Food Facility Requirements for Single-Use Foodware Accessories and Condiments (AB 1276)

Background: In an effort to reduce the amount of waste generated by single-use items provided alongside ready-to-eat food, new restrictions in addition to the single-use plastic straw law, were passed. This new law is effective January 1, 2022.

Who this applies to: AB 1276 applies to a "food facility". A food facility is defined as an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption at the retail level.

"Single-use foodware accessory" means all of the following single-use items provided alongside ready-to-eat food: utensils (forks, knives, spoons, and sporks), chopsticks, condiment cups and packets, straws stirrers, splash sticks, cocktail sticks.

"Standard condiment" means relishes, spices, sauces, confections, or seasonings that require no additional preparation and that are usually used on a food item after preparation, including ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, soy sauce, hot sauce, salsa, salt, pepper, sugar, and sugar substitutes.

Effective January 1, 2022, food facilities are required to:
- Only provide single-use accessories to consumers upon request
- Only provide single-use accessories required to eat the ready-to-eat food
- No bundling of single-use accessories or condiments
- Only offer those single-use items needed to eat or prevent spillage of the ready-to-eat food at a drive-through as well as in a public use airport
- A 3rd party delivery platform shall provide consumers with the option to request single-use accessories
- A food facility that uses a 3rd party platform shall customize their menu with a list of available single-use accessories or condiments. Only those items chosen by the consumer will be delivered. If no single-use accessories or condiments are requested, none will be provided

* Unwrapped single-use foodware accessories that are self-serve, standard condiments that are self-serve, and/or bulk dispensed condiments may still be used

Customer Request: A foodware accessory and/or condiment can be provided when requested by a customer.

AB 1276 does not apply to:
- Correctional institutions
- Licensed health care facilities
- Residential care facilities
- Public and private school cafeterias

If you have questions about AB 1276, please contact Sacramento County Environmental Management Department. Environmental Health Specialists are available M-F from 8-10am at (916) 875-8440.