

**DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND CONSERVATION**

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REPUBLIC OF VANUATU



**BUREAU DE LA PROTECTION DE  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DE LA  
CONSERVATION**

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Port Vila  
REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU

**DIPATMEN BLONG ENVAEROMEN PROTEKSEN MO KONSEVESEN**

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**PRESS RELEASE**

**REMINDER: WASTE MANAGEMENT ORDERS COMMENCING 1 JULY 2018**

The Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation would like to remind the general public about the waste management orders that will commence on 1 July 2018.

**Ban on single use plastic shopping bags, polystyrene takeaway boxes and plastic straws**

Following the Honourable Prime Minister's announcements in July 2017, the Vanuatu Government has made a commitment to ban single use plastic shopping bags, polystyrene takeaway boxes and plastic straws from 1 July 2018.

From 1 July 2018 it will be an offence to:

- Manufacture, sell, give or otherwise provide single use plastic shopping bags to other people. The only exemption is where plastic bags are used to contain, wrap or carry meat or fish. Stores will still be able to sell meat or fish in plastic bags.
- Manufacture, sell, give or otherwise provide polystyrene takeaway boxes to other people.
- Manufacture, sell, give or otherwise provide plastic straws to other people. This does not include straws that are an integral part of the packaging. For example, a straw attached to milk or juice 'popper' boxes.

There is more information about the ban available on the Department's website [www.environment.gov.vu](http://www.environment.gov.vu) or [www.depc.gov.vu](http://www.depc.gov.vu).

**Licensing of private waste operators**

1 July 2018 will also see the commencement of a licensing regime for private waste operators.

From 1 July 2018, persons carrying out the following waste operations and services will require a licence:

- Operating a landfill
- Operating a controlled waste dump
- Operating a waste transfer station that has the capacity to store more than 5 litres of liquid waste or more than 1 tonne of solid waste
- Operating a recycling centre
- Operating a waste treatment plant
- Operating a composting plant that has the capacity to process 5 tonnes or more a day
- Operating a waste incinerator
- Providing a waste collection and transport service.

I would like to thank all the operators who have submitted an application for a private waste operator's licence. For those yet to do so, the forms are available at the Department's office at Nambatu and may also be downloaded from the Department's website [www.environment.gov.vu](http://www.environment.gov.vu) or [www.depc.gov.vu](http://www.depc.gov.vu).

From 1 July 2018, it will be an offence to carry out one of these waste operations or services without a licence.

### **More information**

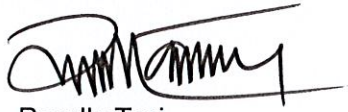
For more information about these initiatives, please contact the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation:

Port Vila: Ministry of Climate Change Adaptation, Meteorology & Geo-Hazards, Environment, Energy and Disaster Management compound, Nambatu

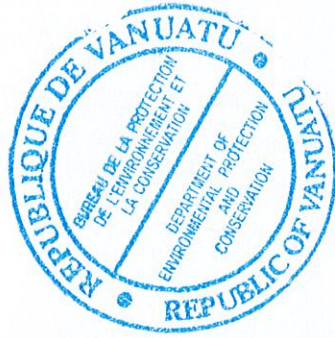
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