

Compostable Service-ware at HSPH



1. Cold Cups made from corn-based plastic

Greenware cold drink cups are made from a plastic derived from corn called “**Poly-lactic Acid**” or **PLA**, which looks and acts like petroleum based polymers, but is made from renewable resources, and breaks down into natural components.

Visit www.natureworkspla.com for more information.

Note—these cups look EXACTLY like other plastic cups that are not biodegradable, so it is important to check the bottom of the cup to make sure it says “PLA” or “compostable” before putting in the compost bin.

- Greenware will break down completely (in the correct composting conditions) in approximately 50 days!
- According to an independent study, production of PLA plastic uses 65% less energy compared to regular plastic, reducing associated GHG emissions by 68%.



2. Hot cups (coffee cups) lined with corn-based plastic

***** (Please remember it is always better to BRING YOUR OWN mug!)*****

The “Ecotainer” hot drink cups are lined with PLA (corn-based) plastic which can be composted, as opposed to regular hot cups that are lined with petroleum based plastic that does not bio-degrade.

- The fiber used to make the cups is grown and harvested according to Sustainable Forestry Initiative guidelines, so there is no harvesting of old-growth forests.
- The raw material for the cup coating comes from corn grown in the United States, and is manufactured in a greenhouse-gas-neutral process. And,
- After use, under the proper conditions, the cup will break down into the natural elements from which it was produced (within 90 days)



**** The LIDS on the coffee cups are NOT made from compostable plastic, and should be disposed of in the RECYCLING bin.*****

3. Clamshells and Plates made from natural fibers

The new clamshell take-out containers and plates are made from renewable resources such as sugarcane, grasses, and reed plasma. These containers are designed to hold both hot and cold food, and can be composted in commercial composting facilities.



4. Flatware made from corn-based plastic

The new flatware used in Sebastian’s is also made from corn-based plastics, and can be composted in commercial composting facilities.

***** Note—these products are designed to hold hot and cold food as needed, but are not meant to be HEATED and do not hold up well in the microwave!*****

