



OPERATIONAL SERVICES DIVISION



Frequently Asked Questions

Eliminating the Purchase by the Executive Department of Single-Use Plastic Bottles

On September 21, 2023, Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey issued Executive Order No. 619 (EO No. 619): [Eliminating the Purchase by the Executive Departments of Single-Use Plastic Bottles](#). As used in EO No. 619, a “single-use plastic bottle” refers to a beverage in a sealed rigid plastic bottle having a capacity of 21 fluid ounces or less. Beverages include, but are not limited to, water, juice, milk, and soft drinks. Consequently, all Executive Departments shall stop purchasing single-use plastic bottles immediately.

Q. When is EO No. 619 effective?

A. EO No. 619 is effective Thursday, September 21, 2023.

Q. What contracts are impacted by EO No. 619?

- A. Two Statewide Contracts are impacted:
- » [GRO39](#): Drinking Water – General and Emergency Services
 - » [GRO41](#): Dairy Products and Baked Goods

Q. Are Statewide Contract Vendors aware of EO No. 619?

A. Statewide Contract Vendors impacted by EO No. 619 have been notified.

Q. Will alternate products be offered through Statewide Contracts?

A. We are working with our GRO39 and GRO41 vendors to determine if they are able to provide environmentally preferable packaging alternatives (i.e., paper cartons, aluminum cans, etc.) for beverages with a capacity of 21 fluid ounces or less. The GRO39 and GRO41 Contract User Guides and Vendors’ Price Sheets will be updated to reflect options that comply with the new EO No. 619 as information is shared by Contractors.

Q. Do municipalities need to comply with this Executive Order?

A. Massachusetts quasi-public authorities and boards, and local government organizations are not bound by EO No. 619, however, they are encouraged to adopt their own plans to eliminate their purchases and sales of single-use plastic bottles.

Q. I do not work for an Executive Department. Will I be able to continue to use OSD’s Statewide Contracts to order beverages in single use plastic bottles that are mentioned in the Executive Order?

A. Yes. You may continue to purchase single use plastic bottles since Massachusetts quasi-public authorities and boards, and local government organizations, are not bound by this EO No. 619. However, they are encouraged to adopt their own plans to eliminate their purchases and sales of single-use plastic bottles.

September 21, 2023