

# WASTE REGULATIONS ORDINANCE

To mitigate the environmental impacts from disposable plastics entering our communities waterways, the Culver City Council adopted an ordinance titled, Waste Reductions Regulations (Chapter 5.07 of the Municipal Code). There are three phases to the Waste Reduction Regulations. Phase One (1), effective September 1, 2021 is for City facilities only. While Phase Two (2) and Three (3) apply to Culver City businesses.

## **What is banned?**

*Effective January 1, 2022 any regulated entity shall not sell or distribute the following:*

- Polystyrene meat, fish, poultry, produce tray egg cartons.
- Polystyrene packing materials including but not limited to: foam, peanuts, foam popcorn, packing noodles.
- Plastic/PLA utensils, stirring sticks or straws.

Disposable food service ware for take-out or delivery must be acceptable to the City's organics collection program. However, paper liners, paper napkins or foil wrappers acceptable to the City's recyclables and/or organics collections program may be used to contain and/or form the food being served.

*Effective January 1, 2023 any regulated entity shall not sell or distribute the following:*

- Any polystyrene food service ware.

Food or beverages served for consumption on the premises of any regulated entity shall only be served on or in food service ware that is reusable. However, paper liners, paper napkins or foil wrappers acceptable to the City's recyclables and/or organics collections program may be used when the food item being served requires paper liners, paper napkins or foil wrappers to contain and/or form the food item being served.

## **To whom does the ban apply?**

- All City facilities.
- All City special events that are open to the public to attend, regardless if they are privately produced or City-sponsored.
- All citywide prepared food service providers including restaurants, grocery store deli's, retailers, hotels/motels with restaurants, convenience stores and farmers' markets.
- All citywide retailers (grocery stores, Costco, Target, etc.)

### **Exemptions:**

- Unprepared food using polystyrene food ware may be sold by City retailers and food service providers (cup of noodles-ramen), except meat, fish, poultry and egg cartons.

## **May a prepared food service provider apply for an exemption?**

Yes. A prepared food service provider may apply for an exemption from the ban due to hardship if they are able to demonstrate:

- That due to their unique circumstances, no reasonable alternatives are available; or
- That compliance would create an undue financial hardship

## **What is the penalty for not complying?**

Violators are subject to the penalties and other provisions contained in CCMC Title 1, Chapter §1.01 General Provisions and Chapter §1.02 Administrative Citations. (\$100 fine for the first offense, \$200 for the second and \$500 thereafter.)

Culver City's Environmental Programs and Operations website contains resources on plastic alternatives. Please visit [www.culvercity.org/polystyreneban](http://www.culvercity.org/polystyreneban).

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

# PHASE 1 - 9/1/21

City Facilities Only

No



# PHASE 2 - 1/1/22

No



Yes



# PHASE 3 - 1/1/23

Reusables for Dine-In Only

No



Yes



No retail sale of polystyrene food service ware

