

# DITCHTHESTRAWPDX

PROGRAM



## *Rise Above Plastics Campaign* Portland Chapter

THE PORTLAND CHAPTER OF THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION'S DITCHTHESTRAWPDX PROGRAM AIMS TO EDUCATE, RAISE AWARENESS AND REDUCE SINGLE-USE DISPOSABLE PLASTIC STRAWS. WE SUPPORT RESTAURANTS AND BUSINESSES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO PILOT STRAW UPON REQUEST POLICIES, REDUCE PLASTIC TO-GO WARE, AND IMPLEMENT DURABLE PLASTIC-FREE SOLUTIONS.

### EVERY DAY ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF PLASTIC STRAWS

**500  
MILLION**

PLASTIC STRAWS ARE  
DISCARDED IN THE  
UNITED STATES

- Plastic straws often end up as litter and are designed to last forever.
- Straws were among the Top 10 items picked up by Surfrider volunteers at our chapter's Green Streets stewardship events and on Oregon's beaches.
- Single-use plastics do not biodegrade, and end up harming our environment, over 250 wildlife species, and ultimately people.

## HELP BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

### Our Ask

Join the movement to reduce plastic straw pollution by piloting a month-long straw upon request only policy. Eliminate plastic straws by only providing paper straws when requested and share your impact with us!

**Want to make a bigger environmental impact?  
Ask us about the Surfrider Foundation's Ocean  
Friendly Restaurant membership program.**



BUSINESSES ONLY OFFERING STRAWS UPON REQUEST  
HAVE SHOWN TO **REDUCE STRAW CONSUMPTION BY 40%**,  
LEADING TO COST SAVINGS FOR RESTAURANTS AS WELL  
AS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

## S U C C E S S S T O R I E S



**SURFRIDER PORTLAND HAS PREVENTED  
~10,000 PLASTICS STRAWS FROM  
BEING USED IN 3 MONTHS**

**WIDMER BROTHERS BREWING SPIRIT OF 77 BAR**

### WHAT YOU GET

- 600 Surfrider branded Aardvark paper straws (while supplies last)
- Social media promotion
- Optional staff educational presentation
- Promotional materials: bill inserts and/or table tents, plus DitchTheStraw Buttons for staff
- **Save money** for your business & lower your environmental impact

### WHAT WE EXPECT

- Keep straw statistics during the pilot month
  - Host a Launch Party on location
  - Participate in month-long #DitchTheStrawPDX pilot
  - Purchase of biodegradable straws post-one month pilot
- \*Access to special Surfrider discount code for Aardvark papers straws available after pilot ends*



THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP REDUCING  
MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION BY  
PARTICIPATING IN OUR  
STRAW UPON REQUEST POLICY.

### WHY DITCH THE PLASTIC STRAW?

1. Over **500 million** disposable straws are used and **discarded each day** in the US.
2. Plastic straws are among the **top 10 items found** in Surfrider cleanup events.
3. Marine **plastic** pollution **impacts** at least **267 species worldwide** on land and sea.

PLEDGE TO SPREAD THE WORD AND ADD  
"NO STRAW" TO YOUR NEXT DRINK ORDER!



The Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network. Learn more at: [portland.surfrider.org](http://portland.surfrider.org)

TAKE THE PLEDGE |  @SURFRIDERPORTLAND #DITCHTHESTRAWPDX

You could be our next success story!  
Contact [ditchthestrw@portland.surfrider.org](mailto:ditchthestrw@portland.surfrider.org) for  
more info on how to get involved.



Portland Chapter