HAVING A TOWEL CAN SERVE A MYRIAD OF PURPOSES. USE IT AS A REPLACEMENT FOR PAPER TOWELS IN THE KITCHEN. BRING IT ALONG AS A NAPKIN. WRAP YOUR SANDWICH IN IT TO AVOID USING A PLASTIC BAGGIE. ACCORDING TO TRASH IS FOR TOSSERS, YOU CAN EVEN USE IT AS AN IMPROMPTU UMBRELLA (THOUGH I DON’T KNOW HOW WELL THAT WOULD STAND UP TO THE CHARLESTON RAIN…!)

BAMBOO SPORK
THIS COMPACT UTENSIL IS A GREAT WAY TO AVOID SINGLE-USE DISPOSABLE PLASTIC CUTLERY. CARRY IT WITH YOU WHEREVER YOU GO SO YOU HAVE IT WHEN THE NEED ARISES.

FOOD CONTAINER
THOUGH PLASTIC IS NOT IDEAL, THIS FOOD CONTAINER IS GREAT FOR AVOIDING DISPOSABLE TAKE-OUT CONTAINERS. WHEN YOU GO OUT TO EAT, DITCH THE POLYSTYRENE AND BRING YOUR LEFTOVERS HOME IN THIS AIRTIGHT, LEAKPROOF CONTAINER! IT ALSO PERFECT FOR PACKING YOUR LUNCH.

BAMBOO TOOTHBRUSH
CONVENTIONAL TOOTHBRUSHES ARE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT, IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO RECYCLE. IF WE FOLLOW DENTISTS GUIDELINES, WE EACH SEND UP TO SIX OF THESE TO THE LANDFILL EACH YEAR. BAMBOO TOOTHBRUSHES, ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE COMPOSTABLE (EXCEPT THE BRISTLES). SO INSTEAD OF ENDING UP IN LANDFILLS, WE CAN TURN THEM BACK INTO SOIL TO NOURISH OUR PLANET.
**Simply put, a zero-waste lifestyle is a way of living while producing less physical waste. However, to many members of the zero-waste community, it means so much more: it is a means of living conscientiously and understanding to the best of our ability the inputs and outputs (human, natural, and otherwise) that are involved in all that we consume. When we do not like how something is produced, we don't support it by consuming it. By living with less, we often have more time and money to pursue other things that we enjoy.**

**THE RIGHTHEOUS R's**

**BORROWED FROM THE BLOGGER, ZERO WASTE HOME, THE RIGHTHEOUS R’S ARE THE COMMANDMENTS OF A ZERO—WASTE LIFESTYLE:**

- **R**efuse what you do not need.
- **R**educe what you do need.
- **R**euse what you consume.
- **R**ecycle what you can not refuse.
- **R**educe or reuse.
- **R**ot (compost) the rest!

**ECOLLECTIVE STUDENT PROJECT COMMITTEE ❤️**

These kits were made possible through funding from ESPC, a committee of students who administer funds for student-led projects meant to promote sustainability in the campus community. Any student who is interested in doing a sustainability project on campus should consider applying. Information can be found on the Office of Sustainability website, sustainability.cofc.edu

**YOUR ZERO WASTE KIT CONTENTS!**

This kit contains replacements to common single-use disposable items. By using the kits throughout the challenge (and beyond) you should be able to avoid a lot of your daily waste.

**MASON JAR**

This kit includes an 8 oz. and 16 oz. mason jar. I would suggest saving any jars that come through your kitchen (from spaghetti, jelly, nut butter, coconut oil, spices, etc.) to build an arsenal of these zero-waste warriors. These jars can serve a variety of zero-waste purposes. You can use them to buy package-free grocery goods from bulk bins – just remember to get the tare weight of the jar first! You can use them as a water bottle or coffee mug (if you knit your mug a nice coozy). You can use them to store and/or freeze leftovers and even to carry your lunch. The possibilities are endless!