

Requirements of Vermont's Single-Use Products Law

This law was made to lessen the harmful effects of single-use products and to reduce waste.

Plastic bags are banned



❌ Stores and restaurants cannot provide plastic bags at check-out. "Compostable" or "degradable" bags are also banned.

✅ Plastic bags are allowed for:

- Containing loose items within a store such as produce, frozen foods, meat, fish, or flowers.
- Prescription medications.
- Dry cleaning/large garments.



Paper bags are allowed for a fee

- ✅ Stores and restaurants are required to charge customers at least \$0.10 for each paper bag provided; stores and restaurants keep the \$0.10.
- ✅ No fee is required for small, lightweight bags (generally shorter than 10 inches or with a basis weight of 30 lbs. or less).



Plastic straws are by request-only



❌ Restaurants cannot automatically provide plastic straws to all customers. "Compostable" plastic straws are by request-only.

- ✅ Straws made from paper or metal are allowed.
- ✅ A plastic straw can be provided when requested.
- ✅ Hospitals, nursing homes, and care facilities can provide plastic straws.

Plastic stirrers are banned



❌ Restaurants cannot provide plastic stirrers.

- ✅ Stirrers made from wood or metal are allowed.

Expanded polystyrene (e.g. "Styrofoam") is banned



❌ Stores and restaurants cannot provide or sell food or beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene including:

- Plates, cups, bowls, trays, take-out containers, and egg cartons.
- ✅ Expanded Polystyrene is allowed for:
 - Trays for packaging uncooked meat, fish, poultry, or seafood.
 - Products packaged out-of-state.
 - Products packaged for sale out-of-state.