

# PLASTIC FREE

The City of Goleta is moving away from single-use plastic to protect our oceans and our health.

**THE PLASTIC POLLUTION PROBLEM.** Protecting the environment is part of the City of Goleta's core values. Yet, plastic straws, utensils of all shapes and sizes, and expanded polystyrene products like food containers continue to pollute our environment. California's local governments spend over \$428 million annually in ongoing efforts to clean up plastic pollution from storm drains and waterways.

**SINGLE-USE PLASTIC HARM S WILDLIFE.** Because they're lightweight and not recyclable, most polystyrene food packaging, plastic straws and utensils end up in landfills. The rest wind up polluting the environment and posing a threat to aquatic life. In fact, recent studies show that half of all sea turtles and nearly all seabirds have eaten plastic. By 2050 it's expected that there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish, by weight.

**GOLETA IS TAKING ACTION.** In the City of Goleta we have the opportunity to do something big about this problem. Plastic bags, straws, and utensils are in the top six most commonly found pieces of trash during beach cleanups in California, and are also some of the most harmful pieces of plastic pollution to marine life. Effective June 2023, regulations on balloons, single-use plastics, and disposable foodware, plus a ban on polystyrene products protect against plastic pollution in our community.

Municipal Code Chapter 8.18 Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations are effective June 1, 2023.

- The purpose of Code Chapter 8.18 is to regulate the use of certain polystyrene products and single-use plastic and other single-use products in order to protect the health of Goleta citizens and promote environmentally sustainable practices in the City.
- Eliminate Single-Use Plastic: Disposable foodware cannot be of plastic origin (including bio-plastics). Polystyrene is prohibited.
- Disposable straws, stirrers, and utensils must be made from non-plastic materials, including but not limited to paper, sugar cane, wood, or bamboo.
- Mylar balloons are banned and the release of latex balloons is prohibited.

Learn more about Goleta's efforts to reduce plastic pollution at [www.cityofgoleta.org/PlasticFreeGoleta](http://www.cityofgoleta.org/PlasticFreeGoleta)



# PLASTIC FREE GOLETA



Recommended



# REUSABLE STRAWS

Glass  
Stainless Steel  
Bamboo

## SINGLE-USE STRAWS

Allowable Alternatives

Paper  
Grain  
Edible



Banned

Plastic  
Bioplastic  
(PLA, #7, Compostable)

# EXAMPLES OF Compliant Straws

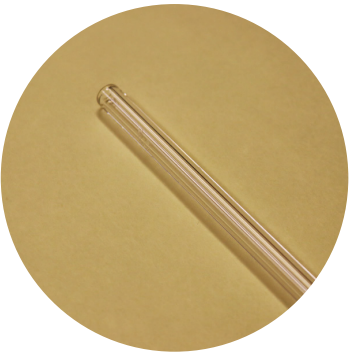
The City of Goleta does not endorse and is not affiliated with any of the products or companies listed below. This is not a comprehensive list of acceptable alternatives. This guide is only meant to show some examples of what may work for you, your business, or you community.



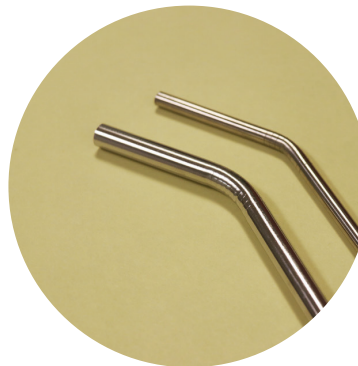
**AARDVARK**  
Paper straws  
[Aardvarkstraws.com](http://Aardvarkstraws.com)



**STRAW FREE**  
Bamboo  
[Strawfree.org](http://Strawfree.org)



**SIMPLY STRAWS**  
Glass  
[SimplyStraws.com](http://SimplyStraws.com)



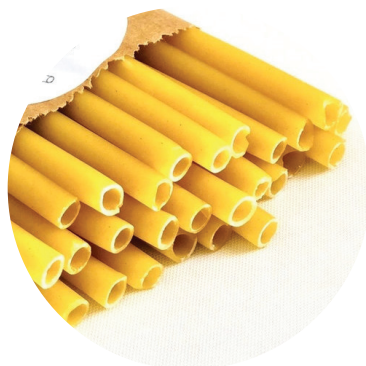
**STEELYS DRINKWARE**  
Stainless Steel  
[SteelysDrinkware.com](http://SteelysDrinkware.com)



**LOLISTRAW**  
BY LOLIWARE  
Seaweed  
[loliware.com](http://loliware.com)



**SORBOS**  
Sugar  
[WeareSorbos.com](http://WeareSorbos.com)



**PASTA LIFE**  
Wheat, water  
[pasta/life](http://pasta/life)

Recommended

# REUSABLE UTENSILS



Metal  
Bamboo



# SINGLE-USE UTENSILS

Allowable  
Alternatives

Bamboo  
Wood  
Edible

# Banned

Plastic  
Bioplastic  
(PLA, #7, Compostable)





