

Straw & Utensil Requirements

Food service businesses in Seattle are required to use compostable straws and compostable utensils effective July 1, 2018.*

Using disposable plastic straws and plastic utensils is prohibited.*

EFFECTIVE
NOW!
7/1/2018

EXEMPTIONS:

The requirement that all single-use food-serviceware be either compostable or recyclable currently does not apply to:

✳ Disposable flexible plastic drinking straws when needed by customers due to medical or physical conditions and for whom flexible compostable paper straws are unsuitable. Otherwise, straws must be compostable or designed to be reusable.



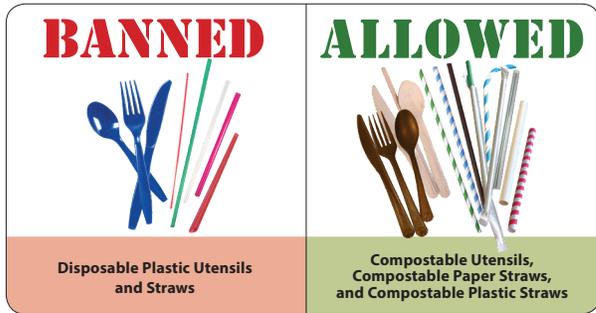
- Disposable long-handled thick plastic soda spoons when required and used for thick drinks and identified as non-compostable by the food service business to its customers.
- Metal foil, metal foil-faced papers and engineered composite papers used to wrap hot food such as hamburgers and burritos.
- Portion cups (two ounces and under), if used for hot foods or requiring lids and identified as non-compostable by the food service business to its customers.

TIPS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ✳ **We encourage** food service businesses to keep a supply of flexible plastic straws available for customers with a physical or medical condition. Some people require this for drinking.
- **We encourage** food service businesses to use compostable packaging whenever possible, to provide compostable straws and utensils only upon request, and to utilize dispensers when providing them to customers.
- **We encourage** the use of durable products. One time use packaging is a wasteful practice. Using reusable materials can help save money and cut down on waste!
- **Contact us for assistance.** This year SPU's emphasis is on continuing outreach and providing education to businesses. Have questions or are working towards compliance? Contact the Green Business Program to request a Compliance Reporting Document to detail steps towards compliance.

Our team is here to help! Please contact SPU Green Business Program for assistance:

Straw & Utensil Requirements



Effective July 1, 2018:

Plastic utensils, straws and cocktail picks are banned in Seattle.

No se permiten desechos de comida en la basura.

垃圾中不允许有食物残渣。

Không được phép cho rác thực phẩm vào thùng rác.

음식 쓰레기는 쓰레기로 배출해서는 안 됩니다.

For interpretation services please call 206-343-8505.

如需口譯服務請電 206-343-8505.

통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-343-8505 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Wixii adeegyada turjubaanka fadlan wac 206-343-8505.

Para servicios de traducción, por favor llame al 206-343-8505.

Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa 206-343-8505.

Muốn yêu cầu dịch vụ thông dịch xin gọi số 206-343-8505.

Summary of Seattle's Serviceware Requirements:

SMC 21.36.086

**TIPS,
TOOLS, AND
EXEMPTIONS
INSIDE!**

- Effective July 1, 2010, food service businesses are prohibited from selling or providing food for consumption on or off the premises in or with disposable food serviceware.
- Effective July 1, 2018, temporary exemptions for straws and utensils expire. The prohibition of disposable food serviceware includes a **ban on plastic straws and plastic utensils***
- Approved compostable alternatives are permissible. Approved compostable indicates packaging and serviceware that has been tested and approved at a local commercial compost facility.
- * Disposable flexible plastic drinking straws allowed when needed by customers due to medical or physical condition.

