



# POLYSTYRENE FOAM & DISPOSABLE FOOD WARE ORDINANCE & ZERO WASTE RESOLUTION



**LESLIE LUKACS**

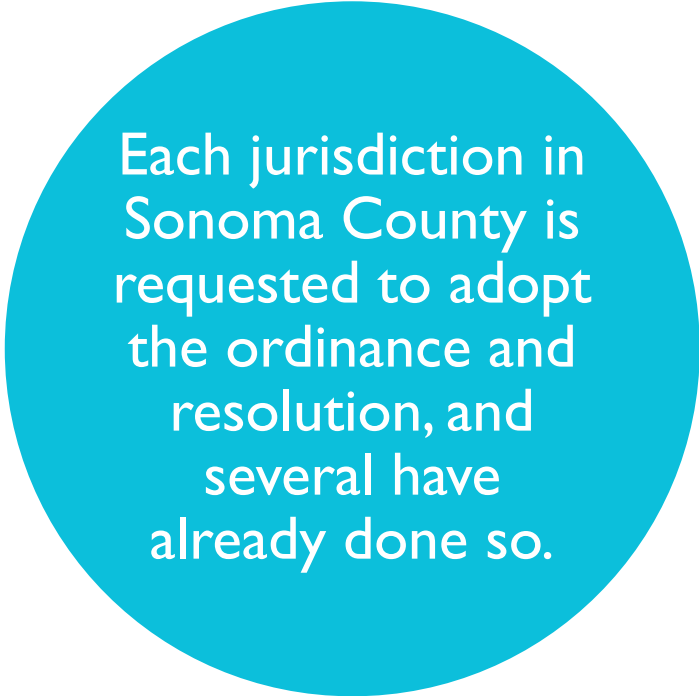
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**JUNE 8, 2021**

## ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTION STATUS



Reviewed and approved by the  
SCWMA Board of Directors  
on September 19, 2018



Each jurisdiction in  
Sonoma County is  
requested to adopt  
the ordinance and  
resolution, and  
several have  
already done so.



# DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE WARE AND POLYSTYRENE MODEL ORDINANCE

## WHY ORDINANCE IS NEEDED

- Supports State and County Zero Waste and Climate Action goals
- Alternative products exist for most uses of polystyrene foam
  - Reusable, compostable, and recyclable options available
- Further protects public health, natural environment, waterways, and wildlife



## RESEARCH AND PROGRESS

- 3,000 survey responses overwhelmingly supported the model ordinance
- 120+ CA jurisdictions have passed similar ordinances
- Sebastopol, Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Windsor, and Sonoma have adopted the model ordinance as of April 2021



# FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROVIDERS

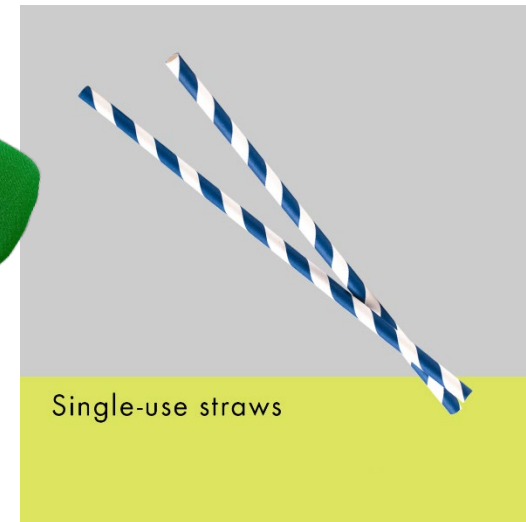
- Prohibits polystyrene foam
  - Food service ware
- Prohibits Use of Disposable Food Service Ware
  - Locally compostable or recyclable alternatives are required
  - Prohibits use of fluorinated chemicals (PFAS)

POLYSTYRENE  
FOAM IS  
GOING AWAY



# FOOD AND BEVERAGE PROVIDERS

- Provide Upon Customer Request
  - Single-use straw
  - Beverage lids
  - Utensils
  - To-go-condiments
- Optional \$.25 credit or fee
  - Customers utilizing reusable service ware such as mugs, cups, utensils





## RETAIL SALES & SPECIAL EVENT PROMOTERS

- Cannot sell, rent, or provide any polystyrene disposable items
  - Coolers, ice chests, or similar containers;
  - Pool or beach toys, not including personal floatation devices such as life jackets; and
  - Packing peanuts or other packaging materials.
  - Cups, bowls, plates, clamshells





