

Dear West Chester Restaurant Owner/Manager,

West Chester BLUER and West Chester BID have developed a program to promote the use of compostable takeout containers in an effort to reduce the accumulation of Styrofoam & plastic in Chester County landfills and in our streets and streams. We urge you to participate in this program, as it will greatly benefit customer well-being as well as the quality of life in West Chester.

Unbeknownst to many...

- Polystyrene (commonly known as Styrofoam) is unnaturally and permanently malignant.
- It can last for millions of years after being thrown out or littered.
- About 200 million cubic feet per year of polystyrene material is used in the United States – most of which takes up landfill space.

Comparing Styrofoam, Bio-Degradable & Plastic Containers

	Styrofoam	Plastic	Compostable
<i>Cost - 1 burger box</i>	11¢	18¢	17¢
<i>Microwavable?</i>	No	No	Yes
<i>Decompose Time</i>	1+ Million years	20-30 years	3-12 months
<i>Health Risks</i>	Neurotoxic, hematological, cytogenetic and carcinogenic effects	Bisphenol A exposure (a compound known to promote cancer cell growth and decrease sperm counts)	None
<i>Recyclable?</i>	Inadequate and declining	Yes – depending on the plastic	N/A – will decompose back to natural, harmless substances

So why even choose plastic or Styrofoam? Compostable containers are healthier for customers and overall better for the environment. It would also boost the restaurant's public image by emphasizing your interest in the environment.

Please participate in this trial program:

- With this letter you'll find 50 (25 large and 25 small) compostable take-out containers free of charge
- Give customers the option to ask for compostable takeout boxes.
- The included sign can be displayed in your window to let customers know that these containers are available upon request.

- Purchase more containers through BLUER at a reduced price – the same price as Styrofoam – while supplies last (target - December, 2013).

The quality of life in West Chester is priceless. And the well-being of customers is essential to a successful restaurant. We strongly urge you to work with us on this project.

Thank you for your consideration,

West Chester BLUER – contact Jim Wylie (jwylie@wcbuer.org 484-753-3581)

West Chester BID – contact Dan Price (dprice@wcbid.com)



Containers used in trial program are from www.vegware.us

- This is *not* a fund raising project for BLUER. In fact, BLUER is subsidizing this trial program.
- Bagasse clamshells can handle hot, wet or oily foods, and are completely compostable after use! They are soak proof, have no plastic or wax lining applied to them and can be used for both hot and cold items. In addition, being a natural material, hot food won't 'sweat' inside these containers.

Made from a mix of natural fibers, including reed, bagasse (the waste fiber from pressing sugar cane), straw and wood pulp, these hinged containers offer a true eco-friendly alternative to Styrofoam. No trees were harmed to make these hinged containers and they're bleached with hydrogen peroxide, which means no harmful chlorine in our water supply!

- Reorder prices –
 - wholesale: 6" BurgerBox=\$0.154 each, case of 500,
 - 8" LunchBox=\$0.29 each, case of 200,
 - 9" LunchBox=\$0.375 each, case of 200
 - other size/shape containers also available – see www.whynotbobstore.net
 - BLUER (limited supply): 6" BurgerBox=\$0.11 each up to 100,
 - 8" LunchBox=\$0.20 each up to 50,
 - 9" LunchBox=\$0.30 each up to 50