Recommended

# REUSABLE STIRRER

Glass  
Metal

## SINGLE-USE UTENSILS

### Allowable Alternatives

Paper  
Grain  
Edible



## Banned

Plastic  
Bioplastic  
(PLA, #7, Compostable)

# EXAMPLES OF Compliant Utensils and Stirrers

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**TIGERCHIEF**  
Birchwood  
[TigerChief.com](http://TigerChief.com)



**NATURAL TABLEWARE**  
Aspen Wood  
[NaturalTableware.com](http://NaturalTableware.com)



**BAMBU**  
Bamboo  
[BambuHome.com](http://BambuHome.com)



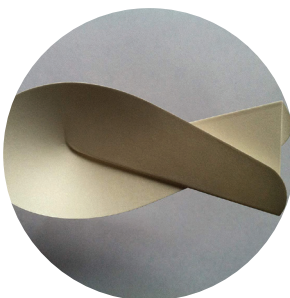
**LEAFWARE**  
Birchwood  
[Leafware.com](http://Leafware.com)



**WOOD TASTING SPOONS**  
Wood  
[perfectstix.com](http://perfectstix.com)  
[greenpaperproducts.com](http://greenpaperproducts.com)



**EDIBLE UTENSILS**  
Wheat, oats, corn, chickpeas, and brown rice  
[IncredibleEats.com](http://IncredibleEats.com)



**NUSPOON TASTERS**  
Paper  
[amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



**ECOSPOON4**  
Paper  
[ecotensil.com](http://ecotensil.com)



**NATURAL TABLEWARE**  
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)  
Certified Wood  
[NaturalTableware.com](http://NaturalTableware.com)

# Polystyrene

## REGULATED PRODUCTS IN GOLETA



### POLYSTYRENE BAN - REDUCING USE, AND REDUCING HARM

The City of Goleta passed its first polystyrene ordinance in the summer of 2022, which banned polystyrene products including foodware and packaging. Other banned products include ice coolers, straws, cup lids, and utensils made from polystyrene materials, and a prohibition on the sale of polystyrene food service materials in local retail stores. The City's polystyrene regulations also prohibits foam produce trays and egg cartons, and polystyrene packing materials like packing peanuts and noodles.

### REGULATED PRODUCTS IN GOLETA

#### POLYSTYRENE PRODUCTS:

(Styrofoam®, Rigid Polystyrene, and PS#6)

- Egg cartons
- Packing materials
- Produce trays
- Meat trays
- Coolers
- Plates
- Bowls
- Trays
- Wrappers
- Platters
- Cartons
- Condiment containers
- Cups/drink ware (includes red solo cups-rigid polystyrene)
- Straws
- Cup lids
- Utensils

#### SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS:

(Includes Resin Codes #1-6; Bioplastic PLA#7)

- Utensils
- Lid Plugs
- Stirrers
- Straws

## CITY OF GOLETA BALLOON REGULATIONS

# WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN

***Balloons are meant to be a symbol of joy and of celebration, but pose dangers to wildlife long after celebrations have passed.***

The City of Goleta is committed to reducing marine debris that harms ocean life. Goleta City Council passed ordinance which reduces the impacts of balloons in the environment. The regulations on balloons are effective from June 1, 2023. Under Chapter 8.18 Plastic Waste Reduction Regulations, ordinance:

- Prohibits the release of balloons anywhere in the City
- Restricts the use of Mylar/foil balloons in outdoor spaces like beaches and parks
- Prohibits the sale and distribution of Mylar/foil balloons in the City

### BALLOON IMPACTS

- Birds, turtles and other animals often mistake balloons for food
- When ingested, a balloon can block the digestive track of the animal, often resulting in death by starvation
- Ocean and beach wildlife often get entangled in balloon ribbons
- Sea turtles are the most at-risk, as balloons floating in the sea look like their favorite food: Jellyfish!
- During International Coastal Cleanup Day, nearly 100,000 balloons were picked up on beaches around the world

### DON'T LET GO

- Never release a balloon into the air
- Free-flying balloons can travel as far as 1,300 miles away
- Mylar/foil balloons do not break down, and rubber balloons can take up to 4 years to degrade
- Mylar/foil balloons cause hundreds of power outages in L.A. alone every year
- Pick up any balloons or ribbons you find and dispose of them properly

### KEEP CELEBRATING

- There are so many ways to celebrate without balloons.
- Choose paper chains or garlands, bunting, pompoms, pinwheels, kites, bubbles, flowers, streamers - get creative!