## COUNTY ENTITIES

- County facilities and renters of county facilities, county departments, county contractors/lessees:
- May not purchase, acquire or use disposable food service ware containing polystyrene foam



## EXEMPTIONS

- Undue hardship
- Food prepared and packaged outside of the County and sold inside the County
- Packaging of meat and fish
- Products containing polystyrene foam encased in durable material to eliminate littering

## ZWS ORDINANCE EDUCATION PROCESS

Phase 1

- Create educational materials

Phase 1

- Present model ordinance to City Councils, Board of Supervisors

Phase 1

- Send ordinance notification letters to businesses

# DISPOSABLE FOOD SERVICE WARE AND POLYSTYRENE FOAM BAN MODEL ORDINANCE

Jurisdictions in Sonoma County have implemented or are considering a model ordinance, called the Ordinance to Prohibit Use and Sale of Disposable Food Service Ware and Other Products Containing Polystyrene Foam, to ban the sale of certain polystyrene foam products and limit the use of non-recyclable or non-compostable disposable food ware.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW QUICK REFERENCE

[DOWNLOAD MODEL ORDINANCE QUICK REFERENCE \(.PDF\)](#)

## REUSABLE IS BEST



Food service providers are encouraged to provide and incentivise reusables for their customers

## RECYCLABLE IS GREAT



## FIBER COMPOSTABLE IS GREAT



Single-use food ware must be compostable or recyclable through Sonoma County's commercial collection programs and may not contain PFAS chemicals

## POLYSTYRENE FOAM IS GOING AWAY



Retailers cannot sell or distribute polystyrene foam items including:

- Disposable polystyrene foam food service ware
- Polystyrene foam peanuts and packaging
- Coolers



## FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

### FIBER COMPOSTABLE IS GREAT



Products made entirely from uncoated paper or plant fibers are accepted in the residential and commercial green container within Sonoma County as they break down easily in a commercial composting facility or in a backyard compost pile. Note that **compostable plastics are not accepted** in the green container for a variety of reasons.

Please refer to the Supplier List below to purchase uncoated paper products for your food/beverage establishment.

#### Fiber compostable

- Uncoated white / natural plant fiber paper plates, boats, cups, utensils, straws
- Uncoated white / natural deli wrap and parchment paper
- Paper napkins
- 100% wood, bamboo or palm leaf utensils, plates, boats bowls
- **Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) [www.bpiworld.org/](http://www.bpiworld.org/)** America's leading certifier of compostable products and packaging. The organization ensures independent testing and verification according to scientifically based standards.

**BPI certified fiber products are preferred.**

**Products with intentionally added fluorinated chemicals (PFAS) are prohibited.**



## FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

### RECYCLABLE IS GREAT



**Recyclables** The following items should be clean and empty:

- Plastic drinking cups and containers larger than 4" in diameter
- Plastic clamshells or other to-go containers
- Aluminum trays
- PET #1\* and HDPE #2\* plastic items are preferred over PVC #3- # Other 7 plastics, as they are the most common and easiest to recycle.

\*Postconsumer recycled content products support manufacturers using recyclables collected through curbside or commercial pickup and require less virgin plastic to produce.

### NOT ACCEPTED

**Compostable plant/bio-plastic products** (Although technically biodegradable, they cannot be composted locally.)

- Coated paper food containers (If it has a shiny surface, it is likely coated.)
- Plastic utensils
- Plastic sids/dressing cups (Plastics smaller than 4" in diameter can't be recycled locally.)
- Plastic lids for cups
- Plastic bags/plastic wrap
- Polystyrene foam (Styrofoam)
- Plastic water bottles
- Plastic Straws

**If an item is not recyclable or compostable at local facilities, it must be sent to the landfill.**

Exemptions will be allowed for disposable hot beverage or soup containers, as there are no truly compostable or recyclable products available at this time.





