

HOLD THE PLASTIC, PLEASE

Beyond Plastics' free guide helps restaurants save money, attract customers, and protect the planet by reducing plastic.

Get the guide at <https://bit.ly/plastic-free-restaurant-guide> or scan the QR code at the right.



➤ **Cut costs and boost revenue**

Replacing single-use disposable foodware with reusable dishes, cups, cutlery and condiment dispensers actually saves restaurants money. Many customers are also willing to pay more for "greener" options.



➤ **Attract new customers**

Restaurants that respond to the growing desire for plastic-free dining can grow their base of customers.



➤ **Protect the planet**

Plastics damage our planet and endanger human health at every phase of their lifecycle. Restaurants have a big role to play in addressing our plastic pollution crisis.



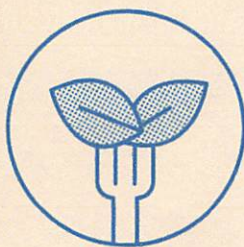
Get the free guide at <https://bit.ly/plastic-free-restaurant-guide> for information on how to:

- Conduct a plastic audit
- Calculate savings
- Choose reusable alternatives
- Find funding for reusable dishware
- Handle dishwashing
- Get staff on board
- Involve customers
- Market plastic reduction changes



**BEYOND
PLASTICS**

Beyond Plastics is a nonprofit project based at Bennington College in VT whose mission is to end plastic pollution.
www.beyondplastics.org



SIMPLE SWAPS: SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES FOR RESTAURANTS!

YES, YOU CAN ACCEPT REUSABLE ITEMS!

Why It Matters:

Single-use plastics contribute to pollution, harm wildlife, and can leach harmful chemicals into food and drinks. By welcoming reusable items, your restaurant saves money, reduces waste, protects the environment, and supports customers making sustainable choices

Did You Know?

In New Jersey, restaurants are allowed to accept clean, reusable containers, cups, and utensils from customers. Participating in sustainable practices can attract eco-conscious customers and reduce your waste disposal costs.



ALLOW REUSABLE COFFEE MUGS

Escape Single-Use Coffee
Cups!

- Customers can bring their own clean, labeled coffee mugs for refills.
- Ensure the mug size is visible to serve the correct portion.

**SAVE ~\$13,000+
ANNUALLY**



ENCOURAGE REUSABLE UTENSILS & DRINKWARE

Ditch Single-Use Cutlery and
Drinkware!

- Let customers know they can bring their own straws, cups, and cutlery.
- Offer an option to skip single-use utensils in takeout and delivery orders.

**SAVE ~\$2,500 +
ANNUALLY**



ACCEPT REUSABLE CONTAINERS FOR LEFTOVERS

Break Free from Single-Use
To-Go Containers!

- Customers can provide their own clean containers for take-home meals.
- Staff can pack leftovers directly into customer-provided containers upon request.

**SAVE ~\$4,000+
ANNUALLY**

New Jersey Needs to “Skip the Stuff”



The Problem:

➤ It is estimated that [40 billion individual single-use plastic utensils](#) are discarded every year in the United States.¹

➤ Plastic never decomposes but instead gets smaller and smaller as it breaks into micro and nanoplastics. Micro and nanoplastics have been found throughout the world, even in the most remote places like Mount Everest and the Arctic.

➤ Research by the [PlastChem Project](#) identified that plastic is made from 16,000 different types of chemicals which can leach from products and migrate into our bodies through the air we breathe and food and water we consume.²

➤ According to the [National Institute of Health](#), manufacturing, transportation, use and decomposition of plastic is harmful to our health. It has been linked to numerous cancers, insulin resistance, neurological and mental health issues, asthma, decreased sex hormones, birth defects and other endocrine disruptors and negative consequences for our reproductive system.³



➤ [Most plastic utensils are unused](#) and an unnecessary cost burden to restaurants.⁴ Since 2014, online food ordering has increased [300%](#) faster than dine-in, furthering the plastic pollution problem.⁵

➤ The [World Economic Forum estimated](#) that in 2019 the production and incineration of plastic was equivalent to 189 coal-fired power plants. By 2050, it will rise to the equivalent of 615 coal plants' worth and will account for 20% of all oil consumption.⁶

➤ Plastic cutlery is [too small to be recycled](#) as it can jam recycling machinery. It is also too lightweight and too contaminated by food to be recycled.⁷

➤ Some single-use plastic cutlery will have their end of life in [landfills or incinerators](#), furthering the negative health effects for those who live near the disposal sites.⁸ The rest is littered in our streets and waterways.



**WE KINDLY ASK
THAT **YOU REQUEST**
ACCESSORIES IF
YOU NEED THEM.**

Thank you!

