



## MODEL ORDINANCE **Disposable food service ware and polystyrene foam ban**

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.

### 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

### POLYSTYRENE FOAM IS GOING AWAY



Retailers cannot sell or distribute polystyrene foam items including:

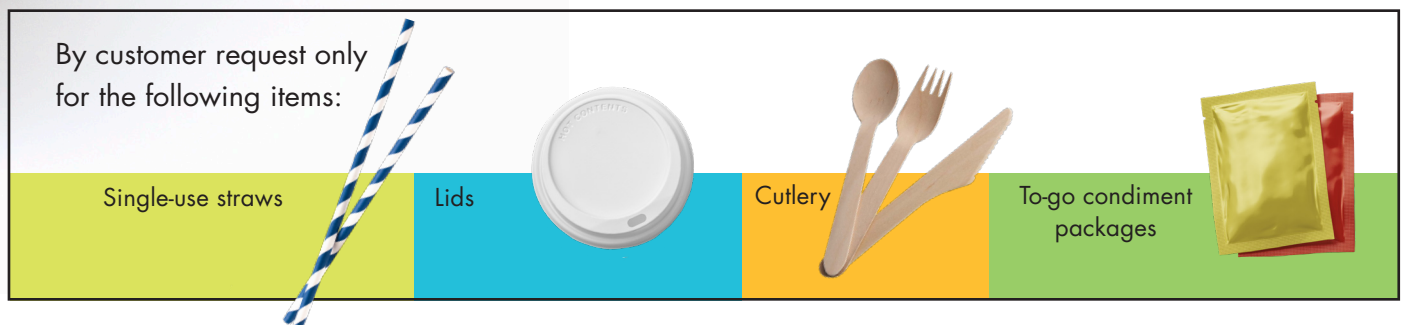
- Disposable polystyrene foam food service ware
- Polystyrene foam peanuts and packaging
- Coolers

**Timeline for adoption early 2020:** The proposed model ordinance is being considered for adoption individually by every jurisdiction in Sonoma County. Jurisdictions may approve changes to the model ordinance. Please confirm specific requirements within your jurisdiction.

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**What is being proposed?** The proposed model ordinance addresses five areas:

1. Prohibits polystyrene foam food ware distributed by food and beverage providers.
2. Prohibits polystyrene foam food ware and specified polystyrene foam products sold by retail stores.
3. Requires food/beverage providers and special events to use compostable or recyclable disposable food service ware.
4. Requires food/beverage providers to provide single-use straws, lids, cutlery and to-go condiment packages only upon request.
5. Encourages use of reusables. Food/beverage providers are encouraged (but not required) to provide a \$0.25 credit to customers bringing their own reusable containers, and to charge a \$0.25 take-out fee for any combination of disposable cups, lids, straws, and/or utensils. It is assumed that money collected will go towards the purchase of ordinance-compliant disposable alternatives.



## Who would be affected?

**Food/beverage providers.** Examples include restaurants, bars, retail food vendors (including any store, shop, sales outlet, convenience store, grocery store, or deli), schools, faith-based organizations and food trucks.

**Retailers.** Any store or other business that sells goods or merchandise.

**Special event promoters, government entities, contractors and lessees.**

## Which products are exempt?

Foods prepared or packaged outside the jurisdiction. All vendors of pre-packaged items are encouraged to follow the ordinance.

Disposable food ware compostable or recyclable through Sonoma County's commercial programs.

Products containing polystyrene foam which pose a small risk of becoming litter.

Reusable polystyrene foam used for insulating or flotation purposes and is completely encased in more durable material. Examples include surfboards, boats, life preservers, construction materials, craft supplies and durable coolers not principally composed of polystyrene foam.

Packaging for meat and fish.