

FSA Spokane Works Toward Zero-Waste at Food Expo

[FSA Spokane](#) Associates achieved an impressive 86 percent waste diversion rate at the zero-waste Thrive food exhibition on September 19.

The infographic below shows that 86 percent of the 15,301 pounds of waste produced at the show was either recycled, composted, or donated to local food banks.

Results included:

- local food banks received 7,649 pounds of food;
- 4,284 pounds of material composted;
- four cubic yards of recycled material diverted from landfills; and
- the Spokane Convention Center saved \$394 on hauling waste.

FSA provided all biodegradable containers and supplies for the vendors to serve food samples; everything from silverware to toothpicks to cups.

More than 2,000 customers across FSA Spokane's footprint—Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Oregon—attended the event and gave glowing reviews.

"I'm happy to say our whole team hit it out of the park! We received so much positive feedback from customers during the expo," said Danny Walters, FSA Spokane Vice President of Sales.

An [article](#) that featured FSA Spokane's zero-waste efforts notes that the show is, "believed to be the first event hosted at the Spokane Convention Center that's attempted to be 'zero-waste.'"

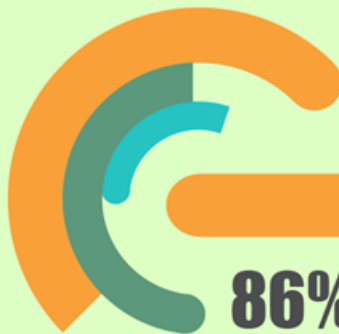
The convention center now has a much deeper understanding of the process of hosting a show like this and is better prepared to support other zero-waste events in the future, which are gaining momentum in the area.

[Resource Synergy](#), a third-party organization with expertise in sustainability programs, helped FSA plan and cleared up any confusion among the vendors. Some Resource Synergy representatives manned the waste stations at the show in addition to answering questions from customers and vendors.

"Our first attempt at a zero-waste show went so well that the team is looking forward to improving the diversion rate during the next show," Danny commented.

This zero-waste expo supports FSA's [WISE](#) program; the aim for an intelligent and sustainable use of resources across the enterprise.

ZERO WASTE SCORECARD



Donated



50%

Compost



28%

Recycled



8%

86% DIVERSION RATE



7,649 lbs. to Foodbanks
Equivalent to



918 lbs.
Cardboard
Recycled

4,284 lbs.
Composted



RESOURCE SYNERGY