Reusable Foodware

Going reusable is best! Encourage customers to bring their own reusable options such as to-go coffee mugs and durable take-out containers.

Fiber-based compostable Foodware

Disposable single-use foodware must be made from fiber-based readily compostable materials (e.g. wood, sugarcane, bamboo, etc.) and free of fluorinated chemicals (PFAS).

Plastic Foodware (#1-7)

Disposable, single-use foodware made of plastic are prohibited, including "compostable" plastic.

Ordinance Provisions

- Food vendors with proper dish washing capacity must use reusable foodware for onsite dining.
- All single-use disposable foodware, including accessory foodware must be fiber-based compostable where possible.
- Accessory foodware, such as straws and cup lids must be provided upon request or at a self service station.
- Food vendors must charge a $0.25 fee per order for takeout food and beverage served in single-use disposable foodware.
- Food vendors must offer a minimum $0.25 per order discount for customers who bring their own reusable foodware for takeout food and beverage.

Exemptions

Foodware items that are exempt from being fiber-based compostable must be recyclable in the City of Arcata. Exemptions include:
- Hot liquid containers, cold cups, cup lids, souffle cups, cutlery, grocery store pack downs, kitchen prepared sides, sauces, etc. intended to have a longer shelf life, and hot bar meal trays.

Waivers

Food vendors may request a waiver for a specific disposable item that has not yet been exempted, if able to document that the fiber-based item will cause economic hardship. **If granted a waiver, the item must be recyclable.**

For more information please contact: City of Arcata Environmental Services Dept. (707) 822-8184 eservices@cityofarcata.org https://www.cityofarcata.org/885/Disposable-Foodware-Regulations