

Waste Station Monitor Overview

This program helps event planners achieve better waste diversion outcomes primarily by helping event attendees sort their discarded materials correctly.

Basic expectations:

- Check in at the designated time/place for orientation
 - understand the waste management plan
 - learn about the products being used at the event and how to sort them
- Monitor a waste station
 - maintain a friendly attitude
 - teach attendees which waste stream their items belong in
 - answer general questions about waste sorting
 - retrieve misplaced items using a litter picker
- Return equipment to the designated contact/location at the end of your shift
- Give at least 48-hour notice if you cannot attend the event if possible

Comfort/safety:

- Wear clothing appropriate to the venue/weather – layers for outdoor events
- Never reach into collection containers with bare hands.
 - In general, let people sort their own waste.
 - Use litter grabbers or gloves to retrieve items that went into the wrong bin – or let it go.
 - Wear gloves and wash hands if you do handle any waste.
- Because wasps/bees are attracted to compost, recycling, and trash, do not monitor bins if you are allergic.
- Avoid conflicts. Direct people where to put things, but if they are combative or intoxicated, let it go.

Tips on how to interact with event attendees:

- Be friendly, helpful, and cheerful.
- Greet those who come to sort their waste and offer assistance.
- Use positive language-
 - like “That goes here” and “Nice job!”
 - avoid “no” or “don’t.”
 - example, “Thanks for sorting. That actually goes in the recycling bin.” (pointing)
- Thank people for taking the time to sort their waste

Updated 1/12/2026

