



PLANT-BASED PASSPORT



Celebrating 250 Years of Innovation

Welcome to DC's Plant-Based Passport

Welcome to DC's Plant-Based Passport, your guide to exploring the places and products helping shape the future of plant-based innovation in the nation's capital.

Across Washington, DC, there are landmarks, businesses, institutions, and symbolic sites that tell an important story about agriculture, sustainability, American innovation, and the growing role of plant-based products in everyday life. This passport was created by the Plant Based Products Council to help you discover those connections in a fun, interactive way.

Whether you are a Hill staffer stepping out between meetings, a DC resident exploring your city, or a visitor seeing the nation's capital for the first time, this passport invites you to experience DC through a plant-based lens. Each stop highlights a different part of the plant-based story from agriculture and rural communities to manufacturing, consumer products, policy, and the bioeconomy.

How to Use Your Passport

Visit the featured stops throughout the city and check them off as you go. At each location, take a moment to learn why the site was included and how it connects to plant-based products, agriculture, innovation, or the policy decisions shaping the future of this growing sector.

Some stops may highlight plant-based products you can see, taste, or use. Others may point to the history of American agriculture, the importance of federal policymaking, or the opportunities plant-based materials create for farmers, businesses, and consumers.

As you explore, we encourage you to share your journey!

Post a photo or video from your favorite passport stop, tell us what you learned, and tag the Plant Based Products Council on social media. Use #DCPlantBasedPassport so PBPC can follow along, celebrate participants, and help spotlight the many ways plant-based products are showing up across DC and beyond.

Why Plant-Based Products?

Plant-based products are made from renewable agricultural feedstocks and can help create new markets for farmers, strengthen domestic supply chains, support American manufacturing, promote national security, and offer consumers more choices.

From food and packaging to materials, textiles, personal-care products, and beyond, plant-based innovation is already part of daily life.

The Plant-Based Passport is an invitation to learn more, explore more, and see how policy, agriculture, and innovation come together in the nation's capital.

Start your journey, collect your stops, and help us share the story of plant-based products!

Don't forget to tag us
and use the hashtag below!

**@PlantBasedProductsCouncil,
#DCPlantBasedPassport**



Explore the Plant-Based Story Around DC

Plant-based products are all around us — in gardens, museums, markets, public spaces, historic sites, and everyday materials. Each stop in this passport highlights a different part of the biobased economy, from the crops and plant science behind renewable materials to the products, systems, and innovations that bring them into daily life.

As you visit each location, look for the ways plants become food-service ware, packaging, textiles, building materials, transportation components, personal-care products, and more. Together, these stops show how agriculture, innovation, and sustainability are helping shape the future of American-made products.

USDA People's Garden

📍 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20250



Start your Plant-Based Passport journey where agriculture, education, and innovation meet. The USDA People's Garden shows how plants support healthy communities, pollinator habitats, conservation, and food production right in the heart of Washington, DC. As you explore the garden's raised beds, fruit trees, container plantings, and pollinator spaces, think about the many ways plants move from farms and gardens into the products we use every day.

U.S. Botanic Garden

📍 100 MARYLAND AVENUE SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001



Plants are more than scenery. They are the starting point for food, medicine, fibers, materials, and countless products that shape daily life. The U.S. Botanic Garden's living collections help tell the science story behind plant-based materials, showing how crops, trees, and other natural resources can become renewable ingredients, durable fibers, and innovative products.

U.S. National Arboretum

📍 3501 NEW YORK AVENUE NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002



The U.S. National Arboretum brings plant science to life. Operated by USDA's Agricultural Research Service, the Arboretum highlights the research, conservation, and innovation behind stronger plants and healthier landscapes. This stop connects the beauty of trees, flowers, and gardens with the broader role agriculture plays in supporting ecosystems, materials, and the growing bioeconomy.

Farmers Markets

📍 MULTIPLE LOCATIONS



Farmers markets are a direct connection to the people and supply chains behind plant-based products. Fresh produce, grains, flowers, fibers, and locally made goods all begin with farmers, growers, and regional agriculture. As you walk through the market, look for the many ways plants move from field to table, from raw material to finished product, and from local farms into everyday life.

National Gallery of Art

📍 6TH STREET AND CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20565



Art has a plant-based story, too. Canvas, paper, wood panels, natural pigments, plant-derived dyes, frames, and conservation materials have helped artists create and preserve works for centuries. At the National Gallery of Art, look beyond the image itself and consider the materials that carry, color, protect, and display the art around you.

Bureau of Engraving and Printing

📍 14TH AND C STREETS SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20228



One of the most familiar plant-based products in American life may already be in your wallet. U.S. currency is printed on a cotton-linen material, not ordinary paper, giving it the durability and performance needed for everyday use. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing offers a surprising reminder that plant fibers can be strong, secure, and highly specialized.

Mount Vernon

📍 3200 MOUNT VERNON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY
MOUNT VERNON, VA 22121



Plant-based materials have deep roots in American history. At Mount Vernon, agriculture shaped daily life, work, trade, and innovation. Crops such as hemp and flax, along with wood and other natural materials, were used for practical needs such as rope, thread, textiles, tools, and repairs. This stop shows that today's biobased economy builds on a long tradition of turning plants into useful products.

