



## OMAHA REDUCES

The reduce and reuse campaign of the  
Omaha metropolitan area

[omahareduces.com](http://omahareduces.com)

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## Thank you for participating in Omaha Reduces!

Your willingness to accept customer containers not only shows an understanding of thriftiness, environmentalism, and customer engagement, but a desire to curtail waste in our community! As an added benefit, your business will be listed on the Omaha Reduces website ([omahareduces.com](http://omahareduces.com)), adding exposure to local environmental organizations.

As previously noted, allowing customers to put your product in their reusable container is not a violation of health department rules. Nebraska Food Code articles 3-304.16 and 3-304.17 explain that consumer-owned beverage containers may be refilled as long as the container is visibly clean and there is no contact between the pouring utensil and the lip-contact area of the beverage container. Likewise, food containers may be refilled as long as steps are taken to eliminate the possibility of cross-contamination by preventing contact between service equipment and the container.

However, if a health inspector sees the Omaha Reduces decal and wants to know more about how you handle reusable containers, please refer them to the *Handling Customers' Reusable Containers* document provided. Adam Carlson of the Douglas County Health Department has reviewed it and assures us that it will satisfy his fellow health inspectors.

If you have any questions or need help problem-solving ways to allow reusable containers, please ask any Omaha Reduces volunteer or contact [OmahaReduces@gmail.com](mailto:OmahaReduces@gmail.com).