



## Ecology Center Recommended Compostable Straws

Given the recent increase in demand for compostable straws, and the change in Ecology Center Farmers' Market policies, staff have researched and tested a selection of compostable paper straws to make purchasing easier for our farmers' market vendors and local businesses. All straws were tested by staff in cold and room temperature beverages of varying acidities over the span of several hours, any quality issues have been detailed below.

### **Panda Buu**

[www.pandabuu.com](http://www.pandabuu.com)

**Size Options:** Regular

**Primary Component:** Kraft Paper<sup>1</sup>

**Price:** \$11.99 per box (250)

**Limitations:** Cannot be used for hot beverages. Sourced and manufactured outside of the US. Product did not hold up well with thicker beverages (i.e. smoothies, milkshakes)

**Additional Notes:** Panda Buu offices are located in San Francisco, CA. The paper used in their product is FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) certified. Looking to move manufacturing to the U.S. by 2020. Excellent customer service.

### **BioMass Packaging**

[www.biomasspackaging.com](http://www.biomasspackaging.com)

**Size Options:** Regular

**Primary Component:** Kraft Paper

**Price:** Contact for custom pricing

**Limitations:** Cannot be used for hot beverages. Sourced and manufactured outside of the US. Product did not hold up well with thicker beverages

**Additional Notes:** BioMass Packaging offices are located in Richmond, CA. Their kraft paper straws are sourced from World Centric. The paper used in this product is FSC certified. Excellent customer service.

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<sup>1</sup> Kraft paper is a type of paper made during the Kraft process which involves the chemical conversion of wood into wood pulp. Kraft paper is stronger and does use extensive bleaching.



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### **Aardvark Straws**

[www.aardvarkstraws.com](http://www.aardvarkstraws.com)

**Size Option(s):** Cocktail, Regular & Jumbo

**Ingredient(s):** Cellulose paper

**Price:** Contact for custom pricing

**Limitations:** Cannot be used for hot beverages.

**Additional Notes:** Aardvark straws are 100% sourced and manufactured in the U.S. The paper used in products is either SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) or FSC certified. Given high demand for Aardvark straws we recommend placing an order far in advance and contacting to confirm they have received your order.

### **NaturaEst Renewable Resources**

[www.natura-est.com](http://www.natura-est.com)

**Size Options:** Regular & Jumbo

**Primary Component:** Sugarcane fiber

**Price:** \$300-325 per case (5000)

**Limitations:** Cannot be used for hot beverages. Sourced and manufactured outside of the US.

**Additional Notes:** NaturEst straws were amongst the most durable straws tested. Ingredients are not verified to be certified organic or non-GMO. Excellent customer service.