

# OFFICIAL NOTICE

## #SkipTheStuff Ordinance

*(Chapter 2, Article XIX of the Denver Revised Municipal Code)*



Dear Retail Food Establishment,

This letter serves as a notice that Denver's #SkipTheStuff Ordinance goes into effect **January 2022**. It requires all retail food establishments (RFEs) to provide single-use condiments and single-use service ware only upon request by a customer. This ordinance is intended to reduce the amount of waste generated by single-use items, change customer habits regarding single-use items, and help restaurants reduce unnecessary costs.

This ordinance applies to all RFEs. **This includes but is not limited to:**

- Restaurants
- Third-party delivery companies
- Retail food establishments as defined in section 23-2(30) of the revised municipal code

## WHAT RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS MUST DO

### To stay in compliance with the ordinance, RFEs must:

- Provide single-use condiments and single-use service ware only upon request.
- Inform the customer, at the point of ordering whether online, by phone or in-person, that you can only provide single-use condiments and single-use service ware upon request.
- Place signage at your point of order, informing customers that single-use items will only be provided upon request.
- Failure to comply can result in a written warning.
- Additional violations in a calendar year can result in a \$999 fine, per incident.

## EXEMPTIONS

### Exemptions to the ordinance include:

- Self-service stations inside retail food establishments or special events providing single-use condiments and single-use service ware.
- Prepackaged food items that include single-use condiments and single-use service ware.
- Meals provided as part of a social service to vulnerable populations, including without limitation, meals provided by school systems, homeless shelters and programs that deliver meals to the elderly.
- Meals provided to guests staying in a hotel, lodging house or rooming house.
- Specific accessories used by third-party delivery platforms to prevent spills and deliver food and beverages safely, including cup lids, spill plugs, and trays.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information, free printable signage for your store, and a copy of Chapter 2, Article XIX of the Denver Revised Municipal Code, visit [www.DenverGov.org/SkipTheStuff](http://www.DenverGov.org/SkipTheStuff).