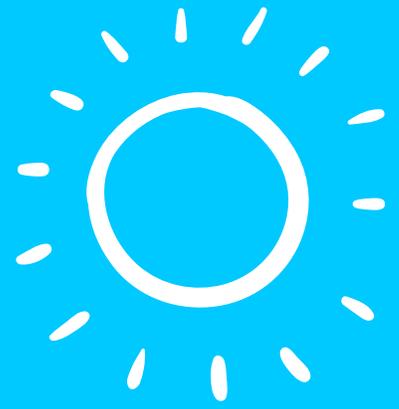
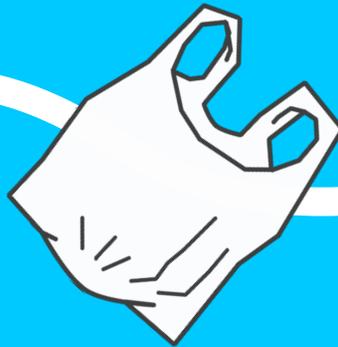
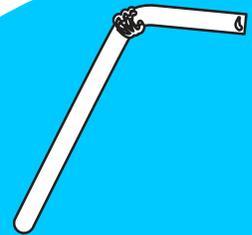
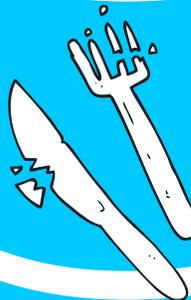


# Reducing Plastic Waste



ECO-FRIENDLY SPECIAL EVENT GUIDE



# Paper, Plastic, or Planet?

The City of Stuart is committed to reducing plastic litter and pollution in our environment

## Why?

**300 MILLION**

TONS OF PLASTIC PRODUCED EVERY YEAR WORLDWIDE

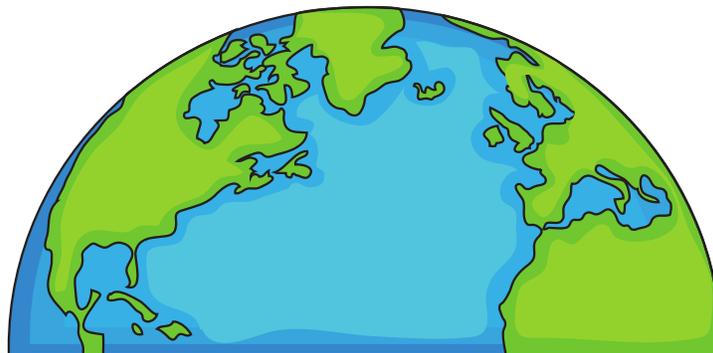
**50 PERCENT**

OF ALL PLASTIC PRODUCED IS SINGLE-USE

**500 MILLION**

PLASTIC STRAWS IN THE U.S. DISPOSED OF EVERY DAY

- Over time, plastic breaks down into tiny particles called micro-plastics, which persist in the environment for hundreds of years.
- By 2050, there will be more plastic mass in the ocean than fish.
- An estimated 20% of all plastic pollution eventually ends up in waterways and the ocean.
- More than 1 trillion single-use plastic bags are discarded every year worldwide.
- Polystyrene and other polymer materials including what is commonly known as Styrofoam, can remain in the environment for over 1 million years.
- In 2015, only 9% of plastic material generated in the U.S. was recycled - less than half of the world average.



*“Nothing we use for a few minutes should pollute our waterways and harm our birds and marine animals for hundreds of years.”*

Jennifer Rubiello, Director, Environment Florida.

# Stuart's Single-Use Plastic Policy

## ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY

### Ordinance 2413-2019

The City ordinance **EFFECTIVE** beginning January 1, 2021 states that no Styrofoam or single-use plastic associated with food and beverage service shall be given to customers when utilizing city property for permitted events or when conducting business at a City-owned facility.

