



NYC Foam Ban

As of **January 1, 2019**, New York City stores, food service establishments, and mobile food commissaries may no longer offer, sell or possess single-use foam food containers such as foam takeout clamshells, cups, plates, bowls, trays, and coolers. Additionally, manufacturers, distributors, and stores may no longer sell or offer for sale loose fill foam packaging (“packing peanuts”) in the city.

Beginning **July 1, 2019**, Notices of Violation will be issued and civil action may be taken. For more information, visit nyc.gov/foamban or contact **311**.

As of January 1, 2019, single-service foam items are be banned from possession, sale, or use in NYC.

Foam Takeout Containers



Foam Cups



Foam Packing Peanuts



Foam Plates & Bowls



Foam Trays



Foam Coolers



Exceptions

Foam containers used for prepackaged food that have been filled and sealed prior to receipt by the food service establishment, mobile food commissary, or store.

Foam containers used to store raw meat, pork, fish, seafood or poultry, including eggs, sold from a butcher case or similar retail appliance.

Foam blocks used as protective packaging in shipping are not covered under this law.

Alternatives

There are many alternative options available including aluminum, rigid plastics, uncoated paper, glass, and compostable items. NYC encourages the use of reusable, returnable and/or refillable containers where possible. Contact your distributor about alternatives to foam products.

Waiver

Small businesses (not part of a chain) with less than \$500,000 in gross income for the most recent tax year and non-profit organizations may apply for temporary hardship exemptions from the Department of Small Business Services (SBS) if they can prove that the purchase of alternative products not composed of foam would create an undue financial hardship. For more information and to apply, please visit nyc.gov/foamwaiver.



NYC Department of Sanitation
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FINAL NOTICE

NYC Foam Ban in effect! Visit nyc.gov/foamban for more information.

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