

# VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT & TRAINING

TOWARD  
ZERO  
WASTE

Concerts, festivals, open markets and events with higher attendees often require Toward Zero Waste volunteers. If contamination of the recycling or compost bins are too high, the event waste will end up at the landfill, which will negate your efforts for waste reduction! To reduce the amount of contamination, find volunteers who will supervise the various waste stations throughout the event and direct attendees on how to properly sort waste.

## RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

Follow these guidelines to make sure your volunteers are set up for success:

- Make sure there are great incentives for these volunteer positions. Free attendance to your event and a meal voucher does wonders for recruiting a good crowd
- Recruit volunteers that are knowledgeable about and have interest in reducing waste. Sustainable Connections will help you advertise this volunteer opportunity; send the following details to [TowardZeroWaste@SustainableConnections.org](mailto:TowardZeroWaste@SustainableConnections.org) to get started.
  - Date and time to arrive - make sure to include time to train the volunteers!
  - Length of shift
  - Description of the event
  - Description of the volunteer duties
  - Accessibility information; type of terrain, indoor/outdoor, number of lbs they may be lifting, etc.
  - Contact information of the event's volunteer coordinator
- Learn ahead of time from your vendors and exhibitors what type of waste they will generate at the event. Let volunteers know before the start of the event what items go in which receptacles
- Make a list of the items that may be hard to determine what receptacle they will go in. For example, corn plastic cups are compostable, not recyclable despite the visible similarities to a regular plastic cup. Have your volunteers keep the list at their waste station for reference.
- Let the volunteers know what to do when their waste station is full
- Provide your volunteers with contact information for questions before and during the event
- Don't forget to thank them when their shift is finished and/or after the event has ended