



Plastic bans: Single-use straw exemption



NSW has banned some single-use plastic items. The ban includes single-use plastic straws, unless they are supplied in accordance with an exemption.

The bans include items made from biodegradable plastic, compostable plastic (including Australian-certified compostable plastic) or bioplastics.

When are straws exempt?

You can supply single-use plastic straws to people who require them due to a disability or other medical need. You can also supply them to individuals or organisations who are acting on those people's behalf.

Food and drink suppliers

You can supply single-use plastic straws to customers if you follow these requirements:

- You can only give a single-use plastic straw if asked.
- You must keep the straws out of view, and out of reach of the public e.g. behind the counter.
- You must not charge a fee for the straw.



Note also:

- You can give more than one straw, if asked.
- You do not need to ask for proof that someone needs a single-use plastic straw for themselves or someone else. For privacy reasons, we recommend you do not ask.



It is illegal to supply single-use plastic straws without following the exemption requirements and you could be fined.

Fines start at \$1,100 for individuals and \$5,500 for corporations.

For more information or advice

Environment Line **131 555**

Email us info@epa.nsw.gov.au

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Plastics bans
guidance



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straw exemption

