Introductions

- Julia Spangler, Sustainable Events Consultant
- Heather Maybury, Earth Mama Compost
Conduit between Consumers and Composters

- Most challenging environments: Events, offices
  - Residential contamination is negligible
- Consumer confusion in product selection
  - Greenwashing in disposable products space
  - Confusing terms such as “biodegradable,” “degradable”
  - Materials not visibly distinguishable as compostable or not
  - Procurement of mixed products (some compostable, some not)
- Lack of participant consciousness
  - Turnover - program managers, support staff, general employee population
  - Aesthetic standards prohibiting appropriate educational signs
WNA Comet Classicware EcoSense 6 1/8" Biodegradable Heavyweight Black Plastic Spoon - 1000/Case

Quantity Discounts
Buy 3 or more
$51.28/Case

Ships free with plus

Buy 1 - 2
$53.99/Case

Auto Reorder
Get 25% off shipping every time this item ships automatically.

Add to Cart

Don't need a full case?

- Environmentally friendly alternative to traditional plastic flatware
- Sleek, black color
- Outstanding rigidity and shatter resistance
- Biodegrades in 1-5 years
- High heat tolerance
Plant-Based Material
Composed from 70% cornstarch, this fork is a great environmentally friendly alternative. It's perfect for showing your patrons your eco-friendly practices and keeping your business green.
Contamination

- Prevention
  - Posters & signs (pictures whenever possible)
  - Zero tolerance policy: If it’s contaminated, we don’t take it
  - Education (training sessions, lunch & learns, employee newsletters)
  - Decontamination team at events

- Most Common Contaminants
  - Plastic utensils & drink cups
  - Cans
  - Miscellaneous trash
**RECYCLE**
- Plastic Water Bottles
- Cans
- Paper
- Cardboard

Please pour liquids into the provided bucket. Thank you!

**COMPOST**
- Food
- White Round Plates
- Palm Leaf or Bamboo Dishes
- White Food Cups
- Napkins

**TRASH**
- Plastic Food Dishes
- Styrofoam
- Foil Wrappers
- Gum
- Straws
- Plastic Bags & Wrap
- Tissues

and any other items not specifically listed as recyclable or compostable
Why Is Contamination a Problem?

- Damages the value of compost as a product
- Gardeners don’t want trash in their compost
- Compost must be clean to be valuable
Why Bother Composting?

- When food waste goes to the landfill, it can sit for decades.
  - Studies have found 25-year-old guacamole and a 40-year-old steak.
- When organic waste breaks down anaerobically (without oxygen, as in a landfill) it releases roughly 50% oxygen and 50% methane. Methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than CO2.^
- In composting, organic waste breaks down aerobically (with oxygen), releasing primarily CO2.^
- If we compost organic materials, they can feed the earth instead of polluting it.