

Translation from Finnish

Legally binding only in Finnish and Swedish

Ministry of the Environment, Finland

Government Decree on Certain Plastic Products

(1318/2022; amendments up to 513/2026 included)

By decision of the Government, the following is enacted under the Waste Act (646/2011):

Section 1 (513/2026)

Scope of application

This Decree lays down provisions on requirements concerning certain plastic products supplementing the Waste Act (646/2011) necessary for the implementation of Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment, as well as requirements concerning nicotine pouches supplementing the Waste Act.

Section 2

Prohibitions concerning placing products on the market

The following products shall not be placed on the Finnish market:

- 1) products containing oxo-degradable plastic, that is, plastic materials that include additives which, through oxidation, lead to the fragmentation of the plastic material into micro-fragments or to chemical decomposition;
- 2) single-use plastic products referred to in Annex 1.

Section 3

Product marking requirements

The packaging of a single-use plastic product referred to in Annex 2, paragraphs 1–3 and a single-use plastic product referred to in paragraph 4 of the said Annex shall, when placed on the Finnish market, bear a conspicuous, indelible and clearly legible marking containing the following information:

- 1) the presence of plastics in the product;

- 2) means of waste disposal to be avoided for the product;
- 3) the resulting negative impacts of littering or other inappropriate means of waste disposal of the product on the environment.

The information referred to in subsection 1 above shall be reproduced in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/2151 laying down rules on harmonised marking specifications on single-use plastic products listed in Part D of the Annex to Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment.

Provisions on the parties responsible for implementing the marking requirements laid down in this section are laid down in section 9 of the Waste Act.

The marking requirements laid down in this section do not apply to packaging with a surface area of less than 10 cm².

Section 4

Organising collection receptacles for tobacco products

The municipality shall organise collection receptacles for products referred to in Annex 3, paragraph 1 in such a way that:

- 1) from 1 January 2024, there will be one collection receptacle per 900 residents;
- 2) from 1 January 2025, there will be one collection receptacle per 600 residents;
- 3) from 1 January 2026, there will be one collection receptacle per 300 residents.

The collection receptacles shall be placed in the areas referred to in section 48c of the Waste Act in such a way that they are easily and visibly accessible.

Section 5

Obligation to provide information relating to certain products

The producer or importer of sanitary towels (pads), tampons and tampon applicators shall provide consumers with information on the littering caused by the products and on the impacts of inappropriate waste management of the products on the environment and the sewer network, as well as on the availability of re-usable alternatives.

Section 6

Self-monitoring

Audits to support self-monitoring referred to in section 53a of the Waste Act of a producer of products referred to in Annex 3 shall be conducted by an auditor who is an impartial third party independent of the producer, producer responsibility organisation and its owners. The auditor shall have the necessary knowledge, skills and other qualifications for the performance of the task. Audits may be conducted in multiple parts, taking account of the special expertise of the auditor, or included in another equivalent external audit of the activities of the producer responsibility organisation. If the producer has a certified management system, the audit may be incorporated into that system.

Section 7

Notification of monitoring data

By the end of June of each year, a producer of or, acting on behalf of the producers belonging to it, a producer responsibility organisation for products referred to in Annex 3 shall in the summary based on the record data referred to in section 54, subsection 2 of the Waste Act notify the Finnish Supervisory Agency of the following information on its activities during the previous year: (1306/2025)

- 1) the quantity of products placed on the market in Finland in tonnes and in number of pieces;
- 2) a report on the provision of information and advice referred to in section 51, subsection 1 of the Waste Act carried out by it;
- 3) information on the measures and audits required by the self-monitoring plan.

Section 8

Compilation of data for monitoring and supervision

In order to monitor and supervise compliance with the obligations laid down in this Decree, the Finnish Supervisory Agency shall annually check and compile the monitoring data referred to in section 7. (1306/2025)

The Finnish Supervisory Agency shall annually report to the European Commission the data on products referred to in Annex 3, paragraph 1 that have been collected and cleaned up.

The data shall be reported within 18 months from the end of the calendar year in respect of which it has been compiled. (1306/2025)

The data shall be reported in the format required by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/2267 laying down the format for reporting data and information on the collected post-consumption waste of tobacco products with filters and of filters marketed for use in combination with tobacco products.

