

CASE STUDY: Yuyu Sushi



SAN FRANCISCO
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BUSINESS PROFILE

Name: Yuyu Sushi

Location:
San Francisco, CA

On-site dining: 60

Take-out: 30%

Warewashing:
Commercial dishwasher

Employees: 6



Yuyu Sushi is a hidden gem for casual sushi in the City of San Francisco's Lakeshore plaza. Yuyu Sushi used disposable foodware for dine-in guests, which accounted for 70% of their business. After accepting fiscal and technical assistance from SF Environment and ReThink Disposable, Yuyu Sushi replaced disposable chopsticks and other single-use plastics with reusable foodware. Yuyu Sushi eliminated the use of 89,773 disposable items each year, saving them \$3,450 annually.

Changes to serveware for less waste and more savings:

Disposable paper wrapped wooden chopsticks	→	Durable chopsticks
Disposable cups	→	Glass tumblers
Heavy duty plastic utensils	→	Stainless steel cutlery
Plastic lids on disposable containers	→	Eliminated use of lids for dine-in customers



THE BOTTOM LINE

- \$68 initial investment in reusable foodware
- \$3,450 in total annual net cost savings
- 89,773 disposable items reduced per year

Yuyu Sushi ended the use of single-use wooden chopsticks, disposable cups, plastic utensils, and plastic lids for dine-in customers. Yuyu loved the switch to reusables so much that the owners re-instated all of their reusable dishware of their own accord.

RESULTS

		PACKAGING IMPACTS			COST IMPACTS	
Disposable Product Replaced or Minimized	Recommendation Implemented	Percent Disposable Reduction (%)	Annual Quantity of Disposable Product Reduced	Annual Waste Reduction (lbs.)	Payback Period (months)	Annual NET* Cost Savings After Payback Period (\$)
Individually wrapped wooden chopsticks	Durable chopsticks	70	34,067	150	0.9	\$531
Plastic forks	Stainless steel forks	97	50,622	759	0.3	\$885
Plastic take-out container lids	Eliminated for dine-in	65	5,084	475	0.0	\$2,033
*Net Cost Savings considers upfront and ongoing costs tied to the purchase and care of reusable items, capital improvements needed to carry out ReThink Disposable's recommendations, and discontinued disposable foodware purchases.		TOTALS:	89,773 pieces	1,384	2 weeks (average)	\$3,450

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ReThink Disposable is a program of Clean Water Action and Clean Water Fund conducted in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and government agencies. Generous support is provided by a changing list of public and private funders. To learn more about the program, its partners, and funders, visit: www.rethinkdisposable.org.



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