

HOW WE USE SINGLE-USE ITEMS IS CHANGING

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Why regulate single-use items?

The intent of this bylaw is to reduce litter from single-use items, thereby lessening the environmental harm caused by single-use items, while saving tax payers money in associated clean up costs.

When do I have to comply with the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw?

The Single-Use Item reduction Bylaw takes effect on April 1, 2022. All business license holders within the City of Chilliwack will need to comply with the bylaw after this date.

Do charities and not-for-profits have to comply with the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw?

Yes. All organizations that are required to hold a business license within the City of Chilliwack must comply with the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw, including registered charities and not-for-profit corporations. However, registered charities and not-for-profit corporations are exempt from charging fees on paper and reusable shopping bags used to provide charitable food services. "Charitable food services" means providing food for free or at low cost by an organization that is incorporated and in good standing under the *Societies Act*, or registered as a charitable organization under the federal *Income Tax Act*.

Are single-use items sold in bulk packaging regulated under the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw?

No. The Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw applies only to single-use items provided with the sale of other products, food, and beverages.

Are food delivery services required to comply with the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw?

All organizations that are required to hold a business license within the City of Chilliwack must comply with the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw. The bylaw applies to single-use items used to deliver food in Chilliwack, whether the item is supplied by the food delivery service or the food vendor. All food delivery service providers should update their online, mobile and telephone ordering platforms to ensure compliance with the bylaw.

How will the City enforce the Single-Use Item Reduction Bylaw?

Due to the extenuating circumstances of COVID-19, City staff are prioritizing outreach and education to ensure businesses have the support they need to comply with the bylaw. If a business is found to be out of compliance with the bylaw, initial City actions will focus on education, outreach and support to help them comply. Following these initial educational actions to achieve compliance, increasing levels of enforcement may be applied to address non-compliant operators. Enforcement may include issuing tickets, which carry a fine of up to \$500 per offence.

Can I use up my existing stockpile of banned or non-compliant single-use items after the bylaw takes effect on April 1, 2022?

Yes. However, the City may follow up with your business to ensure that the banned or non-compliant single-use items are phased out once your inventory is depleted.