

# Eco-Takeouts™

## Business and Industry/Healthcare Implementation Guide



### Step #1: Decide on system of accountability

A successful Eco-Takeouts™ program involves selecting the appropriate accountability model. Below are some options.

#### Membership Accountability Model

- Charge each participant an annual flat fee.
- Put a sticker on his or her ID badge or provide a key tag/card that can be attached to a lanyard.
- Individual will show badge or key tag to the server to get a meal in an Eco Takeouts™ container.
- Individual will return the container to the dishroom or break room.
- Only those who pay the membership fee and have program ID can use the containers.

#### Advantages

- Flat fee covers losses (estimated at 10% with this model).
- Participants can return containers directly to dishroom or designated area(s).
- Excludes those who don't want to participate in a reusable program. (Those who don't "buy in" may dispose of the container immediately anyway.)
- Saves money in comparison to disposables.

#### Disadvantages

- Because there is a charge associated with use, 100% participation is unlikely.
- Expect some loss of containers because the Eco-Takeouts™ aren't directly tracked (estimated at 10%).

#### No Accountability Model

- Eliminate all disposables from cafeteria or charge fee for use of disposables.
- Offer Eco-Takeouts™ in various shapes and sizes.
- Containers can be returned directly to the dishroom or placed in a break room (if there is one).

#### Advantages

- Completely eliminate or drastically reduce the waste and cost associated with disposable containers.
- 100% participation is possible.
- Convenient because containers can be returned at collection stations.
- Saves money in comparison to disposables.

#### Disadvantages

- Potential for loss (estimated at 20%).

## Exchange Accountability Model

- Charge participants an upfront fee.
- Each participant will receive a token after paying the fee.
- The token can be exchanged at the food service station for food in an Eco-Takeouts™.
- Collection container (e.g. Rubbermaid recycler) is set up next to the cashier stand.
- Individuals return used containers and receive a token from the cashier.
- If individual loses the token or container, he or she will have to “buy back” into the program.

### Advantages

- Direct accountability – participant is responsible if the container is lost.
- Saves money in comparison to disposables.

### Disadvantages

- Associated fee limits participation.
- Containers must be returned to a designated location.

## Step #2: Select container and purchase

- G.E.T. Enterprises sells through distribution. Your preferred distributor can provide you a price quote for the product.
- The Eco-Takeouts™ containers come in various shapes and sizes. The low-profile, three-compartment EC-12 is usually the preferred product for locations that are all you care to eat. The deeper EC-09 and EC-10 are ideal for salad bar stations and pay as you go models.

## Step #3: Market and implement program

- The initial launch of the program is important. G.E.T. offers a variety of marketing tools for your convenience. In your communications, be sure to explain program benefits, the accountability system, and how the containers should be used. You should also plan to send tips and reminders for at least the first few weeks or months of the program.
- Upper management support encourages greater adoption and increases program success. “Leading by example” definitely works.
- Company-wide commitment to sustainability helps too.



[www.ecotakeouts.com](http://www.ecotakeouts.com)

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