New Requirements - Starting January 2019

Sugar-Sweetened Beverages and Children’s meals

Background: In an effort to protect children in California and reduce health risks associated with sugar consumption, SB 1192 was passed which prohibits sugar-sweetened beverages from being the default beverage in a “children’s meal”. This law is effective starting January 1, 2019.

What this means: If a food facility offers any type of “Children’s Meal” or “Kids Menu” that includes a beverage, the default beverage must be one of the following:

- Water, Sparkling Water, Flavored Water (with no added natural or artificial sweeteners)
- Unflavored Milk
- A nondairy milk alternative that contains no more than 130 calories per serving.

When a children’s meal is ordered, the beverage provided must be one of the above listed options unless otherwise requested by the customer.

Menus and Advertising

The beverage listed or displayed on a restaurant menu or advertisement for a children’s meal shall be one of the default beverages listed above.

Customer Request: Upon customer request, a food facility may serve any beverage as a substitute for a kid’s meal default beverage.
Plastic Straw Ban at Full Service Restaurants

Background: In an effort to reduce the amount of waste generated by single-use plastics, AB 1884 was passed that restricts full-service restaurants from providing single-use plastic straws unless requested by a customer. This law is effective starting January 1, 2019.

Who this applies to:
The plastic straw ban only applies to “Full Service Restaurants”. A full service restaurant is defined as a food facility at which all the following apply:
- The consumer is escorted or assigned to an eating area
- Food and beverage orders are taken after the consumer has been seated
- Food and beverages are delivered directly to the consumer
- The check is delivered directly to the consumer in the dining area

This plastic straw ban does not apply to:
- “to-go” orders
- Restaurants where food or beverages are ordered at a counter
- Restaurants where customers seat themselves
- Counter service coffee/tea shops
- Buffet restaurants

Customer Request:
A plastic straw can be provided whenever requested by a customer.

Plastic Straw Alternatives: If a full service restaurant wishes to provide straws without waiting for a customer request, they may provide straws made from non-plastic materials such as paper, pasta, sugar cane, wood or bamboo. Re-useable metal straws are also allowed as long as they meet the requirements for utensils (CalCode Section 114130).

Can a facility that is not a full service restaurant stop providing straws?
Yes. Any food facility owner can elect to stop providing straws, however, straws are often helpful to people with disabilities and keeping straws available upon request is highly recommended.

Questions: If you have questions about the plastic straw ban for full service restaurants, please contact San Joaquin County Environmental Health Department at (209) 468-3420.