

Reducing Litter

These tips and suggestions will help business operators reduce litter, improve the customer experience, help the environment, and enhance the bottom line.

1 Start with your employees. How your employees behave and interact with customers can help set the right tone. Consider the following ways to get employees involved and to stop litter before it's even generated.

- **Include litter education as part of employee training.** Talk to employees about the impacts of litter.
- **Question the need for receipts and bags.** Train your employees to ask customers if they want items like receipts, bags, or straws.
- **Ask for employee input.** Employees are in the best position to identify day-to-day changes that will maintain a litter-free environment.



2 Look at your trash receptacles. Placing a sufficient number of trash, recycling and ash-tray receptacles in high-traffic areas is one of the best ways to help employees and customers eliminate litter.

- **Identify the proper location and quantity.** Make sure you have enough receptacles in the most convenient locations.
- **Determine the best type of receptacle for your establishment.**
- **Empty receptacles regularly.**

3 Maintain your efforts. Managing litter is an ongoing effort. Consider the following best practices.

- **Incorporate litter cleanup into your maintenance schedule.**
- **Train employees to pick up any trash that spills out when transferring to dumpsters.**
- **Use landscaping to promote a sense of personal responsibility.** Making an effort to “beautify” your establishment has shown to lower rates of littering behavior.



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