



Town of Melbourne Beach

PRESS RELEASE**PRESS RELEASE****PRESS RELEASE**

Date: October 18, 2018
Subject: Melbourne Beach Town Commission prohibits use of Single Use Plastics and Styrofoam in all Town facilities and parks.

At the Melbourne Beach Town Commission Meeting on October 17, 2018, the Commission passed regulations that prohibit the use of single use plastic items and expanded polystyrene (Styrofoam) in Town facilities, Town parks, and Town property. This prohibition affects visitors to Town facilities, vendors, and subcontractors.

The Town has long supported efforts to keep the Indian River and our environment clean for current and future residents. In support of those efforts, the Melbourne Beach Town Commission has taken action to specifically prohibit the following items:

- Plastic - All single-use/disposable plastic containers, bowls, plates, trays, cups, lids, straws, stirrers, serving utensils, eating utensils (knives, forks, spoons), etc.
- Expanded polystyrene (aka "Styrofoam") - trays, clam shell containers, egg cartons, meat trays, plates, bowls, cups, containers, lids, trays, coolers, ice chests, etc.
- Permitted, but discouraged - Single-use plastic bags

On Founder's Day last year, the Town started with voluntary restrictions placed on the now prohibited items. Effective immediately, all activities that take place on Town property including facility rentals and public parks, will be covered by these regulations. The Town will also work to educate the public on how to reduce the use of the prohibited items in their own homes, outline the benefits of utilizing reusable items and explain how waste can be converted into reusable objects. The Town is one of the first municipalities in the state that has authorized a recycling program for food waste which is collected weekly and recycled into compost.

The Town would like to thank Surfrider Foundation, Keep Brevard Beautiful, Brevard Zoo and the City of Satellite Beach for their support in developing these policies.

Authorized by: ; Town Manager
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