

PHASING OUT SINGLE USE PLASTICS

What not to be used?

As per amendment PWM Rules notified by MoEF&CC on August 2021 following Single use plastic items are restricted.

- Plastic and polystyrene [Thermocol] for decoration
- packing films around sweet boxes, invitation cards, and cigarette packets, earbuds with plastic sticks, plastic sticks for balloons, plastic flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks
- plates, cups, glasses, cutlery such as forks, spoons, knives, straw, trays, wrapping, stirrers
- plastic or PVC banners less than 100 micron,

In addition, the following items are prohibited under the Maharashtra Plastics and Thermocol Notification 2018.

- Compostable plastic (excluding waste and nursery bags)
- All types of plastic bags (carry bags) - with and without handles
- Dish, Bowl, Container

What is to be used?

- **Cotton bags:**

Natural cloth can replace plastic bags. Sustainable clothing made from organic cotton, wool, hemp, or bamboo won't shed plastic fibers when washed.



- **Bamboo:**

This fast-growing renewable resource can replace plastic in items like tableware and drinking straws. It is lightweight, durable, and compostable.



- **Wooden items:**

A renewable resource, wood from sustainably managed forests can replace plastic in household items like cleaning brushes, kitchen utensils, and cutting boards.

- **Pottery and Other Ceramics:**

Pottery and other fired ceramics offer a stable, waterproof alternative that's good for food storage and tableware. Look for non-toxic glazes.



Compostable Plastics:

“compostable plastics” mean plastic that undergoes degradation by biological processes during composting to yield CO₂, water, inorganic compounds and biomass at a rate consistent with other known compostable materials, excluding conventional petro-based plastics, and does not leave visible, distinguishable or toxic residue.

It is one of the alternatives of plastics. To encourage compostable plastics, CPCB has prepared a Standard operating procedure (SOP) for issuing of certificate to the manufacturers and seller of compostable plastics.

Applications of Compostable plastics in market:



However, under Maharashtra Plastic and Thermocol Notification 2018, compostable plastic are allowed to be used only for waste and nursery in the state of Maharashtra.

What if you don't?

Destroys Aesthetic beauty of the Nature.



Penalty on use and littering of SUP items :

- Spot fine on waste generators Rs.500/-
- Spot fine on institutional waste generators Rs.5000/-

- As per Maharashtra Plastic and Thermocol Notification 2018, following fine provision is applicable in case of non-compliance.

First Offence	Rs. 5,000/-
Second Offence	Rs. 10,000/-
Third Offence	Rs. 25,000/- & three months imprisonment

Who can impose the Fine?

- (1) The State Pollution Control Board and Pollution Control Committee can impose fine on defaulter producer of Single Use Plastic.
- (2) Local Bodies can impose fine on Retailer, Seller & User of Single Use Plastic.
- (3) Fines to be imposed in accordance with Guidelines for EC assessment prepared by CPCB.
- (4) Different Government authorities are empowered for implementation and to take necessary legal action as per Maharashtra Plastic and Thermocol Notification- Local bodies, District collectorate office, Zilha Parishad, MPCB, Health Department, Education Department, Tourism, Police, Sales Tax Dept and Forest Department

What we can do?

- Do not use SUP and Lead by Example
- Ask your friends and family to join you in this drive
- Speak to City Council regarding awareness of usesplastic.

