



Enforcing the Plastic Waste Law: Morris County's Approach

Morris County Division of Public Health
Stephanie Gorman, Assistant Health Officer



Morris County Division of Public Health

Pursuant to the authority delegated by the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, under the County Environmental Health Act, (N.J.S.A. 26:3A2-21 et seq.), the Morris County Division of Public Health (MCDPH) enforces the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Act (N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1 et seq.) and Regulations (N.J.A.C. 7:26-1 and 7:26A-1 et seq.).





P.L. 2020, c. 117

Plastic Waste Law: Inspections

From May 4, 2022 to June 30, 2022 – Inspect at least 25 Food Service Businesses and 25 Grocery Stores for compliance with plastic, paper and polystyrene bans.

- “Food service business” means a business that sells or provides food for consumption on or off the premises, and includes, but is not limited to, any restaurant, café, delicatessen, coffee shop, convenience store, grocery store, vending truck or cart, food truck, movie theater, or business or institutional cafeteria, including those operated by or on behalf of any governmental entity.
- “Grocery store” means a self-service retail establishment that occupies at least 2,500 square feet and that sells household foodstuffs for off-site consumption, including, but not limited to, fresh produce, meat, poultry, fish, deli products, dairy products, canned foods, dry foods, beverages, baked foods, or prepared foods. “Grocery store” shall not include an establishment that handles only prepackaged food that does not require time or temperature controls for food safety.

P.L. 2020, c. 117

Plastic Waste Law: Inspections

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|------------------------|---|--|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| COUNTY OF MORRIS DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH P.O. Box 900, Morristown, NJ 07963 P: (973) 631-5484 F: (973) 631-5490 Health Officer: Carlos Perez, Jr., Ph.D. | | | SINGLE USE PLASTIC/PAPER BAG, POLYSTYRENE FOOD CONTAINERS & PLASTIC STRAWS CHECKLIST | | | | | |
| | | | | | OHM# | | | |
| | | Inspection Date | Inspection Time | | | | | |
| Name of Business | | | | | | | | |
| Business Street Address | | | | Block and Lot | | | | |
| Business City, State Zip Code | | | | | | | | |
| Business Phone Number | | Business Email Address | | Business Phone Number | | | | |
| Person Interviewed | | | | Title | | | | |
| | | | | | IC | OC | N/A | |
| PLASTIC/PAPER BAGS (Effective 5/4/2022) | | | | | | | | |
| Is the business providing single-use plastic bags or paper bags in a manner that does not meet one of the defined exempt categories? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is the business ignoring the state mandate in favor of a superseded municipal or county rule? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| POLYSTYRENE FOAM FOOD CONTAINERS (Effective 5/4/2022) | | | | | | | | |
| Is the business providing single-use polystyrene foam food service products that do not meet one of the defined exempt categories? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have they received written permission from the NJDEP to continue use through the approved time extension period? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is the business ignoring the state mandate in favor of a superseded municipal or county rule? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PLASTIC STRAWS (Effective 11/4/2021) | | | | | | | | |
| Is the business distributing single-use plastic straws without specific requests to provide them by the customer? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Is the business ignoring the state mandate in favor of a superseded municipal or county rule? | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Comments | | | | | | | | |
| INSPECTION RESULTS | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In Compliance | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Out of Compliance | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pictures attached to inspection report | | | | | | | | |
| Signature of Person Interviewed | | | | Title | | | | |
| Printed Name of Investigator | | | | Title | | | | |
| Investigator Signature | | | | Date | | | | |

P.L. 2020, c. 117 Plastic Waste Law: Complaints

- Report complaints through NJDEP:
 - Toll-free hotline 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337)
 - Mobile Application WARN NJDEP

For Environmental Non-Emergencies:

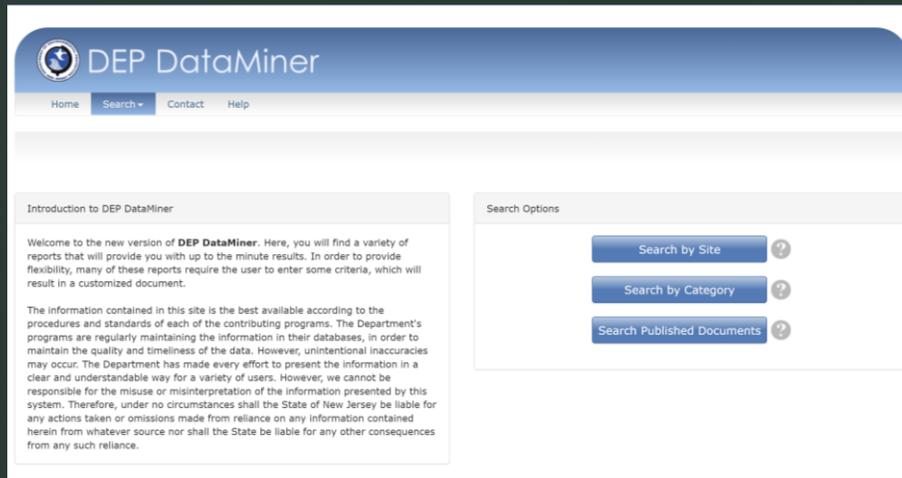
Try NJDEP's mobile application WARN NJDEP



The pilot app utilizes GPS technology for pinpoint location of environmental incidents and also allows users to submit photos as part of their reports to the DEP.