U.S. Capitol Grounds

📍 **BOUNDED BY CONSTITUTION AVENUE, INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, AND FIRST STREETS NW/NE/SW/SE WASHINGTON, DC**



The U.S. Capitol grounds show how plants are part of civic life and public infrastructure. Trees, lawns, paths, and seasonal plantings provide shade, beauty, habitat, and a symbolic setting for democracy. This stop also invites visitors to think about the plant-based and compostable products used in public spaces, from cups and food-service ware to to-go bags and other everyday materials.

National Museum of the American Indian

📍 FOURTH STREET & INDEPENDENCE AVE SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20560



The National Museum of the American Indian offers an important lens on Indigenous plant knowledge and natural materials. Across cultures and generations, plants have been used for food, medicine, fibers, dyes, wood, basketry, clothing, shelter, and ceremony. This stop highlights the long-standing relationship between people, plants, land, and materials.

National Museum of American History

📍 1300 CONSTITUTION AVE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20560



American history is full of plant-based materials. Cotton textiles, linen documents, hemp rope, wood components, paper records, natural rubber, agricultural machinery, and early manufacturing experiments all show how plants helped build the country's economy and daily life. As you explore the museum, look for the materials behind the objects and the agricultural innovation behind the materials.

The Textile Museum

701 21ST STREET NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20052



Textiles are one of the oldest and most visible examples of plants becoming products. Cotton, linen, hemp, jute, ramie, and naturally dyed fibers connect agriculture to art, trade, fashion, labor, and culture. The Textile Museum offers a global look at how plant fibers have been transformed into durable, beautiful, and meaningful materials across centuries.

Food Waste Smart Bins and Compost Drop-Off Sites

📍 MULTIPLE LOCATIONS



The plant-based products story does not end when a product is used. Composting helps turn food waste, food-soiled paper, and compostable materials into a resource that can support healthier soil. DC's Food Waste Smart Bins and compost drop-off sites show why end-of-life systems matter and how communities can help build a more circular bioeconomy.

Nationals Park

📍 1500 SOUTH CAPITOL STREET SE
WASHINGTON, DC 20003



Nationals Park shows how plant-based products can appear at a large scale. Stadiums use thousands of cups, trays, utensils, napkins, and packages during games and events, making material choices especially important. As you enjoy the ballpark, look for the food-service items and sustainability practices that help connect America's pastime with American agriculture and innovation.

Smithsonian's National Zoo

📍 3001 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20008



A beloved DC landmark, the Smithsonian's National Zoo is also a great place to spot plant-based products in action. From food-service items to animal feed, bedding, habitat materials, and conservation education, the Zoo helps show how institutions can use plant-based products in practical, visible ways. As you explore the exhibits, keep an eye out for the materials helping make your visit possible.

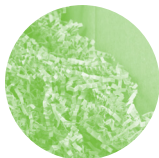
Products

Plant-based products show how agriculture can move beyond the field and into everyday life. From food-service ware and packaging to tires, building materials, cleaning products, and school supplies, biobased materials are already part of the products people use at home, at work, and on the go. Examples of plant-based innovation can be found all around.



Food-Service Ware

Biobased food-service ware offers a practical way to introduce biobased materials, and create new markets for crops grown by American farmers. From cups and containers to cutlery and packaging, these products show how agricultural innovation can support more resilient supply chains and strengthen the bioeconomy.



Packaging

Packaging is where material choice meets logistics. Molded-fiber containers, compostable bags, paper cushioning, plant-based films, labels, adhesives, and coatings can protect products while drawing on renewable feedstocks. This category helps tell the story of crops moving through supply chains into products consumers touch every day.



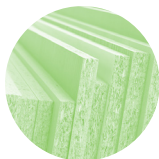
Car Tires and Transportation Materials

Transportation already uses plant-derived materials, and new product development continues to expand that role. Natural rubber, soybean oil in tire compounds, soy-based foams, plant-based fabrics, lubricants, and interior parts all show how agriculture can contribute to mobility. These materials make biobased innovation feel durable, technical, and performance-focused.



Historic Auto Parts/ Soy-Based Car Materials

Plant-based automotive innovation is not new. Henry Ford's experiments with agricultural materials, including the well-known 1941 soybean car story, offer an accessible bridge between historic ingenuity and today's biobased manufacturing.



Building and Home Materials

Homes and buildings can use plant-derived materials in durable, functional ways. Bamboo flooring, cork panels, hempcrete, strawboard, cellulose insulation, linoleum, soy-based foams, and biobased paints or sealants can reduce reliance on petroleum-based inputs and give agricultural materials a role in construction, renovation, and design.



Cleaning and Personal-Care Products

Biobased ingredients often appear in products people use at the sink, in the shower, or on a countertop. Corn-, coconut-, soy-, citrus-, and sugar-derived ingredients can become surfactants, solvents, fragrances, emollients, and polymers. This category helps visitors see that biobased innovation is often already in their kitchens, bathrooms, and backpacks.



Office and School Supplies

Office and school supplies make the bioeconomy easy to carry. Pens, binders, folders, notebooks, toner, inks, 3-D printer filament, adhesives, desk accessories, and cleaning products can all include biobased content. This category is especially useful for students and families because it connects renewable materials to familiar tools for learning and work.