

# NEW SUSTAINABILITY BYLAWS

## Easy ways to comply

The § 154-10 bylaw change amends the existing plastic-bag reduction bylaw to include plastic cutlery, stirrers, and drinking straws, and adjusts the language around the use of plastic bags.

The adoption of § 192 prohibits the use of foam polystyrene (Styrofoam) food containers and packaging by food service establishments and the sale or use of those products by any business in Wakefield.



Food establishments cannot offer single-use plastic drinking straws, stirrers, or cutlery to customers but may furnish them if requested by a customer.



Don't automatically add utensils to takeout orders or add straws to customers' drinks. If these items are requested by a customer, you can provide them. The items can also be available on a counter for customers to take via self serve.



No business, including retail, grocery stores, and restaurants, can provide plastic bags for any purchases, including takeout and food leftovers, even if those bags are over 2.25 mils.



Compostable, paper, and non-plastic reusable bags are acceptable for checkout and takeout. Plastic bags used to contain dry cleaning, newspapers, produce, meat, bulk foods, and wet items are ok.



Food establishments cannot dispense food or beverages in disposable food containers made from foam or rigid polystyrene.



If you currently use any foam or rigid polystyrene, find an alternative option for that food-service container. Consider biodegradable, compostable, reusable, or recyclable materials.



Retail establishments are prohibited from selling or distributing disposable food containers or packing material made from foam or rigid polystyrene to customers.



If these items are in your product catalog, or you use them for on-site packaging, discontinue their sale or find alternatives. If you receive items that are packaged elsewhere in these materials, they can still be sold at your business.