



# Food Service Ware REQUIREMENTS

Enforcement Begins January 1, 2018

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
  - Faith-based organizations
  - Grocery stores
  - Caterers
  - Street vendors
  - Other groups that serve food
  - Hotels, motels & inns
  - Hospitals
  - Schools
  - 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](http://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.\*



\*Private waste and recycling programs may accept these items. Ask for details.



## 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 [doee.dc.gov/foodserviceware](http://doee.dc.gov/foodserviceware)





**Language  
Assistance**

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 thu xếp có thông dịch viên đến giúp quý vị **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**.  
በአማርኛ እርዳታ ከፈለጉ በ (202) 671-0080 ይደውሉ። የብዙ አስተርጓሚ ይመደብልዎታል።  
한국어로 언어 지원이 필요하신 경우 (202) 671-0080 로 연락을 주시면 **무료로** 통역이 제공됩니다.  
如果您需要用 (中文)接受幫助，請電洽(202) 671-0080 將**免費**向您提供口譯員服務。