

COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING FOR EVENTS

Guidelines for Tauranga City

(for disposal at REVITAL FERTILISER, Mt Maunganui)

This document aims to be a guide for mobile food vendors and event organisers on the accepted compostable packaging products for processing in Tauranga at Revital Fertiliser located at Te Maunga in Mount Maunganui.

Tauranga City aims to assist events to decrease the quantity and types of waste they send to landfill including food waste and the compostable packaging which contains it.

Key things to remember:

Sending the wrong products to the composting facility is considered contamination of the waste stream. This can lead to the entire truckload of product getting taken to landfill and the event may receive a fine from the service provider, as well as paying for the whole load to go to landfill.

Compostable event waste which is contaminated with more than 1% of non-compostable product will be rejected by the composting facility and/or the service provider.

Organic event waste **must be decontaminated** before it gets collected by the service provider, if you're unsure of what this means please contact the Waste Minimisation Officer at Tauranga City Council for information on decontamination practices.

This document has been prepared by:







ACCEPTED COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING PRODUCTS

CUTLERY	Wooden (timber or bamboo) - Knives - Forks - Spoons *Chopsticks: wooden are also approved in this category	Pine cutlery is the easiest of the cutlery products to break down in composting environments at a very competitive price. These products can be disposed of in any composting environment including home composting.
CUPS	White Single Wall or double walled cup, this is your standard "compostable" coffee cup Ranges from 4oz (perfect for tastings) and goes up to 20oz/600ml size to replace milkshake cups.	These cups look similar to a regular 8oz coffee cup but have a thin plant based plastic PLA lining instead of the regular plastic lining. These cups break down readily in all commercial composting environments but are not designed for home composting or worm farms.
CONTAINERS	Single wall PLA hot or cold bowls for deli goods/icecream etc. (preferred without lids)	These are very similar to the Hot/cold cups above and have a thin lining on the inside of the paper walls which is made from PLA. This can readily break down in all commercial composting facilities but is not designed to be put through a home composting unit or worm farm.
PLATES/BOWLS	Sugar cane or "bagasse" plate Also come in bowls, clams and most shapes of food servery packaging	These plates are made of sugar cane pressed fibres and look a bit like cardboard. They are a cost-effective servery item and can be accessed through most packaging retailers. Bagasse items do not contain toxic inks and can readily break down in all composting environments including home composting units. They are the most widely used item for food servery at events.



ACCEPTED COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING PRODUCTS

DRINKING STRAWS	Aardvark Jumbo White Paper Straw (un-inked, but inked also permitted – as per picture)	These straws are made from food grade recycled paper and can be found at most packaging retailers. They are suitable for processing through all composting environments such as home composting and worm farming as they use soy based inks and are 100% recycled paper. They are quite suitable as a straw for a thin drink (not smoothie/thickshake) and hold their shape well. They come in a range of colours and designs.
NAPKINS	Recycled paper napkins, natural coloured	These kraft coloured paper napkins are made from recycled paper. They are food grade and free of toxic dyes. These are preferred for composting over coloured napkins. These natural/ kraft coloured napkins are widely available at packaging retailers and wholesalers and are extremely cost effective.
SINGLE USE BAGS	Kraft paper bags FLAT (e.g for jerky or similar) Or WITH HANDLE e.g 178mm (3.6L volume)	These bags are made from recycled paper and are non-bleached or dyed. They are a cost effective alternative to carry-bags which are fully compostable in any environment including home composting and worm farms. They are widely available from most packaging suppliers in the flat version and the carry bag version. Vendors can use a water based ink stamp to brand bags if necessary.
PINE BOATS	Pine servery Come in a range of sizes and shapes such as cones, boats, trays and platters.	Pine servery can be a great way of presenting tapas style or finger food. It does also come in a flat tray. The fibres are easy to break down in all commercial composting facilities and also in home composting and worm farming.



ACCEPTED COMPOSTABLE PACKAGING PRODUCTS

POTATOPAK





Potatopak

e.g 350ml bowl (12 x 4.5 cm)

Come in a range of colours, shapes and sizes.

Potatopak products are made from potatoes and have been a kiwi innovation. The break down readily and quickly when exposed to any sort of water-based moisture which makes them suitable for serving dry products in or oily products. Salads are not suitable due to their moisture content.

They are suitable for processing through all commercial facilities including home composting due to the speed in which they decompose and the edible food colouring used to colour the servery. You can actually eat Potatopak products if you wanted to...

WRAPS/POUCHES



Sandwich wrap with vegetable wax coated paper

Hot & Crispy pouch - Specially designed compostable pouches to keep burgers/sandwiches hot

The hot and crispy pouch replaces the usually non-recyclable tin foil used in food servery, a great innovation, a paper based product can be processed through any composting environment including home compost and worm farms.

Sandwich wrap contains a vegetable wax lining and is the only greaseproof paper which can be composted.

SHALLOW BOX



Noodle or salad shallow box with water-based lining

Hot or cold.

Comes in range of sizes

This shallow cardboard box has a water based lining which is completely compostable in any composting environment. This particular product from "Friendlypak" differs to most similar products on the market which usually have a plastic lining which makes them neither recyclable nor compostable in the BOP.

CARDBOARD



Cardboard trays

(with no lining)

PIZZA BOXES

Also permitted

Food boxes made from kraft cardboard with no lining. There are other cardboard only products in the market which also have no lining although this can be hard to identify so only approved products can be brought to events to be composted. Pizza boxes are also suitable for composting in most commercial composting facilities.