

How to Ask for Sustainable Flower Arrangements

To encourage arrangements that align with environmental and social best practices, work with your florist to do the following:

- Use **local/native flowers** when available (within 150 miles of WashU)
 - Sustainable sources for locally grown cut flowers for arranging come from these wholesalers: Urban Buds; Flower Hill Farm; Baisch & Skinner (locally grown Amish flowers available April - October).
 - Fahr Greenhouses grows potted flowers and plants, many suitable as arrangements.
 - When local flowers aren't available, ask your florist to use third-party **certified, domestically grown flowers (e.g. Veriflora, Rainforest Alliance, Audubon, Fair Trade)**.
 - If the locally and domestically grown flowers aren't available, ask your florist to use **imported flowers that have been sustainably certified (Veriflora, Florverde, Rainforest Alliance, Audubon, Fair Trade)**.
- Use reusable containers; return your containers for reuse.
- Compost/recycle the materials from the arrangements when appropriate.
- **Do not use:**
 - floral foam
 - leaf shine chemicals
 - single-use disposable plastics, such as liners and picks

If your florist is not currently on our list of preferred green florists, please encourage them to apply through our [website](#).

