

Reduce The Use Of Plastic

Cut Costs and Increase Revenue

- By **NOT** handing out single-use plastic UTENSILS, CONDIMENTS, STRAWS, NAPKINS - **UNLESS REQUESTED BY THE CUSTOMER.**
- Encourage customers to bring their own reusable containers/mugs.

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 can play a big role in addressing our plastic pollution crisis.

Restaurants are powerful drivers of innovation and social change.

What Can Be Reduced and/or Eliminated?

Front-of-House (FOH)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Cold Cups | <input type="radio"/> Individually Wrapped Condiments |
| <input type="radio"/> Bottles | <input type="radio"/> Carry Out Bags |
| <input type="radio"/> Dishware - Plates | <input type="radio"/> Ice Bags |
| <input type="radio"/> Dishware - Bowls | <input type="radio"/> Hot Beverage Cups + Lids |
| <input type="radio"/> Takeaway Container | <input type="radio"/> Straws |
| (includes all forms of containers for hot/cold & wet/dry foods) | <input type="radio"/> Individually Wrapped Items |
| <input type="radio"/> Takeaway Container Lid | <input type="radio"/> Drink Stirrers |
| (includes all forms of containers for hot/cold & wet/dry foods) | <input type="radio"/> Drink Stoppers |
| <input type="radio"/> Cutlery / Utensils | <input type="radio"/> Toothpicks |
| <input type="radio"/> Takeaway Portion Containers | <input type="radio"/> Self-Serve/Buffer Items |

Potential Cost Savings

Item Description	Unit Cost	Daily Takeout Orders	Daily Cost of Takeout Single-Use Plastic	Monthly Savings	Yearly Savings
Plastic bag	.01				
Napkins	.01				
Plastic Fork, Knife, Spoon	.03				
Straw	.01				
Condiments 2	.05				
Total/order	\$0.11	40	\$4.40	\$132	\$1,584

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Sample Business Costs by Restaurant Type

CLEAN WATER ACTION FACT SHEET

Business Cost Impacts from disposable food service items

The cost breakdown* of disposable food service ware items used for typical to-go meals, based on case studies of *ReThink Disposable* certified food businesses

Café Coffee To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
16 oz. Hot Cup	\$0.06
Hot Cup Lid	\$0.04
Sleeve	\$0.03
Lid plug/stirrer	\$0.03
3 Sugar Packets	\$0.03
2 Creamers	\$0.08
TOTAL COST: \$0.27	

Taqueria Meal To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
Foil	\$0.02
Paper Bag for chips	\$0.02
3 Plastic Sauce Cups for salsa	\$0.06
3 Plastic Sauce Cup Lid	\$0.06
6 Napkins	\$0.01
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straw	\$0.01
TOTAL COST: \$0.25	

*Costs of individual items rounded to the nearest whole cent.

Chinese Food To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
2 Paper Boxes	\$0.25
2 Large Plastic Clamshells	\$0.38
4 Condiment Packets	\$0.10
6 Napkins	\$0.01
Wooden Chopsticks	\$0.03
Plastic Fork, Knife, Spoon	\$0.03
Sauce Cup	\$0.02
Sauce Cup Lid	\$0.02
TOTAL COST: \$0.85	

Hamburger/Fries To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic/Paper Bag	\$0.01
6 Napkins	\$0.01
5 Condiment Packets	\$0.13
8x8x3 Fiber Clamshell for Hamburger	\$0.23
6x6x3 Fiber Clamshell for Fries	\$0.13
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straws	\$0.01
TOTAL COST: \$0.58	

Greek Food Meal To-Go meal packaging:	
ITEM	COST
Plastic Bag	\$0.01
6x6x3 Fiber Clamshell	\$0.13
Large Plastic Clamshell	\$0.19
Small Plastic Clamshell	\$0.10
3 Sauce Cups	\$0.06
3 Sauce Cup Lids	\$0.06
6 Napkins	\$0.01
Foil	\$0.02
Food Wrap	\$0.01
16 oz. Cold Cup	\$0.05
Cold Cup Lid	\$0.01
Straw	\$0.01
Fork, Knife, Spoon Packet	\$0.03
TOTAL COST: \$0.69	



MORE INFORMATION is available in
Beyond Plastics Restaurant Guide To Reducing Plastics

