

# How to Participate

## MANDATORY CRITERIA: FOLLOW ALL 7

- Only reusable foodware is used for onsite dining.\*
- Paper straws are provided only upon request.\*\*
- No expanded polystyrene use (aka Styrofoam).
- No plastic bags are used for takeout or to-go orders.
- Single-use utensils, straws, condiments, and other accessory items are provided only upon request for takeout and to-go orders.
- Beverages are not sold in plastic bottles.
- Proper recycling practices are followed.

## OPTIONAL CRITERIA: CHOOSE AT LEAST 3

- A discount is offered for customers with a reusable item (e.g. cup, container, bag).
- Vegetarian and vegan food options are offered on a regular basis.
- All seafood is 'Best Choice' or 'Good Alternative' as defined by Seafood Watch, or certified as sustainable.
- Water conservation and pollution mitigation efforts are implemented.
- Energy efficiency efforts are in place.
- Concessions and pre-packaged food items are not sold in plastic packaging.
- Composting efforts are in place for food waste.
- Neither single-use plastic nor bio-based plastic containers are used for takeout or to-go orders, reusable containers are preferred.

\* Foodware includes dinnerware, drinkware, silverware, and ramekins/containers.

\*\* Exceptions may be made for naturally occurring materials (e.g. hay, bamboo) and reusables (e.g. metal, glass), not including bio-based plastic. Straws should be provided to anyone who needs one, including people with disabilities.

# Restaurant Benefits

- Completely FREE to join!
- Marketing collateral including signage and complimentary window decals.
- Use of Great Lakes Friendly Restaurants logos for websites and other restaurant marketing materials.
- Restaurant listed on Surfrider national and chapter websites.
- Restaurant included in national map on Surfrider national website.
- Launch parties with your nearest Surfrider chapter.
- Access to national vendor discounts on sustainable restaurant and to-go products.
- Tax-deductible donation opportunities.
- Association with a nationally recognized nonprofit with thousands of members and supporters.



**Restaurants that meet  
all program criteria  
will gain recognition as  
a Platinum Level Great  
Lakes Friendly Restaurant.**