



## TOWN OF WELLESLEY

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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WELLESLEY, MA 02481

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Dear Food Establishment,

On April 14th, 2025, the Wellesley Town Meeting approved a Board of Health bylaw known as "Skip The Stuff". The purpose of "Skip The Stuff" is to reduce the waste created by single-use articles such as plastic utensils and single-serving packaged condiments. **This bylaw is effective January 1, 2026**, requiring all Food Service Establishments (FSEs) to only provide single-use articles upon customer request or at a self-service counter. This bylaw is intended to 1) reduce the amount of waste generated by single-use articles, 2) change customer habits, and 3) help reduce unnecessary costs to FSEs.

What does this mean for you?

- Provide single-use service articles (including condiments) only upon request.
- Inform customers when they order (whether online, over the phone, or in-person) that you can only provide single-use articles upon request or at a self-service counter.
- Single-use articles may not be bundled (ex: fork, spoon, knife, napkin, salt & pepper in one package).
- Place signage in the establishment and/or at the point of order informing customers that single-use items will only be provided upon request. This includes online ordering platforms.
- Beginning January 1st, failure to comply will result in the following: first-third offenses will result in a written warning; the fourth offense will result in a \$50 fine; and the fifth and subsequent offenses will result in a \$100 fine.
- Any FSE may seek a limited delay in implementation of this bylaw by filing a request in writing with the Director of Public Health. Please send written letters of request to the Director of Public Health, Leonard Izzo, at the following address: Wellesley Health Department, 90 Washington St., Wellesley MA 02481. Written letters of request can also be emailed as an attachment to [lizzo@wellesleyma.gov](mailto:lizzo@wellesleyma.gov). Letters must state reasons why this bylaw cannot be implemented by January 1, 2026.

Along with this letter, we have included materials for display.

**For more information, additional downloadable signage, and a copy of the "Skip The Stuff" bylaw, please scan the QR code or visit our website [www.wellesleyma.gov/link](http://www.wellesleyma.gov/link).**

