

Richmond's Ban on Single-use Plastic

The City of Richmond has adopted the *Single-Use Plastic and Other Items Bylaw No. 10000* to ban plastic checkout bags, foam food service ware and plastic straws to help reduce litter, pollution and unnecessary waste. This ban also supports a circular economy, where materials are reused and recycled multiple times to reduce the need for raw materials. Bylaw 10000 will come into effect on March 27, 2022. Please help support your local businesses as they transition to the new requirements.



Important information about the new Bylaw

Banned items:

- Plastic checkout bags (including biodegradable/compostable plastic)
- Plastic straws (including biodegradable/compostable plastic)
- Foam food service ware for prepared food (such as foam plates, clamshell containers, bowls and cups)

Biodegradable/compostable plastics are not allowed as these materials are not accepted by composting facilities in our region, nor are they guaranteed to biodegrade if littered. This is due to a lack of required and consistent standards and certifications, which results in problems such as materials not breaking down completely and leaving behind plastic flecks in the compost. These materials are also not recyclable.

A few exemptions:

There are some exemptions under Bylaw 10000. The following are a few examples. For a detailed list, visit richmond.ca/singleuse.

- Plastic bags may still be used for loose bulk items (e.g. fruits, nuts, etc.), as well as other specialized items like live fish, prescription drugs and dry cleaning.
- Plastic bags and plastic straws can be purchased in bulk for use at home.
- Straws can be provided on request to customers with accessibility needs.

- Bring reusable bags when shopping.
- Bring a reusable cup when picking up a coffee, tea or other beverage.
- Bring your own reusable straw or simply avoid using straws.
- Be patient during the transition as businesses use up supplies before switching to materials that are accepted under Bylaw 10000.

Here's how you can help

This information is available in English, Simplified Chinese and Traditional Chinese at richmond.ca/singleuse.

請瀏覽網頁 richmond.ca/singleuse, 查看本文件的英文、中文繁體及簡體等版本。

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