

Single-use Disposable Foodware Ordinance 1527 Vendor Guide



Reusables



Reusable is required!

Provide customers that dine-in with reusable dishware. Encourage customers to bring their own reusable containers for to-go orders.

Fiber-based Compostable



Compostable is compliant!

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

Plastics (#1-7)



Plastic is prohibited!

Disposable, single-use foodware items made of plastic are prohibited, including "compostable" bioplastics (PLA). Styrofoam has been banned since 2015.

Ordinance effective since March 6th, 2020.

All prepared food establishments including but not limited to: restaurants, bars, grocery stores, cafeterias, cafes, & food trucks.

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, soufflé 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.

Questions?

Contact the City of Arcata's Environmental Services Department:

Email: eservices@cityofarcata.org

Call: (707) 822-8184

Visit: www.cityofarcata.org/foodwareordinance

Ordinance 1527 Provisions

- Food vendors with 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 & beverage served in single-use disposable foodware
- Food vendors must offer a minimum \$0.25 discount per order for customers who bring their own reusable foodware for takeout food & beverage