

## Hosting a Successful Low Waste Event

If you're going to go through the trouble of organizing an event and renting the proper recycling infrastructure, you want to make sure everything goes off without a hitch.

Part of holding a successful event is ensuring there is as little waste as possible. The less waste you produce, the less space you take up in local landfills (and the less you have to clean up). There are several ways to help create a low waste event:

- Purchase bulk items, such as condiments, to avoid individual packaging
- Compost all food, food-soiled paper products, and compostable utensils and plates
- If you are hosting a fair, inform vendors that it will be a low waste event to prevent excessive waste
- If your event is catered, work with the caterer to provide food that does not require silverware (fruit kebabs, meat kebabs, burgers, hot dogs, etc.)
- Avoid plastic packaging, Styrofoam, and individually packaged items such as plastic utensils
- Limit the amount of door prizes and giveaways

Hosting large events also means you will be dealing with people of different educational backgrounds. All of your Clear Stream receptacles have labels on the lids, but additional signs that are clear, concise, and consistent will increase the amount of recycled materials.

If you are collecting organics (food waste), it may help to hang examples above your bins. If you are serving hot dogs in a compostable, paper boat, you can attach it to some string and dangle it above the compostable bin so everyone can clearly see the proper container to place the paper boat in.

## Questions?

For questions about event recycling and composting, or to get an application, contact:

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(218) 384-9178



## Carlton County Event Recycling Program



Carlton County Zoning and  
Environmental Services  
218-384-9178

## How to Utilize this Program

The Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services Event Recycling Program is for any Carlton County school, business, or resident to utilize for any public or private event. Example events include:

- Fairs
- Graduation parties
- Company parties
- Sports events/tournaments
- Any large event in need of recycling

Please contact our office for an application (back panel).

## Available Services

Carlton County Zoning & Environmental Services offers receptacles for the following:



*Plastics Recycling, Aluminum Recycling, Paper Recycling, Glass Recycling, Compostables (organics) and Trash.*

Each Clear Stream receptacle may be rented **free of charge** for a maximum period of two weeks. The applicant is responsible for the receptacles during the entirety of the lease.

## Working with a Facility's Garbage Service

If an event is in rented space, the facility's garbage service should be contacted. Things to check include:

- Who is the garbage hauler for this venue? (The company name is usually printed on the outside dumpsters.)
- What materials are collected for recycling by this hauler?
- Does this garbage service offer organics collection?
- Do recyclable materials need to be separated, or can all recyclables be mixed into one container?

Here are some of the local garbage haulers and their contact information:

Cloquet Sanitary Service	218-879-3723
Lakes Sanitary Service	218-768-3360
Nordstrom's Sanitation	218-485-4637
Waste Management/Nordic	218-624-8403
A-1 Disposal	218-729-6130
North State Services	218-879-4116



## Organics/Food Waste Recycling

Hosting an event for a large amount of people can generate a lot of food waste. Food waste takes up valuable landfill space and creates greenhouse gases.

Food waste is 100% recyclable. Organic materials collected for recycling in Carlton County are sent to the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) composting facility in Duluth. There, it becomes valuable compost local farmers and gardeners can use for their produce.

In Carlton County, there is a public drop off site for food waste at the Transfer Station on Highway 210 free of charge. If your event is in Duluth, there are several public drop off sites for food waste; contact the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) for a complete list.



**Please check to make sure the event facility's garbage hauler offers organic recycling before you rent the receptacles for compostables.**