

Culver City

Sustainability Sub-Committee

April 6, 2016



City of Santa Monica

Non-Recyclable Food Service Container Ban

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Office of Sustainability and the Environment



City of Santa Monica Sustainable City Plan



9 Goal Areas

1. Resource Conservation
2. Transportation
3. Environmental & Public Health
4. Economic Development
5. Open Space & Land Use
6. Human Dignity
7. Housing
8. Arts & Culture
9. Community Education
& Civic Participation



Purpose of Single-Use Bans: Cleaning Our Coastline & Cutting Waste Eliminate Non-Recyclable Single-Use Bags & Food Containers

**Protect the Santa Monica Bay and
Marine Environment from plastic
pollution**

**Protect human health and improve
quality of life**

**Residents and other taxpayers pay
clean-up costs and landfill fees**



Timeline: Single-use Carryout Bag Ban & Non-Recyclable Food Service Container Ban



Jan 2007
Adopted

13 months
Outreach

Feb 2008
Enforcement Begins

Single-Use **Food Container** Ban



Feb 2011
Adopted

7 months
Outreach

Sept. 2011
Enforcement Begins

Single-Use **Carry Out Bag** Ban



Protecting the Santa Monica Bay: All drains lead to the Ocean

With CDSs/Diversions/SMURRF/Baffle Box/Vortech/ Catch Basin Inserts/All City Catch Basins



Plastic Bags & Foam Polystyrene: non-recyclable, light weight & harmful to marine environment



**Prior to plastic bag bans:
19 billion bags used per year in California**



Are Plastic Bags Recycled? only 5% & plastic bags clog recycling machinery



**Plastic bags caught daily
in Sunnyvale SMaRT trommel**



**Same trommel after
nightly cleaning**

Pictures courtesy of Mark Bowers,
Solid Waste Programs Division Manager, City of Sunnyvale



What defines a: “Non-Recyclable Plastic Food Service Container”?

Polystyrene food containers (both foam and clear) are derived from petroleum and are non-recyclable and non-compostable; meaning they stay in the environment for hundreds to thousands of years.

Foam polystyrene is lightweight nature allows it to float in water & blow in wind. It does not break down, only breaks apart into ever smaller pieces, but is still plastic

Take Out Has Never Tasted So Good



 plastic take out food containers, whether foam or clear, are banned in all Santa Monica food establishments. Have you seen any lately?

Let us know at sustainablesm.org/container
or call **310.458.4925**



Banned Polystyrene
#6 plastic food containers (foam & clear)



Utensils, straws, and cup lids are exempt



Compliant Plastic Food Containers



Banned Food Containers:

Non-Recyclable Plastic Food Service Containers

Polystyrene

Foam Polystyrene

Exempt: Cutlery, Straws and Lids



Food Vendors Impacted

Santa Monica Food Providers

Restaurants, Caterers, Grocers, Food Trucks



City Funded Food Purchases

City-sponsored events, City-managed concessions, City-permitted events



Provide support & resources to Food Vendors: Economically Viable Choices



Compliant: Compostable Food Containers paper & plant fiber



Compostable in back yard composting and City of Santa Monica food collection



Compliant: Compostable Food Containers paper & plant fiber



Compostable in back yard composting and City of Santa Monica food collection



Compliant:

Recyclable Food Containers

#1-5 plastic, #7 plastic & aluminum



Compostable? #7 Bio-Plastics



Not compostable in back yard composting and City of Santa Monica food collection programs. Bio-plastic food containers and bags are landfilled.



Provide support & resources to Food Vendors:

Where to purchase Sustainable Food Containers

Distributors List

Compostable/Recyclable Food Service Products
Santa Monica Office of Sustainability & the Environment



City of Santa Monica
Office of Sustainability & the Environment
200 Santa Monica Pier
Santa Monica, CA 90401
Phone: 310.458.4925
Email: sustainability@sm.org
Website: www.sustainable.sm.org/container



Food Containers Distributors List: sustainable.sm.org/container

In 2007: 16 distributors/manufactures

In 2009: 76 distributors/manufactures

In 2016: over 100 distributors/manufactures



Results

Over **650** Santa Monica Restaurants and Food Vendors

Over **100** food trucks and event planners stopped using polystyrene

The Santa Monica-Malibu school district, private schools and the Santa Monica College voluntarily stopped using polystyrene

Less than 5% of the food vendors have received a warning or citations

Say No To Packaging!

