

GREENSCREEN CERTIFIED™

Standard for Reusable Food Packaging, Food Service Ware, & Cookware

The Case for Reusables

400 million tons of new plastics are created each year with at least 40 percent of these plastics created for single-use.

From the grocery store to restaurant to-go orders, a large portion of the food we eat comes packaged in materials that are intended to be thrown away immediately after consumption.

Even in materials outside of plastic such as paper packaging, massive amounts of precious resources including land, water and energy go into creating a product that is in use for mere minutes.

Plastics have also been shown to cause negative health effects, especially when used as food packaging, as the chemicals have high potential to migrate into the food product and be consumed.

There are seven types of plastic polymers that make up 70% of all plastics including polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride, and polyethylene which can be found in various food packaging products.

Many chemicals in these plastics, such as vinyl chloride and styrene, have a list of known health effects such as impaired concentration, nervous system effects, cancer, and many others.

Plastic and single-use fiber products can also contain any number of unknown additives or contaminants such as PFAS and bisphenols that can leach into food and water.





The crises of plastic pollution, greenhouse gas production, health risks associated with single-use materials, and waste issues when single-use materials are landfilled or incinerated, make it more important than ever to move towards safer, healthier, and circular methods of transporting, packaging, storing, and cooking our food.

If you are a business owner, purchaser, or specifier looking to avoid harmful chemicals and invest in reusables, GreenScreen Certified® is the place to identify reusable food service ware, packaging, cookware, and containers with preferred chemistry.

About GreenScreen Certified™ for Reusables

Wondering which reusables are preferable for people and the planet? Nonprofit organizations the Center for Environmental Health (CEH) and Clean Production Action (CPA) have created the new GreenScreen Certified™ for Reusables standard, which provides a framework for companies to showcase their commitment to a healthier and environmentally-friendly future.

Companies applying for certification must disclose their full ingredient information under confidentiality and comply with a comprehensive list of prohibited substances. Food packaging, cookware, serviceware, and containers certified under the GreenScreen® Reusables Standard must not contain intentionally added PFAS and thousands of other known hazardous chemicals.

The standard provides Silver, Gold, and Platinum levels of certification, with Platinum being the most stringent leadership criteria. Products are tested for chemicals of concern and the chemical inventory is assessed with GreenScreen® tools.

GreenScreen® Certified products allow consumers to feel confident in making environmentally preferable purchases and help move entire industries towards healthier materials, an important step in creating a circular economy.

Learn more.

