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.

Food items packaged outside of the District, products for home use, and containers for raw meat are not subject to these requirements. Affected businesses and organizations include:

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

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.*

Items Banned and Enforced by the District

- Mixed material products, including paper bags with plastic windows and foil-lined deli paper wraps are BANNED. Since 2016, expanded polystyrene foam containers are also BANNED.

For more information on compliant products and District food service ware requirements, please visit doe.dc.gov/foodserviceware
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 xếp cho quý vị dịch viên 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.
한국어로 언어 지원이 필요하신 경우 (202) 671-0080 로 연락을 주시면 무상으로 통역이 제공됩니다.
如果您需要用（中文）接受帮助，请电话 (202) 671-0080 将免费向您提供口译员服务。