At Coastal Clean-up Day, 10,000 volunteers came to the beaches and picked-up 75,000 pounds of trash, most of which was identified as Styrofoam™ and plastic food packaging.

(Heal the Bay)



For more information on sustainable food visit:

sustainablesm.org



New and Future Products



Paper Spoon



Bottle Box



Algae Plastic



Bamboo



Switchgrass Fiber



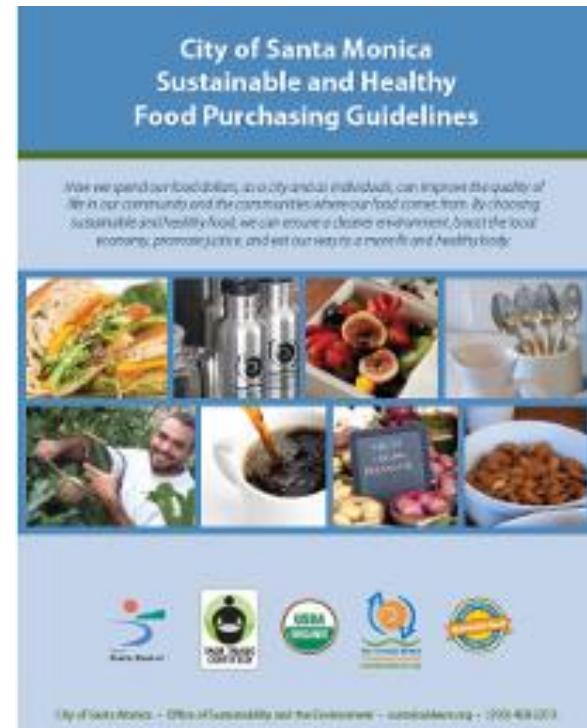
Edible Food Containers

Others: banana leaves, Tapioca, bull rush cattails



Driving to Zero Waste

- Work with restaurants & stores to reduce waste
- Develop a bring your own container campaign
- Promote bulk shopping



Sustainable Food Guidelines



Green Vets LA:

Locally Produced Sustainable Reusable Bags

Over 50,000 reusable bags purchased by the City of Santa Monica were produced by Green Vets LA.

“The manufacturing process is done in Los Angeles which helps our local economy.

Short shipping distances reduces the need for fossil fuels and production is done in environmentally regulated facilities.

The program uses discarded fabrics from military sources and the local garment based industries, which eliminates the need to process fully recycled materials.”
- greenvetsla.com



Outreach: Reusable Bag Giveaways

Since 2009 the City purchased **over 50,000** locally made reusable bags from **Green Vets LA** and distributes them at over **100** community events and festivals, homeless shelters, senior centers, schools, retail establishments, places of worship and low income communities.

Rosie's Girls Santa Monica provided bag decoration workshops. Rosie's Girls is based on a national program designed to build self-esteem, leadership and physical confidence in middle school girls through an exploration of trades and non-traditional activities.



Provide support & resources to Food Vendors: Collaboration & Outreach

140 presentations

local retail staff /headquarters, community groups, business districts & California Grocers Association, manufacturers/distributors of single-use and reusable bags, schools & universities, webinars & conferences, international, national & local municipalities

28 media & radio interviews

18 interns

from SM High School, SM College, Crossroads, Loyola Marymount, UCLA, UC Berkeley, RAND, USC, USF & Smith College



Purpose of Bans:

Cleaning Our Coastline & Cutting Waste

The intent of the
**Single-use Carryout Bag Ban & the
Non-Recyclable Food Service Container Ban**
is to significantly **reduce the environmental impacts**
related to these throw-away products.





City of Santa Monica's Office of Sustainability & the Environment

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Single-use Carryout Bag Ban

sustainablesm.org/bag

Non-Recyclable Food Service Container Ban

sustainablesm.org/container

Sustainable Food Campaign

sustainablesm.org/food

