



## Taste of Rosefest 2016 Zero-Waste Events Summary

Eureka Recycling was excited to partner with the City of Roseville and the Roseville Rotary to work towards zero-waste for the second time at the annual Taste of Rosefest. Last year we laid the groundwork for zero waste and were able to recycle and compost 91% of everything discarded. We are proud to have gotten even closer to zero waste this year.

612-NO-WASTE (669-2783)  
eurekarecycling.org

Our mission is to demonstrate that waste is preventable, not inevitable.

With help and cooperation from many Rotary members, volunteers, vendors, and attendees, we recycled 180 pounds and composted 360 pounds. We weighed 20.27 pounds of trash but estimate there were another 10 pounds of disposable table cloths still stapled to the table. Overall, we estimate 96% of all discards were either composted or recycled. Trash was reduced by half compared to last year! The chart below shows how much was discarded by volume. Only two carts were needed for trash while it took 18 carts to collect all the recycling and compost generated at Taste of Rosefest.

Composition of Discarded Material  
(by volume)




This success was due to the hard work and advance planning by the Rotary volunteers. Additional communication to vendors regarding how to serve their food in easily compostable packaging had clear impacts – helping us reduce our trash by half compared to last year! The City provided compostable plates, sporks, and cups for those food vendors who weren't able to find the right products – this also helped make it easy and affordable for businesses to make the environmentally friendly choice. Additionally, the wonderful volunteers who showed attendees how to recycle and compost were vital to making this a successful event.

With two years under our belt, we're excited to get even lower next year by working with vendors and the city of Roseville and giving them the support they need to purchase the right products.

So congratulations, and thank you to all who supported and promoted zero waste at the Taste of Rosefest. This event was a success not only because of our progress toward zero waste, but also because so many people realized that with a little planning and a lot of cooperation, together we can reach a waste-free tomorrow.

*Eureka Recycling is the only organization in Minnesota that specializes in zero waste. The organization's services, programs, and policy work present solutions to the social, environmental, and health problems caused by wasting. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, based in the Twin Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, Eureka's mission is to demonstrate that waste is preventable, not inevitable.*

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