



What is Required?

Any food and beverages prepared for immediate consumption and meant to be carried out must be in packaging that is:

- Compostable (certified BPI) or
- Recyclable or
- Returnable or reusable

Who is Affected?

Businesses that provide take-out food packaging/containers or utensils. This includes restaurants, but also organizations providing to-go food or beverages (free or paid) at events that require a permit or license, including:

- Restaurants
- Gas Stations
- Food Trucks
- Grocery Stores
- Convenience Stores
- Schools

Who is Exempt?

- Hospitals and nursing homes
- Manufacturers, distributors, or other businesses with no retail food or beverage business
- Caterers

Why an Ordinance?

- Reduce non-recyclable single use plastic
- Eliminate the use of Styrofoam
- Increase awareness and usage of recycling and composting programs.
- Promote Ramsey County's upcoming food scraps pickup program.
- Decrease the volume of landfill waste and toxic byproducts of incineration
- Achieve a 75% recycling rate as laid out by Minnesota State Statute by 2030.



CONTACT

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MATERIALS EXPLAINED

Allowed

- Recyclable plastics:
 - #1 (PET or PETE)
 - #2 (HDPE)
 - #5 (PP)
- Compostable plastics, paper, or fiber products that meet BPI or ASTM D6400/D6868 standards
- Aluminum products



Not Allowed

- Black plastic (even if it's labeled #5 - it's not recyclable!)
- Styrofoam
- Any other plastics (#4, #6, etc.)



Exemptions

- Foods prepackaged by manufacturer or distributor
- Plastic films
- Paper food wraps and liners

Collection Bins

Food businesses must provide collection bins for each type of material used.

- Recyclable materials must be recycled
- Compostable plastics must be collected as organics and sent for composting



Utensils

- Utensils, straws, and condiments should be given only when asked for.
- Single use utensils (including forks, knives, and spoons) must be compostable