



Guide to Zero Waste Events

Please consider the lifecycle of event materials and giveaways to reduce waste as much as possible. At the end of its lifecycle, is the giveaway item recyclable or compostable – or will it become waste to be incinerated along with the rest of Lexington’s trash?

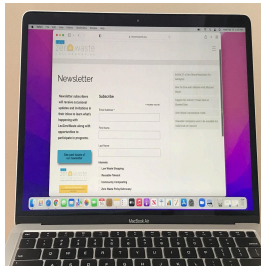
- Choose items that are durable, long-lasting and will be used beyond the immediate experience.
- Source plastic-free options where possible, including options with plastic-free, minimal packaging.
- If needed for the event, it’s best to provide items that facilitate a behavior shift towards responsible consumption, such as a reusable non-plastic water bottle, a reusable utensil set, reusable straws, reusable shopping bags, etc.

Zero Waste Event Alternatives



Sharing Information

Instead of printing stacks of handouts, consider digital options for sharing information. Display a printed flier with a QR code in a reusable stand. Event attendees can scan the QR code for additional information online, such as a program guide, registration or signup forms. Encourage attendees to bookmark for future reference.



Gathering Information

To provide a way for attendees to sign up for your organization’s newsletter during the event, consider displaying the online signup form on a laptop or tablet at your table. An added bonus of collecting signups digitally is pre-empting the time and effort to decipher and transcribe “artistic” handwriting post-event.



Water for Event Panelists and Attendees

Promote “Go Reusable - Bring Your Own Water Bottle” in marketing materials. Do not automatically provide water in plastic bottles; if you must provide water, use pitchers and reusable cups whenever possible, [BPI-certified compostable](#) cups if necessary, and aluminum cans as a final resort. Download [this badge](#) for your promotional materials.

Don’t forget to reuse, compost or recycle all materials left behind!

See additional tips from:

- [The Blue Events Guide](#) by Oceanic Global
- [Zero Waste Event Assistance](#) by Sustainable Bainbridge
- [Zero Waste Event Guide](#) by Zero Waste Humboldt

Please visit lexzerowaste.org for more information