Thank you for helping out as a Zero Waste volunteer.

This training package will give you all the information you need to be prepared for your volunteer shift at an event. Information in this package includes:

* An overview of your role
* Some key messages on UBC’s zero waste initiatives and Sort It Out Recycling Program
* An overview of what can and cannot be recycled/composted
* Contact Information

1. **Waste Free Volunteer Role and Info**

**Your main roles** will be to:

1. Stand next to a zero waste station
2. Help people sort their waste properly by letting them know what goes in which bin
3. Provide them with further information about recycling and waste reduction at UBC, should they ask. (See script.)

**You will be provided with**:

* a Sort It Out t-shirt

**Lessons learned from previous events include:**

* People are in a rush and want to quickly recycle and compost
* A lot of people just don’t know how to separate waste

Eliminating stand-alone garbage bins near the eating tent and having zero waste stations (a compost bin, recycling bin and garbage bins) around the tent, with a volunteer at each station, greatly enhanced waste diversion efforts.

1. **Key Messages**

Here are some key messages and stats that you can share with staff at the event:

**What**

* Did you know **most** of UBC’s garbage can be recycled? **Right now we recycle less than half.**
* **UBC is replacing individual garbage cans with multi-bin recycling stations.**
* Our goal: **Divert 60% of all materials from the landfill by 2016**, and 80% by 2020
* UBC has its [**own closed-loop composting program**](http://sustain.ubc.ca/campus-initiatives/recycling-waste/what-ubc-doing/composting). Our in-vessel composter, located in South Campus, turns organic waste collected across campus into soil within two weeks. The soil is then used for landscaping on campus.

**Why**

* Garbage rotting in landfills increases the risk of soil, water and air pollution; and creates the greenhouse gas methane.
* After January 2015 it will be prohibited to dispose of food scraps and compost in the garbage, and subject to a fine within Metro Vancouver.

**2.0 What Goes Where?**

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**Most confusing items:**

* ***Plastic***  
  By keeping plastic out of the Food Scraps you can eliminate contamination and reduce what goes into our landfills. Place plastic containers marked #1-7 in the grey recyclable containers bin. Soft plastic (saran wrap, plastic bags) currently cannot be recycled at UBC.
* ***Paper Towels and Napkins***  
  These can be composted, put them in the Food Scraps bin.
* ***Coffee Cups***  
  All coffee cups can be recycled. Place empty cups and lids into the grey recyclable containers bin, and paper sleeves in the blue paper bin.

1. **Zero Waste Contact Information**

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