

Case Study: Sun Devil Hospitality

Who: Sun Devil Hospitality, part of Aramark Collegiate Hospitality, is the on-campus dining provider for Arizona State University. The organization's commitments to people and the planet encompass Sustainable Sourcing, Minimizing Food Waste, Embedding Circularity, and Operating Efficiently. These principles are the foundation of daily food service operations in campus dining halls, retail, markets, and on-campus catering events. Sun Devil Hospitality is committed to reducing not only food waste but also reducing single-use, disposable products used for on-campus dining.

Need: Sun Devil Hospitality and ASU Sustainability Practices host an annual Campus Sustainability Month event called 'Cakes and Cacti', where local partners showcase their products and speak about the sustainable attributes of their companies. Attendees enjoy an Arizona inspired breakfast of mesquite pancakes, a date syrup made with ASU campus dates, and sustainably sourced beverages. The plant giveaway features cacti, succulents, herbs, flowers, and vegetable plants grown by Garden Commons Student Ambassadors. Sun Devil Hospitality needed giveaway items that matched the theme of the event that also showcased their commitment to zero-waste.

Solution: Sun Devil Hospitality chose dishcloths and cotton bags from Eco Promotional Products, Inc. (EPP). Reusable and biodegradable "Swedish" dishcloths are a cross between a sponge, a paper towel, and a dishcloth. When used regularly, they can replace up to 15 rolls of disposable paper towels. Reusable cotton tote bags were given to recipients to use in place of single-use, plastic shopping bags. They can be used for take-out food, groceries, books, and much more.