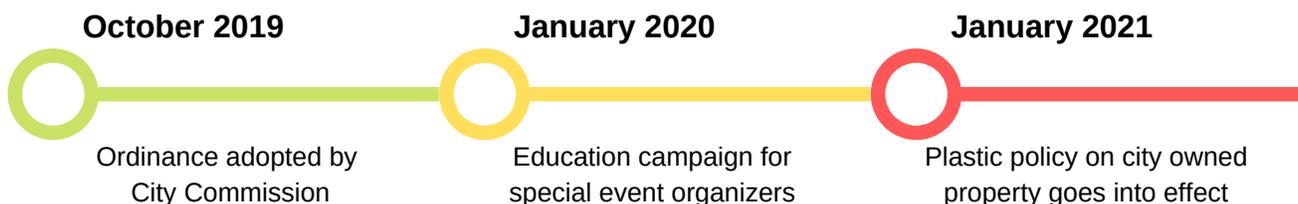
#### 2020 WILL BE A YEAR OF TRANSITION FROM PLASTICS TO EARTH-FRIENDLY ALTERNATIVES:

- SINGLE-USE PLASTICS INCLUDING PLASTIC STRAWS ARE THOSE POLYSTYRENE AND EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (STYROFOAM) PRODUCTS DESIGNED WITH THE INTENT OF BEING USED ONE TIME AND THEN DISCARDED.
- THE CITY ENCOURAGES THE USE OF BIODEGRADABLE OR COMPOSTABLE FOOD ITEM PRODUCTS INCLUDING PLATES, BOWLS, CUPS, SILVERWARE, BAGS AND NAPKINS.
- BEVERAGES MAY BE SERVED IN RECYCLABLE CUPS, CANS, OR BOTTLES.

#### THE FOLLOWING ARE EXEMPT FROM THE PROHIBITION:

- PRE-PACKAGED FOODS THAT FOOD SERVICE PROVIDERS DISTRIBUTE TO THEIR CUSTOMERS AND THAT HAVE BEEN FILLED AND SEALED PRIOR TO RECEIPT BY THE FOOD SERVICE PROVIDER. (EXAMPLES - BAGS OF CHIPS, JUICE BOX, CONDIMENT PACKETS).
- SINGLE-USE PRODUCTS USED FOR PRE-PACKAGED FOOD THAT HAVE BEEN FILLED AND SEALED PRIOR TO RECEIPT BY THE CITY CONTRACTOR OR PERMITTEE, OR FOR PACKAGING.

### Single-Use Plastic Policy Rollout Timeline



# Plastic Straws & Events

## Ordinance 2416-2019

The city-wide plastic straw ban ordinance prohibits the distribution of plastic straws in the provision of food services in any retail establishment. However, the ban additionally applies to any special events occurring within the city. For an overview of the entire plastic straw ordinance, please visit our website.

### UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2020:

- PLASTIC STRAWS MAY NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY DISTRIBUTED OR PROVIDED AS A DISPLAY FOR SELF DISPENSING AND MAY ONLY BE DISTRIBUTED UPON A SPECIFIC CUSTOMER REQUEST.

### BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2021:

- PLASTIC STRAWS MAY NOT BE SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED.
- NON-PLASTIC STRAWS MAY NOT BE AUTOMATICALLY DISTRIBUTED TO CUSTOMERS OR PROVIDED AS A DISPLAY FOR SELF-DISPENSING AND MAY ONLY BE PROVIDED UPON A SPECIFIC CUSTOMER REQUEST.

### EXEMPTIONS:

- ITEMS THAT INCLUDE PLASTIC STRAWS THAT ARE PRE-PACKAGED BY SUPPLIERS AND DISTRIBUTORS THAT ARE NOT REPACKAGED OR OTHERWISE ALTERED PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTION TO A CUSTOMER.

## Plastic Straw Ban Enforcement Timeline



# Next Steps for Event Organizers

- 1** Review new ordinance requirements and current inventory with food and beverage vendors.
- 2** Speak with suppliers about the need to find alternative products and leverage local assets to purchase in bulk for potential cost savings.
- 3** Assign volunteers to help manage waste collection while educating event guests through social media / advertisements prior to the event.
- 4** Plan to post special signage with each recycling container and waste bin utilized during the event to maximize recycling efforts.

