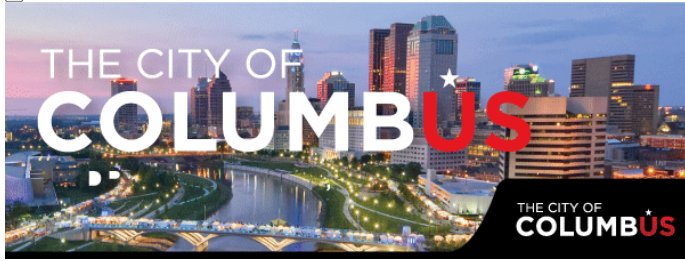


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## Media Release: Recycling Grant Allows Jazz & Rib Fest to be Environmentally-Friendly

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July 12, 2022

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### Recycling Grant Allows Jazz & Rib Fest to be Environmentally-Friendly

**COLUMBUS** - Columbus Recreation and Parks Department's Jazz & Rib Fest could offset eight tons of recyclable and compostable material from entering the landfill, thanks to a Recycle Ohio Grant from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (Ohio EPA) Recycling and Litter Prevention program.

The grant brings recycling to the festival for the first time and allows for festival-wide recycling for attendees. All beverages sold during the three-day festival will come in recyclable containers, including an exclusive festival aluminum cup for draft beers, plastic bottles and aluminum cans. The grant also allows for pre-consumer composting for food vendors.

"We are excited for the return of Jazz & Rib Fest, along with the chance to make one of Columbus' largest events even more sustainable and environmentally-friendly," said Bernita A. Reese, CPRP, director of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department. "Conservation is crucial to the department, and to building a city that offers opportunity for every resident. Bringing in recycling festival-wide for Jazz & Rib Fest is a huge step forward for Columbus and our residents."

In collaboration with Jackie O's Brewery, the official beer partner of this year's event, the Jazz & Rib Fest has created a limited-edition 16-ounce aluminum cup attendees can keep as a souvenir or recycle on-site at the festival. The cup is included with a purchase of a Jackie O's draft beer.

"Jackie O's has been committed to sustainability since we began brewing, and we are thrilled to partner with the City of Columbus at Jazz & Rib Fest this summer," said Michelle Oestrike, vice president of Jackie O's Brewery. "We've been working with Zero Waste Event Productions in Athens for many years, and we are excited that they are bringing their efforts to Columbus for this event."

Zero Waste Event Productions will establish and manage an on-site sorting center to process all recyclable and compostable material collected throughout the festival and ensure that recycling is clean and free of contamination.

Through this effort, the festival has the potential to offset eight tons of recyclable and compostable material from entering the landfill.

For more details, visit [hotribscooljazz.org/festival-beverages](https://hotribscooljazz.org/festival-beverages).

**Calendar Information – 2022 Jazz & Rib Fest**

**Date:** July 22–24

**Location:** Bicentennial Park on the Scioto Mile