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Throw a Zero Waste Party this Summer

When your patio is open for the summer party season, why not try making it a zero waste party. The key to a zero waste party is thinking ahead about all the materials your guests will be disposing of, and then choosing materials that are reusable, recyclable or compostable instead of disposable. Use reusable plates, glasses and silverware. If you have to use disposable, choose paper products so they can be composted or plastic plates and cups that are recyclable. Plastic cutlery is not recyclable so it's always better to use reusable. Use cloth napkins when you can or remember to compost your paper napkins. Make being "green" the theme of your party and thank your guests for helping you throw a Zero Waste Event!

LCBO Bans Plastic Bags

The [LCBO](#) (Liquor Control Board of Ontario) announced last month that it will no longer be handing out plastic shopping bags once it exhausts existing supplies. Customers are being encouraged to bring their own bags or buy a reusable bag. Stores will still provide paper bags or cardboard boxes.

Last year, the LCBO handed out 80 million bags – a fraction of the some 3.5 billion the industry estimates are used in the province every year – but the government hopes this move will have a domino effect with other businesses. Plastic shopping bags, on average, are used for only 20 minutes and take nearly 400 years to break down in the landfill if not recycled, according to Environment Canada.

Don't forget your reusable bags when you go shopping.

Do You Know Where it Goes?

Some materials make us think twice before we throw them away. Is it Recyclable? Can it be Composted? Or is it Garbage?

Paper Plates & Cups

Paper plates & cups can be placed in your green cart to be turned into compost; they do not belong with your paper recycling.

Styrofoam Plates & Cups

Styrofoam plates & cups can be placed with your container recycling; please remove any food residue before placing them in the Yellow Can.

Miss Your Collection Day?

In the summer months, due to vacations and other special events you might end up missing your collection day leaving you with full recycling bins and garbage containers. If this happens, you can bring recyclables and garbage to the OVWRC for proper disposal. Recyclables (paper and containers) are accepted free of charge, while minimum tipping fees apply to regular garbage (175 kg and under is \$10). For more information on our tipping fees, location and hours [click here](#).