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Discover Schenectady Joins “Skip the Stuff” Campaign to Promote Sustainable Hospitality

SCHENECTADY, NY (July 10, 2025) — Discover Schenectady today announced its participation in the national **“Skip the Stuff”** campaign, a voluntary initiative aimed at reducing unnecessary single-use items in takeout and delivery orders while promoting sustainable practices among Schenectady County's hospitality businesses.

Each year, billions of unused straws, utensils, napkins, condiment packets, and other accessories are included in takeout and delivery orders—only to be thrown away. **“Skip the Stuff”** encourages restaurants and hospitality businesses to adopt simple, eco-conscious practices, such as:

- Offering plasticware only upon request for takeout orders
- Providing non-plastic alternatives for straws, stirrers, and utensils
- Limiting the use of individually packaged condiments
- Allowing customers to bring their own mug, thermos, or growler for refills

In collaboration with the Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Council, Discover Schenectady will identify participating businesses as “Sustainability Partners.” Those who join the effort will receive a **“Skip the Stuff”** window cling to display at their location and will be featured on the Discover Schenectady website as sustainability leaders in the community.

“We believe the Skip the Stuff program is a great opportunity for Schenectady County businesses to support environmental sustainability and show their customers they care about the community,” said Executive Director of Discover Schenectady Todd Garofano. “The best part is that it's free to join and offers another way for businesses to promote themselves.”

“This partnership between the Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Council and Discover Schenectady highlights how grassroots action and community engagement can advance sustainability goals,” said Portia Zwicker of the Schenectady County Environmental Advisory Council. “Together, we're making it easier for local businesses to reduce single-use waste and demonstrate their commitment to environmental stewardship.”

For more information on how to participate, visit [here](#).

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About Discover Schenectady: Discover Schenectady is a non-profit organization responsible for promoting travel, tourism, conference and convention assets and opportunities throughout Schenectady County. Discover Schenectady inspires visitors to experience and enjoy all that Schenectady County has to offer, from its vibrant communities with dining, entertainment and shopping to its gorgeous waterfront and outdoor activities. Schenectady County welcomes All! For more ways to Discover Schenectady County all year long, visit www.discoverschenectady.com