

# Zero-Waste Commitment 2009

## ~For All Exhibitors~

At the Organic Islands Festival and Sustainability Expo, we strive to have everything we eat, drink, wear, plant and clean with nurture the environment, strengthen our bodies, and preserve our children's future. By offering you practical options that ensures the waste we generate is recycled or composted, we can promote a sustainable organic future. That is why Organic Islands Festival has partnered with [reFUSE Ltd](#) and [BSI Biodegradable Solutions](#) to support us in our commitment to become a zero-waste festival.

With the help of dedicated volunteers, staff and exhibitors like you, we work to **first reduce** and then divert as much waste as possible from the landfill. As you can imagine, festivals can generate a lot of waste and that is why we have taken the following actions.

### Festival Zero-Waste Efforts:

- Everything that can be recycled or composted is and we track and work to reduce the amount generated each year. We have receptacles throughout the festival grounds and enthusiastic volunteers to assist you.
- **Water is free!** We have partnered with [Mt. Doug Springs](#) to provide water jugs and dispensers for attendees to fill up from instead of small plastic bottles of water.
- **Any food service or sampling items** - plates, cutlery, napkins, coffee cups and sample cups are **100% compostable\*** and are sorted and sent to the appropriate composting facility.

### Exhibitor Zero-Waste Efforts:

- All exhibitors and festival organizers must use only **100% compostable food packaging and flatware for sampling or food services.**
- **Contact [BSI Biodegradable Solutions](#) for all your food service, food packaging and flatware needs.** Mention you are an Organic Islands Festival exhibitor and receive a preferred commercial rate. ***Non compostable or recyclable containers are no longer acceptable at the Organic Islands Festival.***
- **If you use your own supplier,** you must get approval from us so that we can assess the compostability of the supplies you're using. Please advise us of your supplier and the supplies you intend to use.

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\* products that are designed to degrade in the composting process

**NOTE:** If you are sampling something like a granola bar that comes pre-packaged, we understand that the packaging is beyond your control and may or may not be compostable or recyclable. That can be an exemption. But the container or napkin that it gets handed to patrons falls under our zero-waste commitment and must meet the criteria.

- **Recycle (plastic #1,2,5) and compost your waste in appropriate bins.** Need help setting up sorting containers in your booth or help picking up your waste? We have enthusiastic volunteers to assist you, please let us know.

- **Reduce!** Limit the amount of sample cups, cutlery, plates and napkins you give out. This not only saves you money it reduces the festival overall volume of waste, measured every year.

Thank you for supporting our commitment and contributing to a more sustainable organic future.

On behalf of the Organic Islands Team,

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