



Morgan (center) enjoying river views on fourth of July

LIVE NFK: AN INTERNS PERSPECTIVE

Environmental Party Steward

Party in the U.S.A

How am I supposed to be an environmental steward and enjoy 4th of July? It's not an easy feat, nor did it go over very well. There were red solo cups, paper cups, plastic wrap, beer cans, and plastic utensils. We had a wonderful day of cornhole, kickball, spike ball, eating way too much, and a beautiful sunset river view. However, there was something nagging at the back of my head. It was knowing that much of the waste we created in one night would last a decade or more.

Speaking of plastic

So how did I do this as an environmental steward this 4th of July? Paper plates were lightly rinsed and recycled, I recycled some beverage cans, and used a paper cup for my water. The irony is that I had my water bottle with me but conveniently forgot about it the moment I walked through the door. Geez. I tried though. That's what counts, right. Small changes...

BYOR

What if we all held reusable parties. BYOB would change to BYOR, Bring Your Own Reusable. Utensils, cups, straws, food containers, etc. Wouldn't that be neat! What if what we showed off at the end of a party was how little trash came from the party. Waste exists. It's not going away. What we can change about waste is the amount.

I look forward to the day when it is the norm to show up with your own utensils.

