
Reusable Foodware

A Plastic and Climate Solution that Helps
Businesses Save Money

— **November 20th, 2023** —

Disposable foodware - part of a “throwaway economy”

15% of wood

22% of aluminum

40% of plastic

50% of glass





**7 TRILLION
PIECES OF
PLASTIC ENTER
THE SF BAY
EVERY YEAR!**

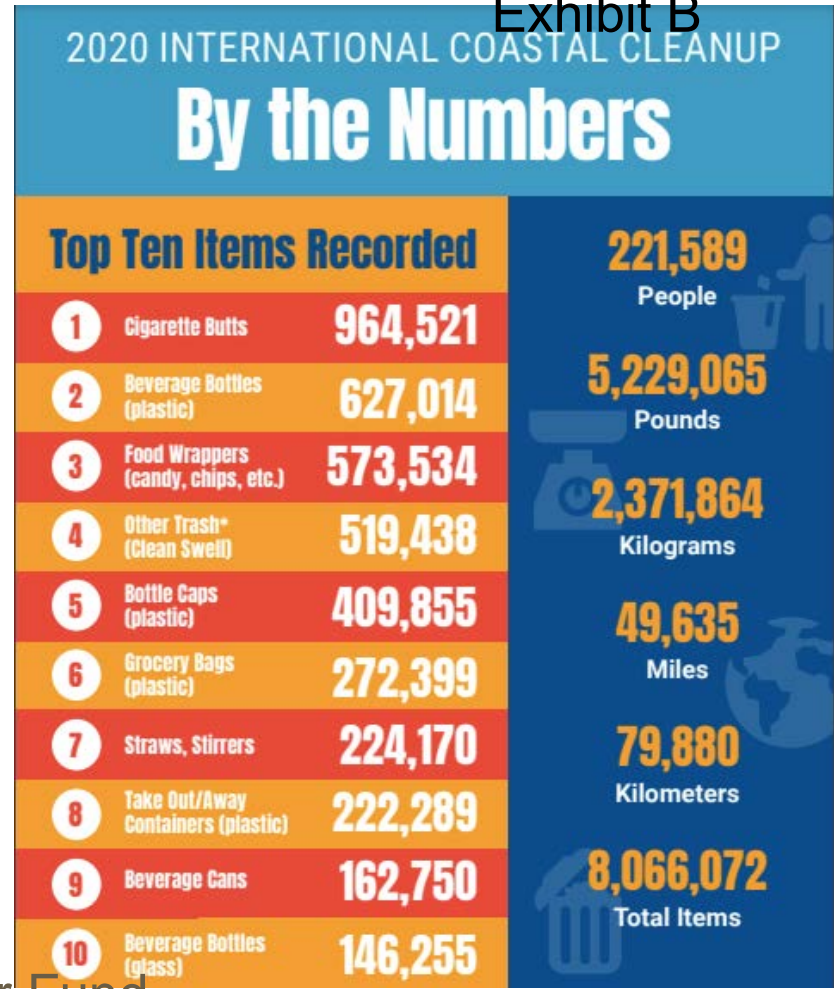


67%

of Bay Area street litter bound for local and coastal waterways is **disposable food & beverage packaging***

75%

of top 10 littered items collected in Coastal Cleanup are **food and beverage packaging**



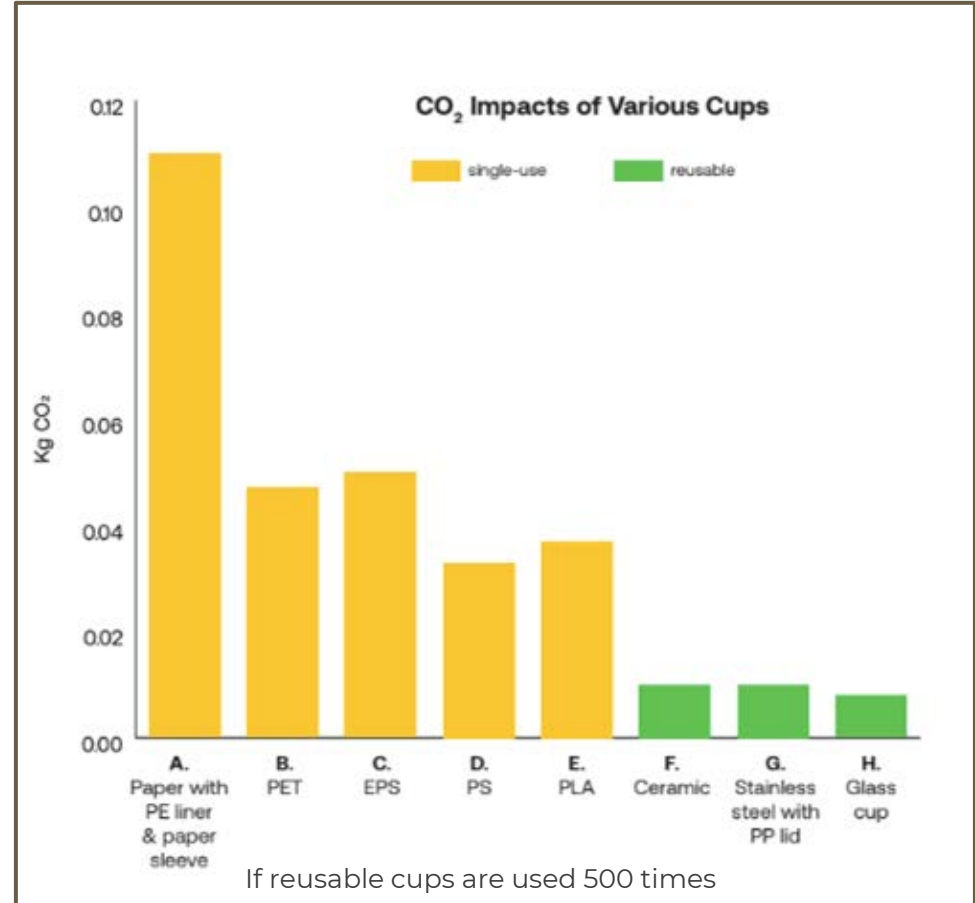
*2011 SF Bay regional study - Clean Water Fund

