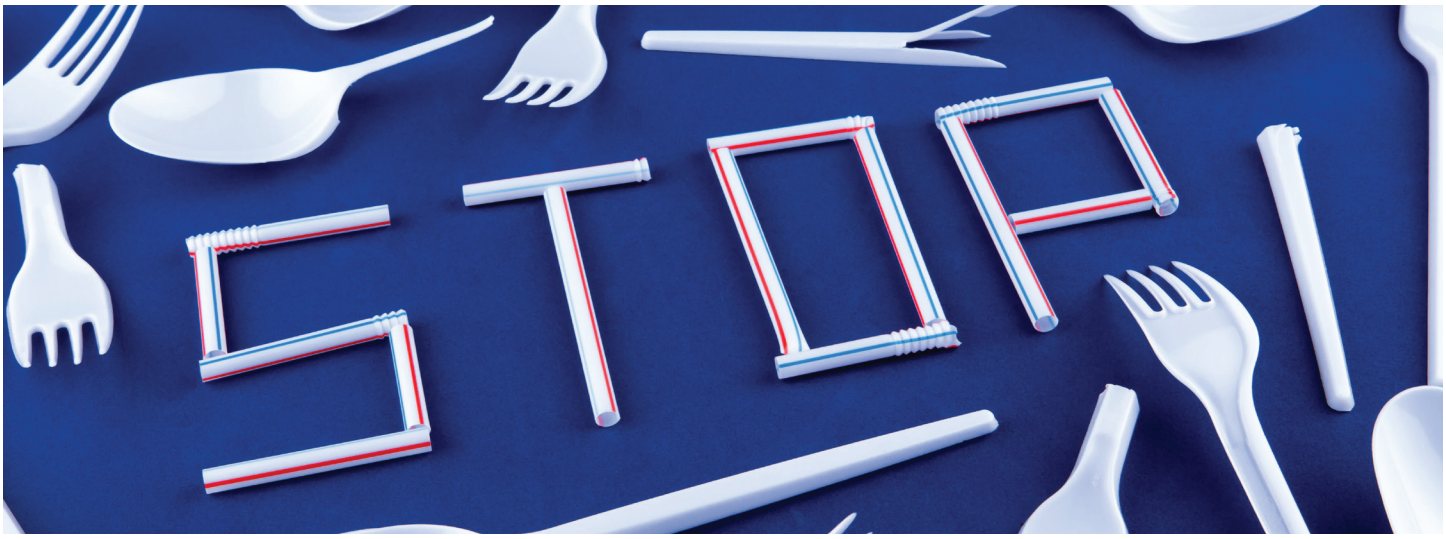
NEW Single Use Plastic Foodware Ban Ordinance: Assistance to Businesses

Dear Sausalito Business Owner,

On June 11, 2019, the City of Sausalito unanimously passed a Single-Use Plastic Ban (Ordinance No. 1271) to go into effect on June 11, 2020. However, due to COVID-19 the compliance date has been pushed out to early 2021. In these uncertain times the Sausalito Sustainability Commission would like to support your business with the transition away from single-use plastic foodware.

We understand the difficult circumstances business owners in Sausalito face, and therefore we would like to offer you a **free of charge consultation** and a free starter kit to help you comply with this new mandate. **To request the free starter kit, refer to page 4.**

The Sausalito ordinance is part of a county-wide effort and our Sustainability Commission would like to collaborate with you in preparation for the Marin County foodware ordinance, which will soon prohibit single-use plastics at food establishments. Both the Sausalito ordinance and the proposed Marin County ordinance state **that all food businesses are required to make the move away from disposable single-use plastic to non-plastic alternatives like those made of fiber.** Specifically, businesses will be required to switch from plastic straws, plastic bags, plastic cutlery, and plastic clamshells. **Non-plastic alternative items should only be provided upon request.**



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OVERVIEW OF ORDINANCE

What is single-use plastic foodware?

- Single-use plastic means any item made of plastic, including certified compostable plastic. This includes beverage straws, cutlery, and all containers, bowls, plates, trays, and other items designed for one-time use for prepared food, including containers for take-out food and leftovers.

Who does this law apply to?

- Food vendors, indoor and outdoor food establishments; restaurants, cafeterias, coffee houses, including those that offer delivery or take-out services.
- Events held on City of Sausalito property, and/or events sponsored by the City of Sausalito.
- Marin County will begin enforcing the county-wide ordinance in 2021.

Why was this law passed? What's the problem with plastic foodware?

- A ban on plastic foodware will help Sausalito reduce plastic litter.
- Plastic utensils and plastic food containers are not recyclable in the City of Sausalito.
- Plastic is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions when produced, shipped, and landfilled. Plastic, therefore, contributes to climate change.
- Compostable plastics do not biodegrade in a marine environment nor in the commercial composting facility used by Bay Cities Refuse – Sausalito's waste hauler. Thus, compostable plastics need to be landfilled and are not an acceptable alternative to regular plastic.

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USAGE AND PURCHASING GUIDE

HOW TO COMPLY
(what's allowed)

- Paper bags for carry-out or take-out orders.
- Fiber straws, such as straws made of paper, bamboo, or other natural fibers.
- Paper and/or fiber-based foodware products ONLY.
- Non-plastic alternative straws, napkins, toothpicks, cocktail sticks, cutlery, stirrers, shall be provided **only upon request** by the customer.
- Provide re-usables when appropriate, for example for indoor dining.

WHAT ITEMS ARE NO LONGER ALLOWED

- Plastic bags for check-out and/or carry-out orders.
- Plastic cutlery, such as plastic straws, plastic forks, plastic spoons, plastic stirrers, plastic toothpicks.
- "Compostable" bio-plastic cutlery, such as plastic spoons, forks and knives, and compostable bio-plastic clamshells and food containers. These may say "compostable" on them but they do not degrade in Sausalito's compost processing facility and must be landfilled.

If you have any questions about the Single-Use Plastic Ban please contact the Sausilito Sustainability Commission: sustaincomm@sausalito.gov

Approved ordinance:
https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Sausalito/ords/Ord_1271.pdf

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ASSISTANCE TO BUSINESSES & FREE STARTER KIT WORKSHOP INFORMATION

The City of Sausalito's Sustainability Commission is committed to assisting our businesses in compliance with the Single-Use Plastic Ban Ordinance. In a couple of weeks, you will receive information on foodware compliant vendors. For now, we would like to offer you a **free consultation and a free starter kit.**

Sign up for free starter kit and consultation online at:

https://tinyurl.com/plasticbansupport or text or call (415) 494-9715

The Starter Kit will include the following ordinance compliant foodware:

- Fiber-based cutlery (knives, spoons, forks)
- Recycled content paper bag
- Fiber-based clamshells
- Sample straws

COMPOSTABLE = *Fiber-based only with ZERO compostable plastics*

- **Paper:** Bowls, boxes, cups, plates, napkins, paper towels, and paper straws
- **Plant Fiber:** (sugarcane, bamboo, rice) Hinged containers, trays, lids, and cup holders
- **Wood:** Stirrers, plates, and cutlery

In addition, the Sausalito Sustainability Commission will be conducting a workshop to help businesses comply with the mandate. To sign up for the workshop, please visit the starter kit link above and complete the form or call (415) 494-9715.

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