Section 9

Obligation of an authorised representative to provide information

An authorised representative authorised by an operator established in another country that supplies products referred to in Annex 3 to the Finnish market by means other than distance selling directly to end users shall, without delay, provide information about the authorisation it has received and its acceptance into a producer register or its joining a producer responsibility organisation, as well as about any amendment or cancellation of the authorisation or acceptance to a producer that in the absence of the authorisation received would be responsible for the producer responsibility obligations for those products. If the above-mentioned producer on whose behalf the authorised representative carries out the producer responsibility obligations for the products concerned is a member of a producer responsibility organisation, the authorised representative shall, in addition, inform the producer responsibility organisation without delay of its authorisation and the date of the authorisation.

The provision of information referred to in subsection 1 above shall contain information on the provider of the authorisation and on the type, nature and quantity of the products placed on the market, and state how compliance with producer responsibility obligations has been organised. The producer responsibility organisation shall, in addition, be informed of who in the absence of the authorisation received would have been responsible for the producer responsibility obligations in respect of the said products.

Section 10

Application of a producer for acceptance into the producer register

The application for acceptance into the producer register referred to in section 101, subsection 1 of the Waste Act submitted by a producer of products referred to in Annex 3 shall contain:

- 1) the name and contact details of the producer and the contact person;
- 2) the business identity code and European or national tax number of the producer;
- 3) information on the products placed on the market by the producer broken down in accordance with Annex 3 and an estimate of the quantity of the products in tonnes and in number of pieces per year;
- 4) a plan on the implementation of the obligation to provide information and advice referred to in section 51 of the Waste Act;
- 5) a list of the Member States to which the producer sells the products concerned by distance selling directly to users and the name of the authorised representative in those Member States;
- 6) the self-monitoring plan;
- 7) a declaration stating that the information provided is true;
- 8) the date on which the application was made.

In addition to the information referred to in subsection 1, the application of an authorised representative shall contain information on the provider of the authorisation and on the producers who would otherwise be responsible for the producer responsibility obligations in respect of the products to which the authorisation applies. In addition, the application shall contain a declaration stating that the authorised representative was appointed under a written authorisation in accordance with the provisions of section 66b, subsection 1 of the Waste Act.

Section 11

Application of a producer responsibility organisation for acceptance into the producer register

The application of a producer responsibility organisation for acceptance into the producer register in respect of products referred to in Annex 3 shall contain:

- 1) information on the producer responsibility organisation and its activities equivalent to section 10, subsection 1, paragraphs 1, 2, 4 and 6–8 and subsection 2;

- 2) information on the products placed on the market by the producers belonging to the producer responsibility organisation broken down in accordance with Annex 3 and an estimate of the quantity of the products in tonnes and in number of pieces per year;
- 3) the name, business identity code and sector of activity of each founder of the producer responsibility organisation and the date on which they joined the producer responsibility organisation;
- 4) the names and business identity codes of the producers and authorised representatives belonging to the producer responsibility organisation and the dates on which they joined the producer responsibility organisation as well as information on the provider of the authorisation and the producers that in the absence of the authorisation would be responsible for producer responsibility obligations in respect of the products which the authorisation concerns;
- 5) an account of the division of obligations between the producers and of how new producers can agree on the carrying out of producer responsibility with the producer responsibility organisation;
- 6) a list of the Member States to which the producer that has joined the producer responsibility organisation sells the products concerned by distance selling directly to users and the name of the authorised representative in those Member States;
- 7) a report on the sufficient financial arrangements of the producer responsibility organisation for the appropriate organisation of its activities, including the adopted financial statement for the most recent financial period and the budget for the current financial period.

Section 12

Notification of changes in activities

A producer of products or a producer responsibility organisation for products referred to in Annex 3 shall submit the notification referred to in section 106 of the Waste Act concerning substantial changes in activities and changes of members of the producer responsibility organisation within one month of any change.

Provisions on when the report on sufficient financial arrangements and the securing of activities and the action plan if the activities of the producer responsibility organisation substantially change shall be submitted are laid down in section 64 of the Waste Act.

Section 13

Market surveillance

The market surveillance authority referred to in section 24a of the Waste Act supervises compliance with sections 2 and 3 of this Decree.

Provisions on market surveillance are laid down in Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 of the European Parliament and of the Council on market surveillance and compliance of products and amending Directive 2004/42/EC and Regulations (EC) No 765/2008 and (EU) No 305/2011 and in the Act on the Market Surveillance of Certain Products (1137/2016).

