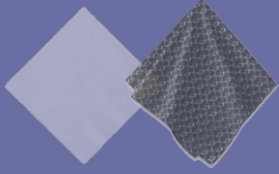


# Cloth Napkins vs. Paper Napkins



Using cloth napkins can reduce the amount of paper waste, but they then pose other issues. Cloth or paper, consider the problem and see what some schools have done.



## Cloth vs. Paper some considerations-

The use of cloth napkins can help reduce the amount of paper waste generated each day. However, schools are faced with time, cost and logistical issues involved in washing and maintaining the cloth napkins. Some schools have found effective ways to reduce the number of paper napkins used.

## What schools are doing

### Stowe Elementary School - Duluth

Stowe Elementary School has been using cloth napkins for several years, eliminating the continuous need to purchase paper napkins. They have washing machines available to wash napkins each day. Students are assigned the responsibility of making sure napkins are collected.



### Garlough Environmental Magnet School - West St. Paul

Parents and staff have been made more aware of responsible waste management through a series of Family Fun Nights hosted at the School. The Fun Nights encourage families to make use of reusable bags for snacks, cloth napkins, and "wrap-n-mat" for sandwiches (a commercial reusable sandwich wrapper sold by their PTO).

### Sibley Elementary School - Northfield

They offer paper napkins at check-out. Students are encouraged to take one napkin and pick up more only if needed.

### St. Anthony Park School - St. Paul

Discovered that paper napkin dispensers are easier for students to manage and helps reduce napkin waste.

