

Single-Use Plastic Straws to Only be Provided Upon Request, Effective Thursday, Nov. 4, to Help Fight Plastic Pollution

A provision of New Jersey's commitment to reduce plastics pollution statewide will take effect on **Thursday, Nov. 4** when food-service businesses may provide single-use plastic straws to a customer only upon request. Food-service businesses includes all restaurants, convenience stores and fast-food businesses, each of which must also educate their employees and customers about the restriction.

The restriction on single-use plastic straws is part of a broader [state law enacted in 2020](#) banning the sale or provision of single-use plastic carryout bags from stores and food-service businesses; single-use paper carryout bags from grocery stores larger than or equal to 2,500 square feet; and use of polystyrene foam food-service products. These additional provisions of the law take effect on May 4, 2022 and will supersede any established local laws at that time.

For more information, including links to resources for businesses, you can see the full press release [here](#). Additionally, you can find a letter prepared by the NJDEP Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste attached, reminding municipalities of the upcoming ban on single-use plastic products and its timeline.