Inspection Checklist:
Plastic Straws and Stirrers

Do you operate a food service establishment and offer customers single-use beverage straws, beverage stirrers, or beverage splash sticks?

Definition: A food service establishment includes, but is not limited to, full-service restaurants, fast food restaurants, cafés, delis, coffee shops, bars, nightclubs, grocery stores, food trucks or carts, cafeterias.

Definition: A beverage straw is a tube customers use to drink a beverage in a container.

Definition: A beverage stirrer is a device used to stir beverages.

Definition: A beverage splash stick is a device used to stop hot liquid from escaping a lidded cup.

Use this checklist to learn what our inspectors look for and help avoid violations. For your convenience, each Requirement includes the relevant section of law and/or rule, so you can refer to it for more information. The KEY below describes the legal citations and symbols used in this checklist.

KEY
NYC Code: NYC Administrative Code §: Section

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<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Do you meet this requirement?</th>
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| 1 | You may not give customers single-use beverage stirrers or splash sticks made of plastic.  
Exception: You may offer for retail sale plastic single-use beverage stirrers or splash sticks packaged in bulk by a manufacturer.  
NYC Code §16-410(b) | ☐ Yes |
| 2 | You may only give customers a plastic single-use beverage straw if they request one.  
Exception: You may give customers compostable plastic beverage straws without a request.  
NYC Code §16-410(c)(1) | ☐ Yes |
| 3 | If a customer requests a plastic single-use beverage straw, you must provide it free of charge.  
NYC Code §16-410(c)(2) | ☐ Yes |
| 4 | If you have a self-serve station, you must display a sign that states: “Plastic straws available upon request.”  
Tip: The sign must be at least 2 inches by 7 inches in size.  
Tip: A self-serve station is a designated area or mechanical dispenser in a food service establishment where customers may help themselves to eating or drinking utensils, such as napkins, cups, knives, forks, straws, stirrers, or splash sticks.  
NYC Code §16-410(c)(3) | ☐ Yes |

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