

# RULES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Whether you're a first-time event planner or a seasoned pro, here's a list of state and local laws that apply to you as a special event producer operating in the City of Carlsbad.

## Skip the Stuff

Vendors must only provide single-use utensils, straws and condiments packets upon request.  
*(AB 1276)*



## Organic Composting

Vendors must provide new, separate bins for food scraps.  
*(SB 1383)*



## Single-Use Plastic Ban

Vendors may only provide reusable or BPI certified compostable foodware.  
*(City Ordinance)*



## Plastic Bag Ban

No plastic bags from retail or food vendors.  
*(City Ordinance)*



## Ballon Release Ban

No intentional release of balloons.  
*(City Ordinance)*



## Plastic Bottle Ban

No plastic beverage bottles at city facilities and city permitted events.  
*(City Ordinance)*



# Sustainable Guidelines for Special Events



## 1 Before Event

- Educate event staff and volunteers on rules and regulations.
- Ensure food and retail vendors, as well as sponsors, use only certified compostable or reusable items and bags.
- Contact [Republic Services](#) to develop a waste reduction plan and rent front of house event waste sorting stations and back of house dumpsters.
- Talk with Sustainable Materials Management Division or Republic Services staff to develop a waste reduction event plan and map of event waste sorting stations.
- Ask attendees to bring their own reusable water bottles, bags and utensils.



## 2 During Event

- Set up Republic Services provided event waste sorting stations for trash, recycling and organics throughout the event according to the approved event map.
- Implement a day-of waste station monitoring plan.
- Provide only certified compostable or reusable utensils, straws and paper bags, and offer condiments only upon request.
- Monitor vendor and partner compliance throughout the event.
- Offer a water bottle refill station.



## 3 Post Event

- Communicate your successful sustainable efforts with your attendees, staff and partners.
- Donate excess, edible food to a partner food recovery organization.\*
- Dispose of organics, recycling and trash in the proper Republic Services event dumpsters.
- Document your sustainability best practices for your next event.

*\* Highly encouraged for events with over 2,000 participants or an entry fee.*

The City of Carlsbad is here to help.

reducereuserecycle@carlsbadca.gov | 442-339-2646  
 carlsbadca.gov/reducereuserecycle

