainability would be happy to go over your materials list to ensure you know how to properly sort all waste generated.

**4 You Need Compost Bins if You Want to Compost!** This might sound obvious, but it is a frequently forgotten step for most event planners at DU. If you want to have compostable materials - from SusCom or otherwise - you need to make sure that you are actually composting those materials at the end of the event. This means putting in an order for compost bins (and any other waste bins you need) through Conversions at least a week in advance. If you are hosting a small event (fewer than 50 people), the Center is happy to provide a compost bag for you to collect all of your materials in. It will be up to you to make sure this bag ends up in a compost dumpster on campus in this case.

**5 Don't Be Afraid to Ask Questions!** We are committed to helping DU reach its goal to become a zero-waste campus by 2035, which means we want everyone to be composting and recycling correctly! Please, if any questions at all, do not hesitate to reach out so that we can help you with all of your waste-related questions! A zero-waste DU is only possible when everyone helps us get there!

**Feel free to reach out** anytime with questions, inquiries, and ideas! This is a common activity that folks ask us to work with them on, but we are always open to new and unique versions of this event or any other creative, fun idea you might have to engage folks at DU! Email us at [sustainability@du.edu](mailto:sustainability@du.edu) or find us on Facebook and Instagram.

