










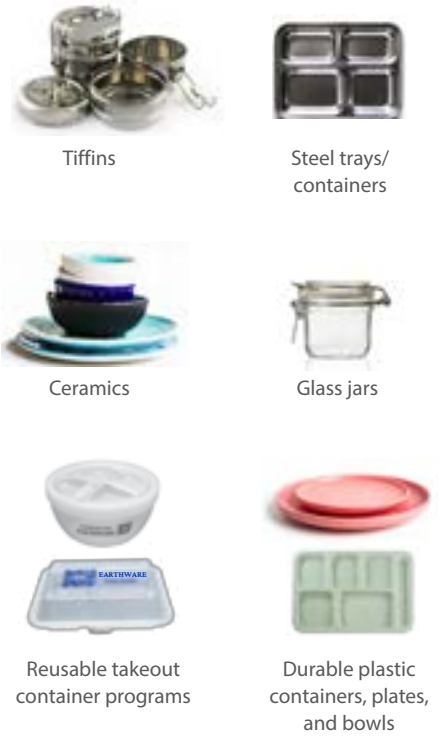







Suggested Alternatives Guide

We encourage you to source reusable alternatives or single-use items that can be accepted in Calgary's residential recycling or composting programs.

QUICK FACTS

- Reusable options are recommended whenever possible (e.g. by providing reusable utensils, cups, glassware and dishes for dine in or by participating in a reusable cup or takeout container program).
- Plastic containers and cups labeled or described as compostable or degradable are not accepted in Calgary residential compost or recycling bins. These items do not break down fully at the Calgary Composting Facility and are not recyclable. Once they reach people's homes, they must be discarded as garbage.
- Most paper products are either:
 - Recyclable, if clean, even if lined or poly coated.
 - Compostable, if food soiled.

ITEM	SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVES		
	 REUSABLE Choose when possible	 RECYCLABLE In Calgary's residential recycling programs	 COMPOSTABLE In Calgary's residential composting programs
Shopping Bags	 <p>Fabric bags (cotton, canvas, Jute, burlap) Nylon/polyester bags Totes/crates</p>	 <p>Paper bags (paper/fibre handles) Cardboard boxes</p>	<p>Compostable shopping bags (checkout bags) will not be available after December 20, 2023¹</p>
Utensils	 <p>Metal Wood Ceramic Durable plastic</p>	<p>Recyclable alternatives are not available (utensils are too small to be sorted by recycling equipment)</p>	 <p>Unpainted wood utensils Unpainted bamboo utensils</p>
Straws	 <p>Metal straws Glass straws Silicone straws</p>	<p>Recyclable alternatives are not available (straws are too small to be sorted by recycling equipment)</p>	 <p>Paper straws Bamboo and sugar cane straws Wheat and pasta straws</p>
Containers, plates and bowls	 <p>Tiffins Steel trays/containers Ceramics Glass jars Reusable takeout container programs Durable plastic containers, plates, and bowls</p>	 <p>Paper containers – poly coated Aluminum (foil) containers Plastic containers Paper containers – uncoated</p>	 <p>Fibre containers, plates and bowls Bamboo and leaf plates and bowls Fibre compostable bowls (must be labelled as certified compostable) Paper plates and bags</p>
Cups	 <p>Reusable travel mugs or cup sharing program Glassware Ceramics</p>	 <p>Paper cups uncoated or poly coated Plastic cups</p>	 <p>Compostable coffee cups/paper cups (must be labelled as certified compostable)</p>

¹ For additional details see the [Government of Canada's Technical Guidelines](#) and [Fact Sheet](#).