Reuse is a Climate Solution

Disposable paper, plastic, and bioplastic cups result in **3-10 x higher CO2 emissions**

emissions

than reusable ceramic, stainless steel and glass cups over a lifetime of 500 uses.



Restaurants that switch to reuse reduce waste and save money

- **\$3,000-\$22,000** in annual net cost savings
- Average of **110,000** disposable packaging items eliminated every year
- Average of **1,300** pounds of waste reduced each year
- See an overall **60% reduction** of packaging items*

*Data from ReThink Disposable, Clean Water Fund



Combined Policies - cost savings

	Accessories Upon Request ONLY		Dine-In Reusables Policy ONLY		Policies COMBINED	
Restaurant Sector	Restaurant Cost Savings	Restaurant Sector Cost Savings	Restaurant Cost Savings	Restaurant Sector Cost Savings	Restaurant Cost Savings	Restaurant Sector Cost Savings
Café/Bakery/Snack	\$7,487	\$658,812	\$4,319	\$380,028	\$11,805	\$1,038,840
Fast Casual	\$626	\$62,608	\$4,687	\$468,650	\$5,313	\$531,258
Fast Food	\$6,143	\$1,050,516	\$4,701	\$803,895	\$10,845	\$1,854,410
Full Service	\$949	\$350,982	n/a	n/a	\$949	\$350,982
All Restaurants	\$2,912	\$2,122,917	\$4,603	\$1,652,573	\$7,515	\$3,775,490

Reusable Foodware Policies Enacted since Berkeley 2019

27 California cities & counties:

Arcata, Berkeley, Culver City, Cupertino, Daly City, Fairfax, Goleta, Half Moon Bay, Larkspur, Mill Valley, Novato, Sausalito, San Rafael, Tiburon, Los Angeles County, Marin County, Pacifica, Palm Springs, Ross, San Anselmo, San Rafael, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Watsonville, Santa Cruz City and County, Truckee

Outside California cities:

Quezon City, Philippines
Bainbridge and Bellingham, WA,
Edmonton and Banff, Canada

Countries:

Chile, France, Taiwan, the Netherlands

Policies in Oakland's Ordinance

- Reusable Food Service Ware Required for Dining on Premises.
- Customer-Provided Reusable Beverage Cups and Food Containers for Take-Out.
- Accessories Only Upon Customer Request.
- Reusable Beverage Cups at City Facilities, Large Venues, and Events.
- City Purchase, Sale, or Distribution of Packaged Water Prohibited.
- Accessible Water Bottle Refill Stations.
- Compliant Disposable Food Service Ware for Food Service.
- Distribution of Non-Compliant Food Service Ware Prohibited.
- Polystyrene Foam.

Accessibility Concerns

Who is exempted as a “Prepared Food Vendor” under this ordinance?

- hospitals, public agencies other than the City, public and private schools, senior centers, prisons and jails are exempt.

Reuse for onsite dining:

- Condiments shall be served in reusable containers or bulk dispensers.
- Restaurants can carry disposable condiments and straws to be used if necessary

Accessibility Concerns cont'd.

Accessories Only Upon Request

- Condiments shall be served from bulk dispensers for containers.
- Restaurants can carry disposable condiments and straws to be used if necessary

Accessible Water Bottle Refill Stations

- City Attorney's office recommended against requiring this.
- We ask that the city administration to convert any non-accessible refill station to an accessible one by 2026.
- We ask that city facilities in Oakland have 1 accessible refill station per 500 visitors