

## Expanded polystyrene cups

Enforcement begins 1 September 2023

### What is proposed to be banned and when?

The sale and supply of expanded polystyrene (EPS) cups will be phased out from 27 February 2023. There will be a transition period of six months before the rules are enforced to allow businesses to use up supplies and source alternative products.

**Enforcement of the ban on EPS cups will commence on 1 September 2023.**



### Why ban EPS cups?

Each year Western Australians use more than 15 million EPS cups. Most end up in landfill as there are no recycling options.

EPS is a lightweight material that is easily transported by wind and water when littered and breaks into small pieces posing a hazard to wildlife.

### What is not included in the ban?

- pre-packaged EPS cups and bowls containing 'instant' meals (e.g. noodle cups).

### What alternatives are there?

- EPS cups can be replaced with lined paperboard cups that meet the Australian Standards for industrial (AS 4736:2006) or home (AS 5810:2010) composting
- consumers are encouraged to dine in, bring their own reusable cup or take advantage of exchange schemes where available.



### Will it cost more to buy hot food or beverages?

Compliant alternatives for EPS cups may initially cost slightly more but this is expected to decrease over time as more options become available.

### Who will the ban apply to?

The ban applies to all businesses, manufacturers, retailers and distributors that sell or supply EPS cups.

The Australian Packaging Covenant Organisation is leading the industry-led phase-out of EPS and has published an [EPS Roadmap](#). The roadmap includes the phase-out of additional EPS pre-packaged food containers not subject to the WA ban by July 2025.