COMPOSTABLE Q & A

City of Stuart
WWW.CITYOFSTUART.US

What's wrong with plastic and Styrofoam?

Plastic and Styrofoam are:

- non-biodegradable
- petroleum derived
- stay in the environment for hundreds to thousands of years
- leach toxic substances into the groundwater
- harm marine life and habitats

What are biodegradable and compostable products?

Biodegradable and compostable products are made from organic, natural materials like corn, potato starch, oils and bagasse (sugar cane).

Why **COMPOSTABLE** products?

- products come from annually renewable resources
- sustainably manufactured
- non-toxic while in use
- decompose back into the soil under the right environmental conditions

How do they break down?

Biodegradable products are products which will degrade from naturally occurring microorganisms, such as bacteria, fungi etc. over a period of time.

Composting is breaking down organic material by bacteria, yeasts and fungi into healthy, fertile soil (humus).

Approximately 40 billion nonrecycled plastic utensils are used every year in the USA alone, together with billions of Styrofoam and plastic cups, plates etc.

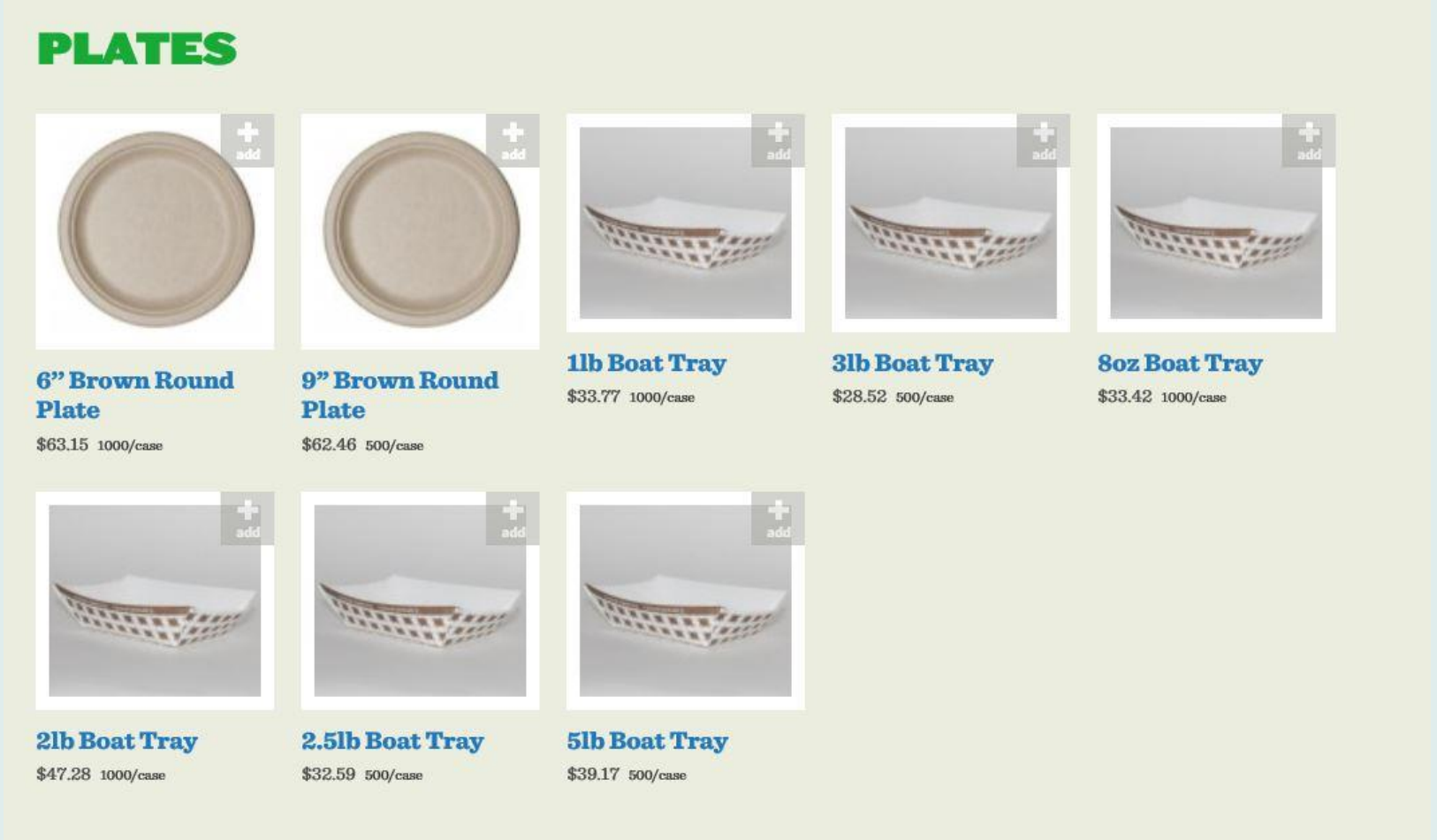
Ton for ton, would you prefer plastic/Styrofoam or compostable/biodegradable products in the landfill, roadside, or waterways?

COMPOSTABLE OR TRADITIONAL PLASTICS?

"The life cycle analysis data shows that products made from a renewable resource, not petroleum-based plastic, are the most sustainable choice. This is true even if no composting option is available and the item must be sent to the landfill."

World Centric.com The Next Generation of Plastics

COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS ARE AFFORDABLE AND READILY AVAILABLE.



CLAMSHELLS & BOXES



6” 1-Compartment Clamshell

$72.32 200/Case



8” 3-Compartment Clamshell

$82.31 200/case

STRAWS, UTENSILS & NAPKINS



Unwrapped Straws

$36.26 2000/case



Heat Resistant Spoons

$47.48 500/case



Wrapped Straws

$39.17 2000/case



Heavy Duty Knives

$47.48 500/case



Beverage Napkin

$27.17 4000/case



Heavy Duty Forks

$47.48 500/case

SOUP CONTAINERS



8oz Soup Container

$108.15 1,000/case



12oz Soup Container

$67.92 500/case



16oz Soup Container

$80.70 500/CASE



8oz Soup Container Lid

$107.63 1000/case



12-16oz Soup Container Lid

$104.54 500/case

SORTING OF DISPOSED ITEMS BECOMES EASIER

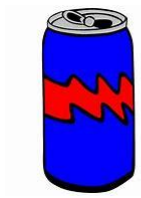
Allow **beverages** to be served in plastic cups, cans, or bottles.

Drink containers all get RECYCLED!









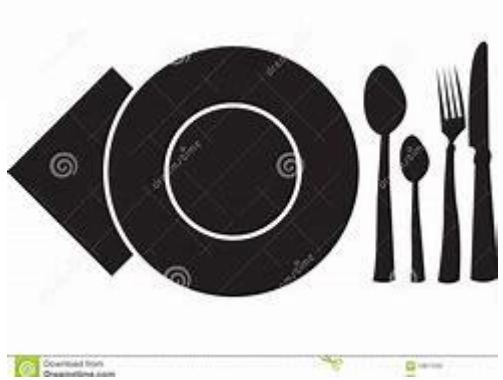




Require **food service** items to be COMPOSTABLE.

Food scraps and service items all go in the TRASH!





INFORMATION SOURCE FOR SLIDES: SAVANNAH NATURE HOUSE.COM

Anne Ellig
Program Manager