

There is a great tradition of environmentalism at Westbrook and the PTA encourages families to be environmentally responsible through our Trash Free Lunch program. "Trash Free" means students bring lunches in recyclable or reusable containers. By doing so, we save millions of plastic bags, bottles and trash from going into our land fills and oceans each year. Did you know kids throw out 20 million sandwich baggies every day? The Trash Free Lunch program not only encourages students and families to develop good habits, but also models environmental awareness at the school-wide level.

Trash Free Lunch raffle days are announced once a month when PTA co-chairs and volunteers visit the lunch room, talk with students and check the lunches. When students are trash free on this day, their names are entered into a raffle to win a trash free lunch prize that day. At the end of the year, the class with the highest participation rate WINS a trash free party! Please join us in packing a trash free lunch for your child every day. Below are the guidelines.

TRASH FREE LUNCH GUIDELINES:

For Lunch Brought from Home:

Students should bring all food and drinks in recyclable or reusable containers. The cafeteria has recycling bins for commingled items such as plastic bottles, cans, yogurt containers, etc. (food or liquid dumped out). Please remind your child to recycle these items at lunch or take them back home for recycling.

This is considered TRASH:

Plastic bags of any kind (even if the kids take them home and reuse them)
individually packaged snacks (cheese sticks, chips, granola bars, yogurts)
Juice boxes or pouches (although the box may be recycled in some cases the straw and wrapper are not)
disposable plastic utensils
paper napkins

Trash free:

Yogurt containers & apple sauce cups (as long as the kids take the foil part home and recycle it at home)
tin foil (again must be taken home to recycle)
Plastic water bottles (can be recycled at Westbrook)
fruit peels, apple cores, etc. are biodegradable, so not trash

For a School Bought Lunch:

Students ordering school lunches may participate in Trash Free Lunch by bringing reusable utensils and a cloth napkin. They must recycle their milk container in the cafeteria.