Section 14

Entry into force

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2023.

This Decree repeals the Government Decree on Certain Plastic Products (771/2021).

Section 5 of the Decree, however, applies only from 1 January 2025. Sections 6, 7 and 9 of the Decree apply to producers of products referred to in Annex 3, paragraphs 2 and 3 only from 1 January 2025.

Annex 1 (513/2026)

Single-use plastic products covered by prohibitions of placing on the market

- 1) cotton bud sticks, except if they fall within the scope of Council Directive 90/385/EEC on the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to active implantable medical devices or Council Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices;
- 2) cutlery (forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks);
- 3) plates;

- 4) straws, except if they fall within the scope of Council Directive 90/385/EEC on the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to active implantable medical devices or Council Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices;
- 5) beverage stirrers;
- 6) sticks to be attached to and to support balloons, except balloons for industrial or other professional uses and applications that are not distributed to consumers, including the mechanisms of such sticks;
- 7) food containers made of expanded polystyrene, that is, receptacles such as boxes, with or without a cover, used to contain food which:
 - a) is intended for immediate consumption, either on-the-spot or take-away;
 - b) is typically consumed from the receptacle; and
 - c) is ready to be consumed without any further preparation, such as cooking, boiling or heating;
- 8) beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene, including their caps and lids;
- 9) cups for beverages made of expanded polystyrene, including their caps and lids;
- 10) collation films (shrink wrap) used in airports or railway stations to protect suitcases and bags during transport;
- 11) chips of polystyrene and other plastics used to protect packed goods during transport and handling; and
- 12) multi-pack plastic rings used as grouped packaging as defined in Article 3(1), point 6 of Regulation (EU) 2025/40 of the European Parliament and of the Council on packaging and packaging waste, amending Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 and Directive (EU) 2019/904, and repealing Directive 94/62/EC.

Beverage containers and packages referred to in paragraph 2 of the Annex to the Waste Act are not considered as food containers referred to in paragraph 7 above.

Annex 1 amended by Decree 513/2026 enters into force on 12 February 2029. Previous wording:

Annex 1

Single-use plastic products covered by prohibitions of placing on the market

- 1) cotton bud sticks, except if they fall within the scope of Council Directive 90/385/EEC on the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to active implantable medical devices or Council Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices;
- 2) cutlery (forks, knives, spoons, chopsticks);
- 3) plates;
- 4) straws, except if they fall within the scope of Council Directive 90/385/EEC on the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to active implantable medical devices or Council Directive 93/42/EEC concerning medical devices;
- 5) beverage stirrers;
- 6) sticks to be attached to and to support balloons, except balloons for industrial or other professional uses and applications that are not distributed to consumers, including the mechanisms of such sticks;
- 7) food containers made of expanded polystyrene, that is, receptacles such as boxes, with or without a cover, used to contain food which:
 - a) is intended for immediate consumption, either on-the-spot or take-away;
 - b) is typically consumed from the receptacle; and
 - c) is ready to be consumed without any further preparation, such as cooking, boiling or heating;
- 8) beverage containers made of expanded polystyrene, including their caps and lids;
- 9) cups for beverages made of expanded polystyrene, including their covers and lids.

Beverage containers and packages referred to in paragraph 2 of the Annex to the Waste Act are not considered as food containers referred to in paragraph 7 above.

Annex 2

Single-use plastic products covered by marking requirements

- 1) sanitary towels (pads), tampons and tampon applicators;
- 2) wet wipes intended for personal care and consumer use;
- 3) tobacco products with filters and tobacco filters;
- 4) cups for beverages.

Annex 3 (513/2026)

Single-use plastic products covered by sections 6 and 7 and 9–12 of the Decree

- 1) tobacco products with filters and tobacco filters included in single use plastics products;
- 2) wet wipes intended for personal care and consumer use included in single-use plastic products;
- 3) balloons intended for consumer use included in single-use plastic products;
- 4) nicotine pouches.

Entry into force and application of the amending statutes

1306/2025:

This Decree enters into force on 1 January 2026.

513/2026:

This Decree enters into force on 22 June 2026. However, Annex 1 enters into force on 12 February 2029.

Products listed in Annex 3, paragraph 4 will be covered by sections 6 and 7 of the Decree amended by this Decree from 1 January 2027.