



# Food Service Ware REQUIREMENTS

Effective January 1, 2017, District businesses and organizations providing disposable products for prepared food must use recyclable or compostable materials when serving consumers.

Affected businesses and organizations include:

- Restaurants & delis
- Grocery stores
- Hotels, motels & inns
- Cafeterias
- Caterers
- Hospitals
- Food trucks
- Street vendors
- Schools
- Faith-based organizations
- Other groups that serve food
- Coffee Shops and Cafés

Food items packaged outside of the District, products for home use, and containers for raw meat are not subject to these requirements. **Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the DC Human Rights Act, some customers may request single-use plastic straws to consume food and beverages. Regulated entities must keep a stock of plastic straws available to meet these needs and remain compliant.**



## Compliant Compostable and Recyclable Items

Products made solely of rigid plastic, made of pulp or paper with or without a plastic or wax coating or certified compostable by the Biodegradable Products Institute (products.bpiworld.org) are considered compliant.



## Items to Throw In the Trash

Items smaller than two (2) inches in two dimensions, heavily food-soiled items, plastic bags, and plastic wraps should be thrown in the trash to avoid recycling contamination.\*



\* Private waste and recycling programs may accept these items. Ask for details.



## Items Banned and Enforced by the District

Mixed material products, including paper bags with plastic windows and foil-lined deli paper wraps, and single-use plastic straws and stirrers are BANNED. Expanded polystyrene foam containers are also BANNED.



For more information on compliant products and District food service ware requirements, visit: [doee.dc.gov/foodserviceware](http://doee.dc.gov/foodserviceware)





**Language  
Assistance**

Si necesita ayuda en Español, por favor llame al (202) 671-0080 para proporcionarle un intérprete **de manera gratuita**.  
Nếu quý vị cần giúp đỡ về tiếng Việt, xin gọi (202) 671-0080 để chúng tôi thu xếp có thông dịch viên đến giúp quý vị **miễn phí**.  
Si vous avez besoin d'aide en Français appelez-le (202) 671-0080 et l'assistance d'un interprète vous sera **fournie gratuitement**.  
በአማርኛ እርዳታ ከፈለጉ በ (202) 671-0080 ይደውሉ። የባህሪ አስተርጓሚ ይመደብዎታል።  
한국어로 언어 지원이 필요하신 경우 (202) 671-0080 로 연락을 주시면 **무료로** 통역이 제공됩니다.  
如果您需要用 (中文)接受幫助，請電洽(202) 671-0080 將**免費**向您提供口譯員服務。