



# Plastic Bottles

## 1 Before Your Event

- Decide that you are going to reduce plastic bottles at your next event. It would be terrific to eliminate them all together — but aim for something that you can actually do!
- Announce that your event is reducing plastics. In your promotional materials, ask your guests or ticket holders to bring a bottle. Folks really want to help!
- Make a plan to reduce single use bottles and to set-up water distribution/water stations.
- Determine if you have access to municipal water at your event location. If yes, then it's time to set up a water station for folks to refill their bottles! If necessary, contact the water supplier well in advance to make sure all necessary arrangements can be made to set up water stations.
- Incentivize the event staff to bring refillable bottles to work at your event. Tell them that you want to Ban the Bottle at the next event and that they are role models for changing that behavior!
- Provide your staff with reusable water bottles. Consider printing your company's logo on these bottles to help encourage branding and name recognition.
- Choose reusable plates, utensils, cups and packaging whenever possible.



**On average, the United States alone purchases and consumes over 50 billion plastic bottles per year. If that statistic isn't bad enough, only 40% of those 50 billion plastic bottles are recycled or put to better use. This means that 3 out of 5 plastic bottles purchased in the U.S. are thrown away.**

*(Source: Sustainable Business Forum)*

**On average, a person at an event drinks 1 to 1.5 liters of water per day, depending on whether the event is held indoors or outdoors.**

**Most events provide half-liter bottles of water for participants. Events that serve tap water therefore have the potential to save between two and three plastic bottles per attendee.**



## 2 During Your Event

- Provide recycling containers for any single use plastic bottles!
- Make recycling easy: Clearly labeled bins make recycling more convenient for event participants.
- Place signs around the event directing guests to water refill stations. Folks that bring their own bottles will be very grateful.



## 3 After Your Event

- Send any remaining single use bottles off to be recycled!
- Thank your staff and your vendors for making a difference and reducing waste at your event!

## The Bottom Line

- ✓ *You followed RI law and recycled at your event!*
- ✓ *You improved the presentation of your event.*
- ✓ *Your business told its customers that you care about waste management and the environment.*
- ✓ *No additional labor or costs, you only sorted waste and recycling.*



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