

City	Location	Ban Announcement
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Gainesville	FL	Mar-18
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St. Petersburg	FL	Dec-18
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Coral Gables	FL	May-17
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2016

Portland

OR

Jun-18

Seattle

WA

Jun-18*

Miami Beach

FL

Jul-18

Miami Dade County

FL

Jul-16

Washington

DC

Polystyrene 2014. Plastic straw ban
2016

Implementation

Scope

Exemptions

Planned for August 2019

Public and Private - details still in the works

Details still in the works

Straw-by-request-only for 2019, full ban with penalties begins 2020. Styrofoam ban begins 2019.

Applies to businesses contracting with the city, operating on public property or public right of way (ex. Food trucks) to avoid contradicting 2008 state ordinance.

Exemptions for grocery stores, convenience stores, drive thrus, and hospitals

12 month education period for businesses, allowed to use last of inventory, as verified by city officials, after ban started in May 2018.

Applies to all retail establishments and special events

Exemptions for bags for prescription meds, door hanger bags, newspaper bags, garbage bags, pet waste bags, and yard waste bags

12 month education period for businesses. Styrofoam ban implemented Jan 1, 2017.

Applies to all city vendors and contractors in city facilities, special event permittees and their subcontractors, food service providers and stores within the city. Does not apply to non-for-profit corporations, the school district, county, state, and federal governmental entities.

Financial hardship waivers available for any business making less than \$500,000 annually. Exemptions for articles in prepackaged food which was sealed before the retailer received it and food service articles used to store raw meat, pork, fish, seafood, or poultry sold from a butcher display case or similar refrigerated retailed display or storage case.

Takes effect July 1, 2019	Replaces existing ordinances which also banned plastic bags (2011) and Styrofoam containers (1990). Adds provision requiring businesses to give out plastic utensils, straws, and condiment packets only when the customer requests them.	Exemptions for bags used for medications, and bags without handles used to protect one item from another
Jul-18	In 2008, Seattle enacted a plan to reduce plastic pollution which included exemptions for certain products (like straws) which were renewed yearly. In 2018, the city council did not renew these exemptions.	Temporary exemptions for milkshake spoons, bendable spoons required by disabled customers, metal faced foil used to wrap hot items, and 2 oz and under portion cups.
3 month public education period; 3 months of written warnings. Full implementation on Feb 1, 2019	Prohibits single use plastic straws and stirrers on the City's beaches, streets, parks, sidewalks cafes, docks, marinas, waterways, and other public places and bans the distribution of plastic bags from sidewalk cafes	No exceptions to the straw ban.
12 month education period. July 2017	Prohibits sale or use of polystyrene products, such as coolers, plates, bowls, to-go cups, lids, tableware, boxes, bags, wrappings, and others, from all Miami-Dade parks including beaches.	No exceptions listed

Ban on polystyrene took effect in 2016, plastic straw ban took effect on January 1, 2019

Prohibits the sale, use, or provision of polystyrene containers for food service, and requires that all food service ware provided by food service businesses be compostable or recyclable.

Food or beverages that were filled and sealed in expanded polystyrene containers before a food service business received them or to materials used to package raw, uncooked, or butchered meat, fish, poultry, or seafood for off- premises consumption. Mayor has the power to exempt if he/she determines that there is no cost effective substitute for certain items, must review and updates exemption list annually. Restaurants are allowed to keep a limited stock of plastic straws in case they are requested by a disabled customer

Penalties

Issues

Sources

Details still in the works

Initial opposition from small restaurant owners concerned about higher costs; some became more supportive after seeing reduced costs when asking customers if they wanted straws.

[banning-plastic-and-styrofoam-making-restaurant](#)

<https://www.gainesville.com/news/20181206/city-closer-to-styrofoam-plastic-bag-l>

No penalties for the first 3 months of 2019. Warnings issued for the rest of the year. Starting 2020, first offense results in a warning, second in a \$40 fine, and all subsequent offenses in the same year in an \$80 fine.

Broad public support shown at open meeting, especially from young people

[urg/st-petersburg-to-vote-on-straw-ban-2018](#)

Enforcement fines are per day, not per plastic bag. First violation results in a \$50, second in \$100, third in \$500, and \$1000 for any further violations within a 12 month period.

Similar legal challenge as the city faced with the styrofoam ban expected. The state legislature has still failed to produce report as promised, so similar ruling likely

[oralgables.com/plasticbags](#)

<https://www.flkeysnews.com/news/local/environment/article147580559.html>

First violation with a 12 month period results in a fine of \$50, second in \$100, third in \$500, all additional violations in \$1000

Legal challenge from Florida Retail Federation claiming they violated state law; judge ruled in favor of the city because the state legislature had not yet produced a report on the impact of single use plastics the law in question promised

[ibles.com/expandedpolystyrene](#)

<https://www.abetterbalance.org/resources/florida-retail-federation-v-coral-gables-dec>

First violation in a 12 month period will result in a warning, second in a fine of \$100, third in a fine of \$200, and all subsequent offenses in a fine of \$500

Broad support. Many businesses began to comply voluntarily with the by-request-only policy before the 2018 ordinance passed, [doregon.gov/bps/article/708847](https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/708847) some went further and eliminated plastic straws entirely, switching to metal or plastic.

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/706080>

\$250 fine for each violation

No major opposition noted, likely due to the very long wind up period [@spu/@foodyard/documents/webcontent/1](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/seattle-becomes-first-u-s-city-to-ban-plastic-utensils-and-ware/?hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils)

<http://www.seattle.gov/util/forbusinesses/solidwaste/foodyardbusinesses/commercial/foodpackaging>
https://www.cbsnews.com/news/seattle-becomes-first-u-s-city-to-ban-plastic-utensils-and-ware/?hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils&hpid=hp_national-news_seattle-ban-plastic-utensils

Fines for the first offense range from \$100 to \$1500 with the highest fines given to offenders on the beach, parks, waterways, and marinas

Broad support, some uncertainty surrounding ongoing Coral Gables lawsuit. General pushback from some in the disabled community who find plastic straws the best method of drinking while confronting certain muscular disorders [7/City-of-Miami-Beach-Moves-Toward-Becoming-Plastic-Free](https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/miami-beach/article215777770.html)

<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/miami-beach/article215777770.html>
<https://www.cnn.com/2018/07/11/health/plastic-straw-bans-disabled-trnd/index.html>

\$50 fine, stated purpose more to educate rather than punish citizens

Some concern about whether all residents could afford plastic rather than cheaper polystyrene coolers. [releases/2017-06-13-polystyrene-ban.asp](https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/miami-beach/article215777770.html)

<http://debrisfreeoceans.org/miami-dade-county-passes-ordinance-to-ban-styrofoam>

Warning for the first violation, any additional violations will incur a fine between \$100 - \$800, fines awarded per straw at DOEE discretion

Interesting note: violators are discovered through a tip [l.us/dc/council/laws/20-142.html](https://www.usdc/council/laws/20-142.html) line and random inspections.

<https://doee.dc.gov/foodserviceware>

https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddoe/page_content/attachments/FOAM%201

https://doee.dc.gov/sites/default/files/dc/sites/ddoe/service_content/attachments/Straw%20and%20Rec-C

[rant-owners-fight-back](#)

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