

BIOCOMPOSTABLE SERVICE ITEMS



► Why use these instead of regular paper, plastic, or styrofoam products?

Paper products require the **harvesting of virgin wood fiber**; this **depletes the forests** and the benefits of the forests. Plastic and styrofoam are derived from petroleum and **do not decompose**, remaining in the environment for long periods of time. *These service items are made of renewable resources and are biocompostable.*

► What does “biocompostable” mean?

When put into a compost pile or taken to a commercial composting facility, these products will break down in 30 to 180 days, leaving **no toxic or visually distinguishable residues**.

► Where are we discarding these service items?

We do not have composting facilities available to us, so our service items will go into a landfill like normal trash. However, as noted above, we are choosing to carry these products because of the **ecological advantages of the production methods** and because we hope that by exposing students to environmentally responsible consumerism now, they will make sustainable living decisions throughout their lives.

► Are they produced in a socially responsible manner?

Yes; these service items are made in a factory that provides fair living wages and accommodations to its workers.