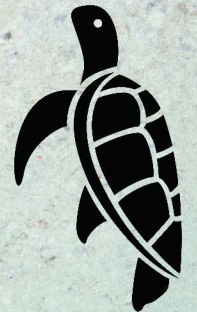


New Ordinances in the City of Santa Barbara Target Ocean Pollution



Foam Ban

January 1, 2019

Food or Beverage Vendors and Retailers



All expanded polystyrene food and beverage containers (cups, bowls, plates, coolers, etc.).
(Exemptions apply, see ordinance for details.)

Recommended

Washable and reusable materials.
BYO drink or to-go container.



Plastic Straw, Stirrer, and Cutlery Ordinance

July 1, 2019

Food or Beverage Vendors
(This does not affect the retail sale of straws in bulk or straws included in prepackaged items. Other exemptions apply, see ordinance for details.)

When

Who

What

Alternatives

Banned



All plastic straws and stirrers, including all compostable* plastic made from plants.

*These items are not certified to biodegrade in a marine environment.

On Demand (Must Ask)



All plastic utensils, including all compostable* plastic made from plants.



All other single-use straws including paper, sugar, hay, noodle, etc.

Recommended



Washable and reusable straws made from bamboo, metal, glass, silicone, etc.
(...or skip the straw altogether!)



City Trash & Recycling

For more information or assistance, visit SBRecycles.org or call (805) 564-5631



Straws, Stirrers, and Cutlery Ordinance: Business Fact Sheet

As a commercial business, you may be subject to Santa Barbara Municipal Code Chapter 9.165 on **Restrictions on the Provision of Plastic Straws, Stirrers, and Cutlery**, which goes into effect on **July 1, 2019**. These types of single-use materials are a prevalent form of litter found in our storm drains, creeks, and beaches which negatively impacts the local environment.

This ordinance affects providers of **prepared food or beverages for public consumption**. Types of affected businesses might include but are not limited to:

- restaurant, fast food vendor, or coffee shop
- bar, winery, tasting room, or liquor store
- grocery store
- smoothie or juice bar
- hotel restaurant and room service
- convenience store, deli, or gas station
- caterer or mobile-food vendor

This ordinance **prohibits any food or beverage vendor from distributing plastic and compostable plant-based (corn, sugarcane, etc.) plastic straws and stirrers.**

This ordinance also requires that **all plastic cutlery, compostable plastic cutlery, and other single-use straws (paper, straw, candy, pasta, etc.) are required to be "On Demand"**. For these "on demand" items customers will have to ask for them or the employee will have to ask the customer if they would like them before distribution.

Important: We recommend having some plastic straws in stock, as for some individuals with disabilities, plastic straws are necessary to eat/drink. Please see the exemptions explanation below.

Common Questions

Are compostable plastic straws made from polylactic acid (PLA) okay to distribute?

- No. These straws are still made of plastic and only compostable in a commercial composting facility. They are not compostable in our yellow foodscraps bin and they are not certified to breakdown in a marine environment. If they look and feel like plastic, they are a plastic.

Can I place paper straws or plastic cutlery in a freely available container for customers to grab "on demand"?

- No, there must be a verbal interaction when distributing plastic cutlery or single-use straws. "On demand" is defined as (1) the beverage provider or food provider first asks that person whether they want to receive the item and the person responds that he or she does; or (2) the customer affirmatively requests the item from the beverage provider or food provider.
- You can, however, freely distribute reusable straws and cutlery to customers and then collect them for washing. You can also sell reusable straws and cutlery for customers' use around town.

I sell boxes of plastic straws or an item prepackaged with a straw, does this ordinance affect me?

- No, this ordinance does not affect plastic beverage straws, stirrers or cutlery when they are provided as a part of product that was packaged outside the City and sold within the City.

Are there exemptions? Yes!

- Food or beverage providers are exempt from this ordinance in the instance that they provide a plastic beverage straw to a person in order to assure full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Creating/maintaining an inclusive environment means providing the accommodation needed for all to participate.
- Financial Hardship or Practical Difficulty Exemption - See ordinance for details.
- Public Health and Safety Exemption - See ordinance for details.

**For full ordinance details visit www.SBRecycles.org.
For any questions call (805) 564-5631, our team is here to help!**