



CITY OF
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

2026 WASTE REDUCTION RULES



ONSITE DINING (FOOD SERVICE WARE)

ONSITE DINING REQUIREMENTS

Reusable food service ware, including utensils, is required for all onsite dining. Reusable means an item designed and manufactured to maintain its shape and structure, and to be materially durable for at least 1,000 hot water washings, such as glass, ceramic and metal containers.

NOT ALLOWED

- ❌ Single-use disposable food service ware*
- ❌ Condiments served in disposable, individual-serving packaging

*Home compostable straws are allowed upon request for onsite dining.

LEFTOVERS

Leftovers can be placed in disposable to-go containers that meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Home compostable (required for 16 products in 2026), **and/or**
- ✓ Certified by [BPI](#) or [OK Compost HOME](#) (includes compostable plastic containers), **and/or**
- ✓ Accepted for recycling by Bainbridge Disposal

SELF-SERVICE FACILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The following is required of self-service facilities, such as a salad bar or hot food bar:

- Reusable and disposable food service ware
- Reusable options should be clearly marked to encourage use for onsite dining
- Any disposable food service ware items on the 2026 home compostable product list must be home compostable
- Any other disposable food service ware items must be certified by [BPI](#) **and/or** [OK Compost HOME](#), **and/or** accepted for recycling by Bainbridge Disposal

TEMPORARY WAIVERS

Businesses without onsite or off-site dishwashing capacity may ask the City for a full or partial one-year waiver. The business must demonstrate an inability to comply due to insurmountable space constraints, undue financial hardship, and/or other extraordinary circumstances. Businesses granted a temporary waiver for the use of reusable food service ware for onsite dining must provide disposable products that meet the following requirements:

- Home compostable (required for 16 products in 2026)
- Certified by [BPI](#) or [OK Compost HOME](#) (includes compostable plastic containers)
- Accepted for recycling by Bainbridge Disposal

Confused? Have questions? Please visit:



www.bainbridgewa.gov/ZeroWaste