

Starting July 1, 2020, state law ([Act 69 of 2019](#)) prohibits stores and food service establishments from providing the following single-use products:

- **Single-use plastic carryout bags*** at the point of sale. This does not apply to plastic bags used for prescription meds, dry cleaning, produce bags, and other small items bags that are not at the point of sale. Single-use paper carryout bags can be offered at the point of sale for a minimum customer charge of 10 cents per bag, which stores keep.
- **Expanded polystyrene (commonly called Styrofoam) food and beverage containers*** including foam cups, take-out and to-go containers, plates, trays, and cartons for eggs or other food. This does not apply to meat and fish packaging or food packaged out-of-state or sold out-of-state.
- **Plastic straws*** except they can be given upon customer request and hospitals, nursing homes, independent and assisted living, and residential care facilities can provide plastic straws.
- **Plastic Stirrers***

***Inventory Exemption:** Stores and food service establishments that purchased these single-use products before

May 15, 2019 have until July 1, 2021 to use up the previously purchased product.

What Can Stores Do Instead?

- ***Instead of Single-use Plastic Bags*** – Encourage customers to bring their own reusable bags and make reusable, durable bags with stitched handles available for customers to purchase. Stores may also offer recyclable paper bags if they charge 10 cents per bag. Smaller paper bags are exempt from the 10-cent fee.
- ***Instead of Single-use Foam Food Service Products*** (expanded polystyrene) – Use durable, washable plates, cups, bowls, and trays that last for a long time. Or use paper cups, plates, bowls, and to-go containers, especially those made with post-consumer recycled content. Recyclable aluminum and plastic to-go containers are also available. Encourage customers to eat and drink “for here” using reusable and washable cups, bowls, and plates and support customers who bring their own to-go containers by giving them a discount based on the cost of a single-use to-go container.
- ***Instead of Plastic Straws*** – Go strawless as many food service establishments have. Or provide paper or bamboo straws or sell or provide reusable stainless-steel straws. Businesses may provide plastic straws when a customer requests one.
- ***Instead of Plastic Stirrers*** – Offer washable silverware spoons or wooden stir sticks.