

STYROFOAM

RULES

Businesses are prohibited from providing and distributing plastic and polystyrene foam take-out containers and cups for the purpose of serving or transporting prepared food, including but not limited to:

Plates | Cups | Bowls | Trays
Cartons | Hinged or Lidded Containers

PUBLIC SUPPORT

Residents must drop-off single-use foam items at depots and they are not readily recycled in the commercial and institutional sectors. The resident survey confirmed that there is also 86% support from public to ban these products. Foam containers also break up and become scattered litter in the community.

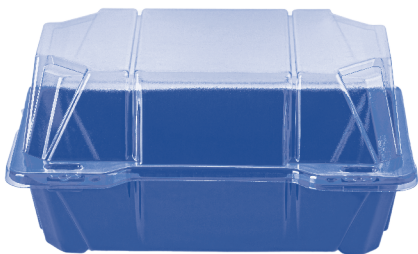
EXEMPTIONS

Hospitals and community care facilities will be exempt. Charitable food providers are exempt for one year.

ALTERNATIVES

There are other environmentally friendly alternatives readily available for businesses, such as:

- Rigid plastic containers, which can be recycled in residential curbside programs
- Fibre-based material, which can be composted in curbside organics programs



**Thank you
for your
understanding.
Let's all work
together to
protect our
environment
and reduce
landfill waste.**

If you have questions or need help, please contact us at:

surrey.ca/singleuse
rethinkwaste@surrey.ca
Waste Collection Hotline: 604-590-7289

PLASTIC BAGS AND SINGLE USE ITEMS BYLAW



INTRODUCTION

Surrey is taking the lead to reduce single-use items with other governments and businesses around the world to reduce the impacts of these items. Plastic bags and Single-Use Items (SUIs) are products that are typically disposed of after one use. They can end up in waterways, adversely impacting fish and marine life, or become scattered litter in public spaces and increase landfill waste. These issues are avoidable as there are more sustainable options available.

Surrey's Plastic Bag and Other Single-Use Items Bylaw is aimed to restrict and eliminate the use of plastic shopping bags and foam takeout containers and cups. These are items that were strongly supported by residents to reduce. The Bylaw, planned to come into effect November 2021, which will regulate businesses to eliminate the use and distribution of these items. We understand that this will be a significant change for businesses and resident. The City will be supporting them to ensure their successful transition away from these items to alternative sustainable products.

HOW MANY ITEMS DISPOSED IN SURREY

Approximately, 1.1 billion plastic bags and SUIs are disposed of in the Metro Vancouver region, with an estimated 76 million sent to landfill annually from Surrey. In Surrey:

- 25.6 million checkout bags disposed per year
- 7.3 million styrofoam containers and cups disposed per year

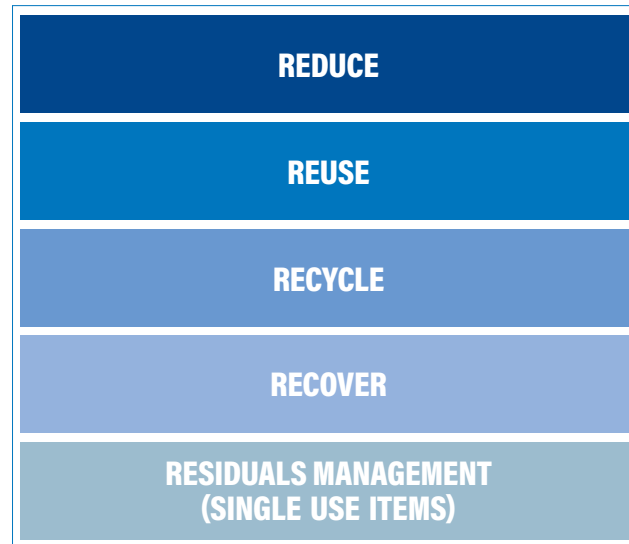
WE ARE HERE TO HELP

1. We are developing education materials for businesses and residents
2. We are researching alternatives
3. We are educating the public to make sure they are aware
4. We are working with other levels of government to align the regulations

ZERO WASTE

The City of Surrey is developing a Zero Waste Strategy to support the City's goal of becoming the first zero waste community in Canada. The strategy will include a circular economy principle where there is continual use of materials through reuse, recycling or recovery into new products .

By taking action on plastic bags and other single-use items, we are reducing the amount of waste that is being sent to landfill and increase the use of alternative sustainable products that can be reused or recycled, fulfilling the principles of the circular economy.



PLASTIC CHECK OUT BAGS

RULES

Businesses are prohibited from providing and distributing plastic checkout bags to customers, including those bags labelled compostable or biodegradable.

FEES

- Fees of at least \$0.25 for paper bags; and
- Fees of at least \$2.00 for the purchase of reusable bags.
- Fees will help retailers with cost recovery

PUBLIC SUPPORT

Plastic checkout bags are the highest single-use waste product in Surrey (36%), and have the second highest level of support (83%) from the public to restrict usage.

EXEMPTIONS

The bylaw would not apply to other types of small bags, such as those used to package fruit, bulk foods, produce, frozen foods, meat, fish, small hardware items (such as nails and bolts), clothes after professional laundering or dry cleaning, linens, bedding, tires, large items, and those provided at thrift stores.

ALTERNATIVES

- Paper checkout bags, made of at least 40% recycled content.
- Cloth or plastic-woven reusable bags.