A New Foodware Ordinance Is In Effect As Of October 1st, 2022

The County of San Mateo and most local cities within the county adopted the Disposable Food Service Ware Ordinance to reduce single-use plastics and other foodware waste, improve the health and safety of our community members, and keep our waterways clean and safe.

SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FOODWARE IS BANNED

Plastic is not allowed for most disposable foodware items, including compostable plastic (e.g. bioplastics, PLA, TPLA, etc.) and Styrofoam.

FIBER FOODWARE IS REQUIRED

Food facilities are required to use natural fiber-based, compostable foodware that are free of harmful PFAS (i.e. “Forever Chemicals”). Aluminum and glass containers are also allowed.

REUSABLES FOR DINE-IN ARE ENCOURAGED

Reusable foodware is strongly encouraged for dine-in customers. Reusables are required in the Cities of Half Moon Bay, Pacifica, and Daly City.

ACCESSORIES AND CONDIMENTS ARE AVAILABLE BY REQUEST ONLY

(also required by state law AB 1276)

Accessories (utensils, straws, condiment packets, etc.) can only be provided when requested and cannot be bundled as one unit.

FOODWARE AWARE

SAN MATEO COUNTY Sustainability Department

For more information, visit:
smcfoodware.org

Contact the hotline for help:
(888) 442-2666