Hosting a Small Low-Waste Event at UMB

Good

Provide all recyclable or all compostable wares (plates, utensils, cups, etc.)

If documents must be printed, make sure that there is a place to recycle them after the event

Avoid red meat and unsustainably sourced seafood

Better

Ask guests to bring their own wares (plates, utensils, cups, etc.) and have disposable wares available upon request only

If documents must be printed, use recycled-content paper and print double-sided

Ensure plenty of vegetarian and vegan options

Best Practices for Every Event



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND BALTIMORE

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Utilize local vendors, especially those in West Baltimore and/or minority- or women-owned

Make a plan ahead of time for what to do with any leftovers

Use reusable tablecloths and other decorations (if applicable)

Provide co-located waste bins and detailed signage for attendees to sort trash, recyclables, and compostables (if applicable)

Best

Provide all reusable wares (plates, utensils, cups, etc.) for attendees

Avoid paper agendas and other printed documents

Serve a mostly vegetarian menu, as well as vegan options

Opt for a buffet-style meal to cut down on packaging waste

Serve condiments in bulk instead of in single-serving packets

Use large pitchers or carafes for drinks, rather than providing individually bottled drinks; ensure access to a water refill station

Communicate event's sustainable attributes to attendees through signage & announcements