



City of Cupertino

# SINGLE-USE PLASTICS FOODWARE ORDINANCE SUMMARY

This ordinance aims to reduce plastic waste by limiting the unnecessary use of single-use plastic food-service ware. This applies to all restaurants and food-service establishments in the City of Cupertino.

**The new regulations and enforcement will start on September 6, 2023.**

NOT ALLOWED

## NO SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FOODWARE

Traditional, compostable, or recyclable plastic is not allowed. This includes but is not limited to:

- cups
- plates
- bowls
- trays
- take-out containers
- single-use plastic carry-out bags
- stir sticks
- straws
- utensils



ALLOWED

## REUSABLES FOR DINE-IN

- Reusable foodware is required.
- Condiments must be served in reusable containers, no individual packets are allowed.
- Single-use compostable straws, paper napkins, foil liners, and paper trays are allowed.



## COMPOSTABLES FOR TAKE-OUT

- Only natural **fiber-based** compostable materials allowed (paper, wood, sugar-cane, bamboo, etc)
- Aluminum food containers and foil are allowed.
- Fiber-based compostable foodware must be certified by the Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) and can be lined with PLA plastic liner or coating.



UPON REQUEST

## ACCESSORIES AND CONDIMENTS FOR TAKE-OUT

- Utensils, sauce packets, straws, etc. can only be provided when requested by the customer.
- Take-out delivery platforms must provide options for customers to request only the sauces and utensils they want, with 'none' as the default.
- Exemption for drive-through customers and deliveries: orders may include an accessory item if the item prevents spills or helps safely transport food.



A temporary exemption to the ordinance requirements may be requested when a suitable compliant product is not available or compliance presents a significant economic hardship.

## Need Help?

The City's Environmental Programs division is available to provide assistance.

[cupertino.org/foodware](http://cupertino.org/foodware)

[environmental@cupertino.org](mailto:environmental@cupertino.org)

(408) 777-1356



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