

Environmental Impacts of Single-Use Plastics



Locally, the Northcoast Environmental Center reported a staggering 2,248 single-use food & beverage items were collected from our local coastal areas during the Coastal Clean-Up Month Event in 2023!

Single-use plastics not only contribute to street litter and water pollution, they contribute to the climate crisis by generating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions during the extraction of materials, production of products, and disposal of waste.

Ordinance Regulations

- All single-use disposable foodware items, including accessory foodware, must be fiber-based, locally compostable, and free of fluorinated chemicals (PFAs) and have no bioplastic (PLA) or wax lining.
- Food Vendors must charge a \$0.25 fee for to-go orders with food & beverages served in single-use disposable foodware
 - AND offer a minimum \$0.25 discount for customers who bring their own reusable foodware.
- Food Vendors with proper dishwashing capacity must use reusable foodware for on-site dining.
- Accessory foodware can ONLY be provided upon request or at a self-serve station.



For More Information

Call 707-822-8184

Email eservices@cityofarcata.org



Scan QR Code for
more info on the
City's website.

SINGLE-USE DISPOSABLE FOODWARE ORDINANCE NO. 1527



— CITY OF ARCATA, CA —

Ordinance No. 1527 applies to all food service establishments, including but not limited to: restaurants, grocery stores, bars, cafes, food trucks, & cafeterias.

Effective since March 2020



Reusable is Required!

Food Vendors

All food providers with proper dishwashing capacity must serve customers who are dining onsite with **reusable foodware** (plates, cups, bowls, utensils, trays, etc.).

Customers

When customers **bring their own reusables*** for to-go orders, hot bars, bulk foods, & more, they get a **\$0.25 discount** on their order!



*Customers' reusable containers must be clean & suitable for food/beverages. Food vendors may deny foodware containers that are unsanitary, broken, inappropriate in size, material, or condition for the intended use.

Compostable is Compliant!

Food Vendors

All single-use disposable foodware, including accessory items, must be made of **fiber-based compostable** materials, with some exceptions*.

Food establishments can visit the City of Arcata's website for a list of vendors that offer fiber-based compostable foodware products. Learn more at

www.cityofarcata.org/foodwareordinance

Customers

For takeout food & beverage orders served in single-use disposables, customers will be **charged \$0.25**, like being charged for a grocery bag.



Compost the disposables!

Start composting at home or sign up for a local composting service.

*Exemptions

A list of foodware exemptions is provided on the City of Arcata website. Any non-conforming foodware types must be recyclable in the City of Arcata.

Waivers

Food Vendors may request a waiver for specific disposable foodware items that the City of Arcata has not exempted if the food vendor can document that the purchase of a fiber-based item will cost 200% (3x) more than the purchase of their current disposable foodware item.



Acceptable Materials

Food Vendors

- **Reusable** is best (metal, glass, ceramic, etc.)
- **Paper or plant fiber*** (sugarcane, bamboo, rice, wood, etc.)
- **Composed entirely of aluminum**
- **Food-based** (pasta, wheat, etc.)

*Fiber-based materials must **not** contain fluorinated chemicals (PFAs) or bioplastic (PLA) and have **no** wax lining.

Customers

If you are eating or shopping somewhere in the City of Arcata that is **not in compliance** with Ordinance 1527, please contact the Environmental Services Department at (707)822-8184 or eservices@cityofarcata.org.