

Case for banning single use plastic and polystyrene. (CM2)

(Single use plastic straws and polystyrene.)

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To be presented to the New Port Richey City Council

Supported by the New Port Richey Environmental Committee

It is the duty of the New Port Richey City Council to

- ban single use plastic straws within city limits.
- ban single use polystyrene products within city limits.
- commit to these bans by 2020.

Facts

-260 million tons of plastic ends up in the ocean every year, and will increase tenfold by 2050.

[Greenpeace](#)

-Americans throw away 25,000,000,000 Styrofoam coffee cups every year.

[University of Southern Indiana / Recycling Revolution](#)

-On average, it costs \$30 per ton to recycle trash, \$50 to send it to the landfill, and \$65 to \$75 to incinerate it.

[University of Southern Indiana / Recycling Revolution](#)

-It takes up to 200 years for a plastic straw to break up, and they can't be recycled in most places.

[GetGreenNow / OneLessStraw](#)

Solutions

-Metal, paper, or bamboo straws are currently the best bet to reduce plastic pollution.

-While plastic straws are a favorite in terms of economic options, paper straws are biodegradable and would slowly decrease in price as more restaurants and businesses purchase them.

-Styrofoam containers could be replaced by other materials like thick paper or cardboard.

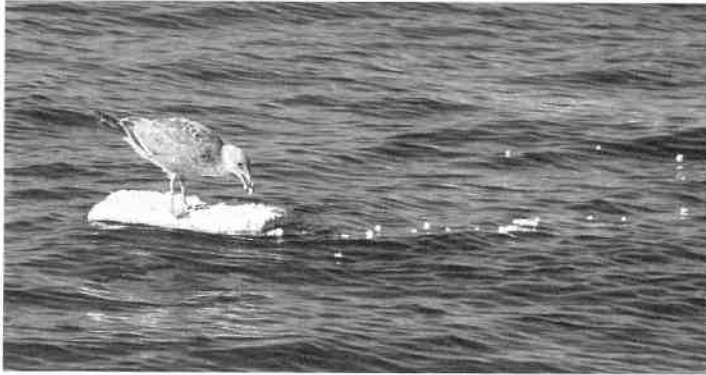
Let's follow in the footsteps of Pinellas county and ban single use plastic straws and styrofoam / polystyrene by 2020.



An image of a shorebird with plastic materials inside its stomach shows our plastic crisis. (Image: EcoWatch)



Plastic waste blocks the Vacha Dam near a Bulgarian town. (Image: Huffington Post)



A bird pecks at polystyrene waste. Plastic waste never biodegrades and creates microplastics which are toxic to all sealife. (Image: Pacifica Beach Coalition)



This turtle had a plastic straw stuck in its nose. A team of people was required to hold the turtle down to remove the straw. (Image: Sea Turtle Biologist)



This is only a piece of the straw that was removed from the turtle's nose. (Image: Sea Turtle Biologist)