

They're Demanding Less Waste Workshop Summary Report



March 4, 2019 from 2-4 pm

Tabernacle @ Sweet_ness 7, 211 Lafayette Ave Buffalo, NY

Program: Welcome and brief overview of plastic pollution issues by Nate Drag, Alliance for the Great Lakes, and then a youth perspective on pollution by Ilyas Khan a student at City Honors High School. Introduction by moderator Brian Smith, Citizens Campaign for the Environment. Panelists, Deb Friedel: Delaware North, Prish Moran: Sweet_ness 7 Cafe, Nicole Wurtsner: Service Systems Associates, Jennifer Brazill, Borderland Festival. 30 minute Q&A with audience and panelists, then one hour of networking with panelists & vendors exhibiting sustainable products.

A diverse audience of 50 people attended the workshop. The audience included event organizers, large and small food businesses, members of environmental organizations, and entrepreneurs interested in starting food reuse organizations.

Lessons Learned	Comments	Next Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panelists and audience liked the deconstructed format where each panelist was introduced then asked questions that they had prepared with each discussion lasting 5-7 minutes. Audience liked balance of local and corporate representation among panelists. Audience participation in Q&A was strong and engaged. Vendor exhibits during networking worked well. Audience found event through email invitations from organizations, Erie Co, press release, NYSDEC calendar, article in local online paper, posters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 comment cards and one email comment were received for the event. Average event rating 4.6 out of 5. (5=great) Answers to question, I would like to attend other workshops on: Food Waste Reduction/Donation (13) Recycling (14) Composting (13) Alternative food ware & takeout (14) Other workshop suggestions were: ecofriendly catering options, policy agendas, whats going on in recycling, advocacy for commercial composting, tips on reaching out to businesses, tips for businesses reaching out to their customers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They're demanding more events on strategies to reduce food and plastic waste at restaurants & events. Audience enjoyed connecting with each other during networking. The best tool for finding the audience was emails or newsletters mentioning the event sent by organizations the person belongs to. The organization endorsement provided a social proof that the event was worth attending. The event was better because it was coalition event with different worldviews & members.