



## ABOUT SAGE

The *Save. Act. Grow. Earn.* (SAGE) Sustainable Business Program is your “one-stop-shop” for business sustainability. SAGE provides FREE and confidential advice, assistance, and resources that integrate sustainability into your business practices to help you identify and act on relevant economic, environmental, and social opportunities

## Benefits



### Save Money

Cut costs through increasing operational efficiency



### Gain Recognition

Responsible practices benefit customer and employee relations



### Reduce Footprint

Minimize use of critical resources to benefit human health and the environment

# Sustainability for Restaurants

## Waste Reduction Opportunities

- Compost Food Scraps
- Separate Glass Recycling
- Waste Audit
- Environmentally Conscious Take-Out Containers
  - **Compliance with Colorado’s Plastic Pollution Reduction Act**

## Funding Support

### Accelerator Grant

The SAGE Accelerator Grant provides up to \$5,000 in project-related, financial assistance on a reimbursement basis, for sustainability upgrades and services, that facilitate cost reductions and support resource conservation and environmentally friendly business operations. The program reimburses 75% of eligible expenses per business, per calendar year. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis; first-come, first-served.

### Rebates

SAGE offers rebates to cover up to 75% (\$1,500 max) of project costs per business each year. Rebates could range from glass recycling, environmentally-friendly take-out containers, to compost services, and DIY projects.

## Plastic Pollution Reduction Act Compliance Support

The State of Colorado’s Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, often known as the plastic bag ban, was passed in 2021 to reduce and mitigate plastic pollution in Colorado. This Act was phased out in segments, first, in 2023 Colorado retailers were required to charge at least 10 cents for plastic and paper shopping bags. In 2024, plastic bags were completely banned from large Colorado businesses. Also as of January 1st, 2024, Colorado banned polystyrene (commonly referred to as Styrofoam) takeout containers and cups. This ban extends to all Colorado food establishments regardless of size or number of locations.

**To learn more, access resources, ask questions, and schedule an advising session, email [SAGE@westminsterco.gov](mailto:SAGE@westminsterco.gov)**



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