Use the pilot app to report non-emergency environmental incidents only. Report life-threatening and/or environmental emergencies by calling 9-1-1, local police or the DEP's hotline: 1-877-WARNDEP (1-877-927-6337).

P.L. 2020, c. 117 Plastic Waste Law: Complaints



The screenshot shows the DEP DataMiner homepage. At the top, there is a blue header with the DEP logo and the text "DEP DataMiner". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Home", "Search", "Contact", and "Help". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains an "Introduction to DEP DataMiner" section with a welcome message and a disclaimer. The right column contains a "Search Options" section with three buttons: "Search by Site", "Search by Category", and "Search Published Documents".

DEP DataMiner

Home Search Contact Help

Introduction to DEP DataMiner

Welcome to the new version of **DEP DataMiner**. Here, you will find a variety of reports that will provide you with up to the minute results. In order to provide flexibility, many of these reports require the user to enter some criteria, which will result in a customized document.

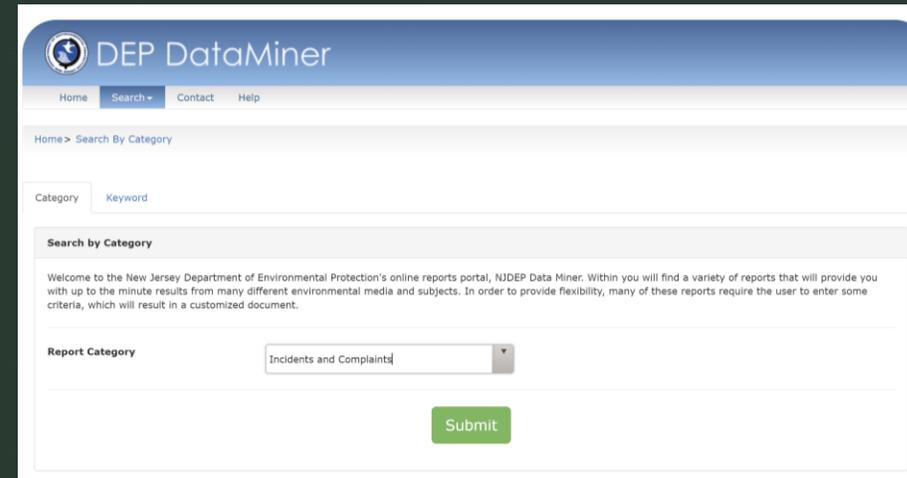
The information contained in this site is the best available according to the procedures and standards of each of the contributing programs. The Department's programs are regularly maintaining the information in their databases, in order to maintain the quality and timeliness of the data. However, unintentional inaccuracies may occur. The Department has made every effort to present the information in a clear and understandable way for a variety of users. However, we cannot be responsible for the misuse or misinterpretation of the information presented by this system. Therefore, under no circumstances shall the State of New Jersey be liable for any actions taken or omissions made from reliance on any information contained herein from whatever source nor shall the State be liable for any other consequences from any such reliance.

Search Options

Search by Site

Search by Category

Search Published Documents



The screenshot shows the DEP DataMiner search interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the DEP logo and the text "DEP DataMiner". Below the header is a navigation bar with links for "Home", "Search", "Contact", and "Help". The main content area is divided into two tabs: "Category" and "Keyword". The "Category" tab is selected. Below the tabs is a "Search by Category" section with a welcome message and a disclaimer. Below the disclaimer is a "Report Category" dropdown menu with "Incidents and Complaints" selected. Below the dropdown menu is a green "Submit" button.

DEP DataMiner

Home Search Contact Help

Home > Search By Category

Category Keyword

Search by Category

Welcome to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's online reports portal, NJDEP Data Miner. Within you will find a variety of reports that will provide you with up to the minute results from many different environmental media and subjects. In order to provide flexibility, many of these reports require the user to enter some criteria, which will result in a customized document.

Report Category

Incidents and Complaints

Submit

NJDEP DataMiner can be located by visiting: <https://www13.state.nj.us/DataMiner>

P.L. 2020, c. 117

Plastic Waste Law: Enforcement

C.13:1E-99.131 Violations, penalties.

- First offense – Notice of Violation (written warning, no penalty)
- Second offense – Notice of Penalty (up to \$1,000)
- Third or subsequent offense – Notice of Penalty (up to \$5,000)
- Penalties are collected through administrative hearings as established under the “Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999,” P.L. 1999, c.274 (C.2A:58-10 et seq.), or in any case before a court of competent jurisdiction wherein injunctive relief has been requested. If the violation is of a continuing nature, each day during which it continues shall constitute an additional, separate, and distinct offense. The Superior Court and the municipal court shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of the “Penalty Enforcement Law of 1999” in connection with P.L.2020, c.117 (C.13:1E-99.126 et al.)

Have Questions? Need Assistance?

- Michael Flora, Solid Waste Investigator (Retiring 12/31/2021) Mflora@co.morris.nj.us
- Joseph Schmidt, Solid Waste Investigator Jschmidt@co.morris.nj.us
- Brian Snyder, Registered Environmental Health Specialist BWSnyder@co.morris.nj.us
- Patrick Herrera, Registered Environmental Health Specialist Trainee Pherrera@co.morris.nj.us

Thank you!

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