



CITY OF PALM SPRINGS OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY GREEN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM GREEN PACKAGING AND FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS GRANT

The City of Palm Springs Office of Sustainability has developed a Green Packaging Grant as part of the Green Business Partnership Certification Program to incentivize businesses to switch from non-biodegradable/non-compostable packaging, such as plastic bags or Styrofoam, to biodegradable and compostable packaging and materials. The first year of the pilot program for fiscal year 2012-13 provides for a total budget of \$20,000 or 40 grants of **up to \$500 per business**. **A 50% cash match is required of all applicants** regardless of the requested grant amount. To qualify for the grant businesses must register and participate in the new City of Palm Springs Green Business Partnership Certification Program. By participating as a founding partner the first 50 businesses will receive FREE certification, a \$150 value. Businesses can visit the self assessment certification website at palmsprings.greencertificationprogram.com/. Businesses that sign up will be recognized with a seal to place on their website or in their store or office window.

All businesses are encouraged to join the growing network of Palm Springs businesses that have a desire to go green and partner with the City.

Sustainable packaging takes into account the following:

- Use of minimal materials – reduced packaging, reduced layers of packaging, lower mass (product to packaging ratio), lower volume, etc.
- Recycled content
- Recyclability – recovery value, use of materials which are frequently and easily recycled
- Reusability of packaging – repeated reuse of package, reuse for other purposes,
- Use of renewable resources in packaging
- Use of compostable and biodegradable materials
- Avoid the use of materials toxic to humans or the environment
- Effects on atmosphere/climate – ozone layer, greenhouse gases (carbon dioxide and methane), volatile organic compounds, etc.
- Water use, reuse, treatment, waste, etc.

Eligible uses of funds include biodegradable/compostable products and include:

- Hot drink cups
- Cold drink cups
- Food boxes and Take-Out containers including lids, platters, trays, boxes
- Plates, bowls, platters, trays and containers
- Shopping bags
- Trash bags
- Cutlery; forks, knives, spoons, sporks, chop sticks
- Straws

Products should be BPI (Biodegradable Products Institute) certified and made of material such as:

- Poly Lactic Acid (PLA) or goods made of corn
- Bamboo, wheat straw, palm fiber, coconut husk etc.
- Sugarcane , sugarcane bagasse

Contact the Office of Sustainability or visit www.yoursustainablecity.com for a complete list of BPI Certified vendors

Uses Not Eligible:

Funds must be used for sustainable packaging purchases. Funds may not be used for any packaging that is made of plastic, Styrofoam. Ineligible uses of funds include;

- Plastic ware
- Paper towels, napkins, roll paper, toilet paper
- Condiments
- Permanent displays
- Styrofoam
- Aluminum containers
- Wax coated or resin coated materials that are not approved by BPI

Eligible Applicants:

ONLY businesses with a valid business license operating in the City of Palm Springs may apply. The purpose of the grants is to provide an opportunity to fund a transition from plastic, Styrofoam or other non compostable/biodegradable products. To qualify for the grant businesses must register and participate in the new City of Palm Springs Green Business Partnership Certification Program. By participating as a founding partner the first 50 businesses will receive FREE certification, a \$150 value. Businesses can visit the self assessment certification website at palmspringsgreencertificationprogram.com/. Businesses that sign up will be recognized with a seal to place on their website or in their store or office window.

Grant Amounts:

The program provides up to a \$500 grant to finance the transition from plastic, Styrofoam and no or low recycled content to packaging that is biodegradable, high recycled content or other types of sustainable packaging.

The maximum grant shall be \$500. A 50% cash match is required of all grant applicants regardless of the requested grant amount. For example, a \$500 grant request would require the applicant to provide a minimum of \$250 cash match. An applicant's receipts must total \$750 expenditure to receive \$500 in reimbursements from the City of Palm Springs Office of Sustainability Green Business Partnership Program Green Packaging grant.

Process:

Applications are available in the Office of Sustainability, at the front reception area of City Hall or on-line at www.yoursustainablecity.com. The application must be completed in full and must have receipts and a photograph of the items in use at the business location attached at time of submission. Electronic submissions are encouraged and accepted but must include GREEN PARTNERSHIP GRANT in the subject line. Please email copies of receipts and photos to michele.mician@palmspringsca.gov

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APPLICATION ON NEXT PAGES**



**CITY OF PALM SPRINGS OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY
GREEN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
GREEN PACKAGING AND FOOD SERVICE PRODUCTS GRANT
APPLICATION FORM**

Applicant Name:	
Business Name (as stated on license)	
Address: (where program is in use)	
Address to mail Reimbursement: Street, City, State, Zip (leave blank if same as above)	
Phone:	
Email	
Description of Packaging Changes Made:	Grant Amount Requested:
Total Project Cost: (Please provide receipts, photograph of items in use and copy of valid business license)	\$ _____ (max. \$500)

APPLICATION CHECKLIST - All applicants must provide:

- Application (Completed and Signed by Applicant)
- Copy of City of Palm Springs Valid and up to date Business License
- Receipts of eligible products
- Photograph of products in use (Before and After photo encouraged)
- Print out of Seal earned as part of registration for the new Green Business Partnership Certification Program. Businesses can visit the self assessment certification website at palmsprings.greencertificationprogram.com/. Businesses that sign up will be recognized with a seal to place on their website or in their store or office window.

I hereby declare that the foregoing information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the City of Palm Springs to verify the information to determine my eligibility. I understand that the program provides that the City will reimburse the applicant up to the grant amount, based on submittal of receipts for products paid, and that the City will not pay vendors directly. I further understand that I am responsible for payment of costs to continue the use of the products and any expenditures in excess of the approved grant amount, and under no circumstances will the City provide reimbursement in excess of the approved grant amount.

Applicant Signature

Date

APPLICATIONS FOR FY 2012-13 WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL APRIL 31, 2013

Mail or deliver completed application with copies of required documents to:

City of Palm Springs – Office of Sustainability

3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way, Palm Springs, CA 92262

Fax: 760-322-8360 or email: michele.mician@palmspringsca.gov Questions please call: 760-323-8214