



ORDINANCE 10-19

On February 5, 2019, the City of Delray Beach adopted Ordinance 10-19, prohibiting the distribution of single-use plastic straws. From February 6, 2019 to December 31, 2019 food and beverage service establishments may only distribute plastic straws to patrons that specifically request them. By January 1, 2020 food and beverage establishments are prohibited from distributing plastic straws and must provide a sustainable alternative.

Exemptions:

Plastic straws may still be distributed in case of a customer with a medical or physical condition for which non-plastic straws would be unsuitable. Single-use plastic straws can be distributed for use on private property used as a residence, by the School Board of Palm Beach County, by a hospital or residential medical facility, such as a nursing home or assisted living, by beverages prepared and packaged outside the City, provided such beverage is not altered, packaged, or repackaged within the City, by supermarkets, convenience retailers, and restaurant suppliers.





“Skip the Straw” Resources for Businesses

A “Skip the Straw” Starter Kit is available for businesses to use as a resource to make the switch from plastic to paper straws a stress-free action. This starter kit will be mailed or emailed to businesses that ask for more information and will also be available for download on the City website for the [Office of Sustainability](#). The starter kit includes table tents, facts sheets and more information that is useful for employees and for patrons.

 **CITY OF DELRAY BEACH**
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY 

Why is Delray Beach skipping the straw? 10 Facts to share with your employees

- 1 500 million straws are used in the U.S. every day. That's enough to fill 125 school buses. 
- 2 Plastic straws are among the Top Five items collected on the beach every year. 
- 3 About 90% of trash in the oceans is made from plastic. 
- 4 Plastic trash pollutes most marine habitats, including the deep sea, coral reefs, beaches and rivers. 
- 5 In most places, plastic straws cannot be recycled. 
- 6 Straws and other plastic harm sea life, including fish, turtles and coral reefs. 
- 7 Straws are easily carried away by the wind, ending up littering our beaches and in our oceans and waterways. 
- 8 Every year, the U.S. uses enough straws to wrap around the earth 2.5 times. 
- 9 About 90% of seabirds and 30% of turtles have plastics in their stomach. 
- 10 Plastic breaks down into smaller pieces, but never fully goes away. 

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Reduce your use of single-use plastics. Pick up litter and properly dispose of it.	Participate in beach or river cleanups. Ask your family and friends to Skip the Straw!
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 **SKIP THE STRAW** 

