



Single use plastic ban – plastic cups for cold beverages

What is banned?

The ban includes the sale or supply of single-use plastic cups for cold drinks that cannot be composted, including plastic-lined paperboard.

It came into effect on 1 October 2022.



Why are plastic cups banned?

Each year, more than 181 million plastic cold cups are used across Western Australia, most of which end up in landfill, with many littered in the environment.

These cups cannot be recycled through the yellow-topped kerbside recycling bin and are a common contaminant of recycling streams.



What is not included in the ban?

- compostable paperboard cups (certified to an Australian composting standard)
- durable cups designed for multiple use and sold as individual items or in sets.

What alternatives are there?

Disposable options will be available, with certified compostable cups and lids excluded from the ban and already widely used by businesses. Consumers are encouraged to dine-in, bring their own reusable cup or take advantage of reusable exchange schemes where available.

Why are bioplastics banned?

Bioplastics are made from plant or other organic material instead of hydrocarbon oils. They behave the same way as regular plastics in the environment and contaminate recycling streams.



Who does the ban apply to?

The ban applies to all businesses, manufacturers, retailers, wholesalers and distributors that sell or supply cups for cold beverages in Western Australia.

Need more information?

Call the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation:
08 6364 7000

Email: plastic-action@dwer.wa.gov.au

Check out the website: [Western Australia's Plan for Plastics | Western Australian Government \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/policies/western-australia-s-plan-for-plastics)

