

# Single-use plastics ban

## Single-use plastic straws

**This factsheet has information for people who need single-use plastic straws due to disability or medical need.**

Plastic pollution harms our health, wildlife and environment. That is why from 1 February 2023, the Victorian Government is taking action to reduce single-use plastic items in our community.



### What items are banned?

From 1 February 2023, these items are banned in Victoria:

- Single-use plastic drink stirrers
- Single-use plastic cutlery
- Single-use plastic plates
- Single-use plastic cotton buds
- Foodware and cups made from expanded polystyrene



The use of single-use plastic straws is restricted. Single-use plastic straws can continue to be used by people who need one due to disability or medical need.

We know that single-use plastic drinking straws are essential for many people. If you need a single-use plastic straw due to disability or medical need, you can continue to purchase or request them.

Single-use plastic straws may be available at any retailer or hospitality venue; however businesses may choose to no longer stock or sell straws.



[www.vic.gov.au/plastics](http://www.vic.gov.au/plastics)





From 1 February 2023, if you need a straw, you should be aware that:

- You will need to request a single-use plastic straw at a shop or cafe as they will not be accessible to the public without the assistance of a staff member. This does not need to be a verbal request.
- You do **not** have to show or share proof of disability or medical condition.
- Someone can ask for a straw for you. This could be a medical professional, carer, friend, or family member.
- Hospitality and retailers have been told that they can continue to provide straws to people who need them, but they don't have to keep them in stock.

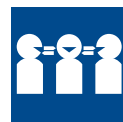
People who need a single-use plastic straw due to disability or medical need should consider carrying one in case the venue does not have them in stock.

Disability service providers can continue to provide single-use plastic straws to a person in their care that needs one.

#### More information

Information about purchasing, supplying and providing single-use plastic straws is available [online](#)

If you wish to contact the Victorian Government about the ban, please email: [SUP.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:SUP.policy@delwp.vic.gov.au)



If you need assistance with translating and interpreting, please contact Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450 or visit [www.tisnational.gov.au](http://www.tisnational.gov.au)

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