## SUPPLIER LIST FOOD SERVICE WARE ALTERNATIVES

COMPANY NAME	CONTACT INFO	RECYCLABLE PRODUCTS	COMPOSTABLE PRODUCTS	REUSABLE PRODUCTS	WEBSITE
Armstrong Paper Group COTATI	707-546-6300		X		
Cogent Solutions & Supplies RICHMOND	510-307-4242	X	X		<a href="http://www.oakpackaging.com">www.oakpackaging.com</a>
Cotati Food Service COTATI	707-795-4489	X	X	X	<a href="http://www.cotatifoodservice.com">www.cotatifoodservice.com</a>
Excellent Packaging and Supply RICHMOND	800-317-2737 <a href="mailto:sales@excellentpackaging.com">sales@excellentpackaging.com</a>		X		<a href="http://www.excellentpackaging.com">www.excellentpackaging.com</a>
Fishman Supply PETALUMA	Leland Fishman <a href="mailto:Lfishman@fishmansupply.com">Lfishman@fishmansupply.com</a> 707-763-8161	X	X		<a href="http://www.fishmansupply.com">www.fishmansupply.com</a>
Green is Green MILL VALLEY	<a href="mailto:Info@greenisgreeninc.com">Info@greenisgreeninc.com</a> 415-571-8187		X		<a href="http://www.greenisgreeninc.com">www.greenisgreeninc.com</a>
JTR Area Distributors SAN JOSE	Kim Taylor <a href="mailto:ktaylor@areadistributing.com">ktaylor@areadistributing.com</a> 408-975-7733	X	X		<a href="http://www.aredistributing.com">www.aredistributing.com</a>
Mike Hudson Distributing PETALUMA	Jamie Kensett <a href="mailto:jkensett@mikehudsondist.com">jkensett@mikehudsondist.com</a> 800-654-3636	X	X		<a href="http://www.mikehudsondist.com">www.mikehudsondist.com</a>

MORE INFO: [ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE](http://ZEROWASTESONOMA.GOV/DISPOSABLE)

UPDATED OCTOBER, 2019

This document, Food Service Ware Alternatives, in no way implies or conveys that Zero Waste Sonoma endorses these suppliers, nor the quality or compliance of their products with respect to the Disposable Food Service Ware and Polystyrene Foam Product Waste Reduction Ordinance. The list is provided as a courtesy, for informational purposes only, and is not a complete list of suppliers. It is the responsibility of anyone who uses this list to verify the qualifications and compliance of each product prior to purchase from the supplier. The agency is not responsible for any expenses that may be associated with using the list of suppliers.

## ZWS ORDINANCE EDUCATION PROCESS

Phase 2

- Develop complaint-driven system for identifying non-compliant food establishments and food providers

Phase 2

- Establish compliance warning and enforcement protocols

Phase 2

- Provide businesses technical assistance as needed

Agency staffing is limited due to the quickly evolving situation with [COVID-19](#). We ask for your patience in returning emails and phone calls at this time. Certain programs and events held by the Agency and our partners are canceled. Please go to [this page](#) for the most recent updates.

# REPORT A NON-COMPLIANT ESTABLISHMENT / EVENT OR APPLY FOR A BUSINESS EXEMPTION

## NON-COMPLIANCE REPORT FORM

Please let us know if you have been to an establishment or event that is not in compliance with the [Polystyrene and Disposable Food Ware Ordinance](#) so that we can assist them.

NAME \*

PHONE

EMAIL

☐ YES, YOU MAY CONTACT ME FOR FURTHER DETAILS

ESTABLISHMENT / EVENT NAME \*

CITY / TOWN \*

Cloverdale

DATE VISITED

MM/DD/YY

PRODUCT TYPE \*

Polystyrene Foam (Styrofoam)  
Compostable / Biodegradable Plastic  
Fiber with shiny lining (OK in Sonoma)  
Plastic or compostable / biodegradable plastic utensils

Hold CTRL key to select/deselect multiple product types

DETAILS ABOUT MY CONCERN

**SUBMIT**

## ZWS ORDINANCE EDUCATION PROCESS

Phase 3

- Execute enforcement plan

Phase 3

- Issue three warning letters, phone calls, and/or site visits

Phase 3

- County to issue penalties



# MODEL ZERO WASTE RESOLUTION

# ZERO WASTE RESOLUTION

- Sets goal of reducing waste generation and landfill disposal by 2030
  - Reducing the total pounds per person per day, currently 4.6, by at least 10% each year
- Provides 36 ZW initiatives for the County to consider
- Six target areas





# ZERO WASTE RESOLUTION

- Reduce
- Recover / Reuse
- Education & Outreach
- Green Purchasing, Environmentally Preferable Procurement (EPP), and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)
- Service Providers and Workforce
- Fiscal Sustainability





# THANK YOU

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Executive Director



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