## RECYCLE

**Plastic Bottles**



**Glass Bottles**



**Aluminum Cans**

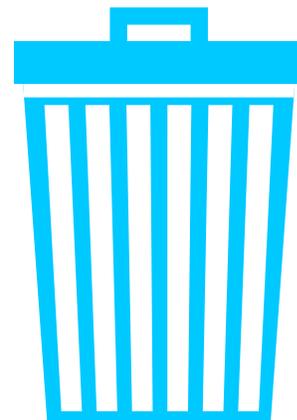


**Plastic Wine Cups**



## EVERYTHING ELSE

**Garbage**



# Planning for Your Event

As you plan your event also consider these environmentally friendly practices when serving food and beverage items:

- Use reusable utensils, plates, cups, and other service-wares when feasible.
- Opt for alternative single-use items that are BPI-certified compostable, biodegradable, and/or paper products made with recycled content.
- Avoid individually packaged items (from butter or cream cheese, to sugar packets, mustard, ketchup, snacks such as chips or candy or bottled/can drinks).
- Avoid overly packaged meals and instead, serve items in bulk.
- Advertise and provide early notice to your guests of what to expect from your efforts in maintaining an environmentally-friendly event experience.
- Communicate with vendors regarding your plans to streamline waste management during the event including the location and distribution of waste and recycle bins.
- Keep waste and recycle bins together with applicable signage for ease of access to both.
- Work with sponsors to promote eco-friendly awareness prior to and during the event.



# Alternative Product Suppliers

**All Florida Paper**

(<https://catalog.allfloridapaper.com/>)  
305-835-6060

**Auburn Supply Group Florida**

(<https://www.auburnsupplygroup.com/>)  
727-810-7545

**Compostables.org**

(<https://compostables.org>)  
866-326-2466

**Eco Products**

(<https://www.ecoproductsstore.com/>)  
303-449-1876

**General Hotel & Restaurant Supply Corp.**

(<http://www.generalhotel.com>)  
800-330-5900

**Good Start Packaging**

(<https://www.goodstartpackaging.com/>)  
603-782-9187

**Greenstaurant**

(<http://greenstaurant.com>)  
770-648-7305

**Green Paper Products**

(<https://greenpaperproducts.com/>)  
877-341-5464

**Hoffmaster**

(<https://www.hoffmaster.com/>)  
800-327-9774

**Paper Straw Wholesalers**

(<https://www.paperstrawwholesalers.com>)  
866-751-7766

**RestaurantWare**

(<https://www.restaurantware.com>)  
800-851-9273

**Sysco Southeast Florida**

(<https://www.sysco.com/Contact/Contact/Our-Locations/Southeast-Florida>)  
561-842-1999

**US Paper Straws**

(<https://www.paperstraw.us/>)  
844-778-7297

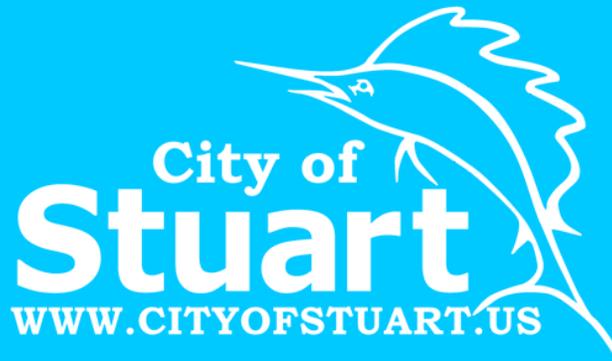
**US Supply House**

(<https://ussupplyhouse.com/>)  
305-676-6777

**Webstaurant**

(<https://www.webstaurantstore.com/>)  
717-288-7303

THIS LIST IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE AND IS NOT INTENDED TO BE EXHAUSTIVE OR SHOW PREFERENCE FOR ONE BUSINESS OVER ANOTHER.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
SPECIAL EVENTS PERMITTING  
772-286-2844  
WWW.CITYOFSTUART.US

