

Guide to Purchasing Compliant Take-Out Food Service Ware

For **plastic** food service ware—Make sure that the items are either plastic #1, #2, or #5. Additionally, the color must not be black. Bioplastics such as PLA products that are certified as compostable are still not acceptable. At this time, there is no ban on plastic bags for takeout orders, yet as the California State laws develop, that may change. **Please note that all take-out utensils must be fiber based (see below) and cannot be plastic.

For **fiber-molded, wood, paper, or cardboard** food service ware—Make sure from your vendor or the manufacturer that the items contain no added PFAS.

Additionally, the item must be:

- 1) certified as home compostable by TUV OK Compost, Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI), or the Compost Manufacturing Alliance (CMA).

OR

- 2) solely fiber-based with no coatings or additives, according to the manufacturer.

Because there is no acceptable replacement for hot cups, paper hot cups can contain a PLA lining, yet cannot be plastic lined.

For **aluminum** food service ware—Aluminum containers are recyclable, and therefore allowed. If the container has a paper top, it must align with the above qualifications for paper food service ware.

A list of acceptable replacements will be available here. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. It is simply a place to start and will continue to be updated. If you have a question about a specific product, please email zerowaste@burbankca.gov.