

Ban on Single-Use Plastics

SCORECARD

Australian State / Territory Policy Commitments

Plastics (single-use) banned as of 1 March 2024	ACT	NSW	NT	QLD	SA	TAS	VIC	WA
Balloon sticks/ties		2025 PROPOSED			2024			
Bread tags		2025 PROPOSED			2024			
Carry bags - lightweight	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Carry bags - heavyweight	✓	2025 PROPOSED	2025 PROPOSED	✓	2024			✓
Coffee cups (non-compostable)		Unclear			2024			✓
Confetti					2024			
Cotton bud sticks	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
Cold drink cups & lids		2025 PROPOSED			2024			✓
Cutlery	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓	✓		✓	✓
Drink stirrers	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓	✓		✓	✓
EPS food trays	✓	2025 PROPOSED			2024			✓
EPS loose fill packaging	✓	2025 PROPOSED	2025 PROPOSED	✓				✓
EPS moulded packaging (i.e. for electronics)			2025 PROPOSED					2025 PARTIAL BAN
Fruit & vegie produce bags (non-compostable)		2025 PROPOSED			2024			2024
Fruit & vegie stickers (non-compostable)		2025 PROPOSED			2025			
Helium balloon releases*		2025 PROPOSED	2025 PROPOSED	✓			✓	✓
Microbeads	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓				✓
Pizza savers		2025 PROPOSED			✓			
Plates & bowls	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓	✓		✓ PARTIAL BAN	
Polystyrene food & drink containers	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓	✓		✓	✓
Pre-packaged & attached items (straws, cutlery etc)		2025			2025		2026	
Soy sauce fish		2025 PROPOSED			2025			
Straws	✓	✓	2025 PROPOSED	✓	✓		✓	✓
Takeaway containers		2025 PROPOSED			2024			2024

KEY:  Banned  Ban yet to commence  Proposed (not confirmed)

EPS - Expanded Polystyrene

*Most anti-littering laws only consider balloons litter when they hit land or sea, making it difficult to enforce due to the long distances balloons travel. This scorecard recognises states that have legislated a ban on the act of releasing a balloon.

