

Geneva set to ban single-use plastics

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The Swiss city of Geneva is ramping up efforts to protect the environment with a planned ban of single-use plastics at businesses and events on public land.

The ban will cover plastic straws, cutlery, crockery and cups as well as any other items made of single-use plastic.

It will affect locations such as food stalls, food trucks, ice cream stands and other outdoor venues on public land. Single-use plastics will also be banned at events held on public land in the city.

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Businesses that fail to comply with the ban will be fined, or could even see their licence revoked, Geneva city councillor Guillaume Barazzone told the [Tribune de Genève](#) newspaper.

The ban is set to come into force from January 1st 2020. It will see Geneva following the European Union's lead. The EU is planning to ban single-use plastics from 2021.

In March, the canton of Geneva announced a ban on the handing out of free plastic bags in shops – partly in a bid to stop the tide of plastic ending up in Lake Geneva.

The Swiss government last year said it would not draw up a law banning single-use plastics. It argued businesses would have to take the lead on the issue.