

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a mylar balloon?

Mylar balloons, also known as metallic balloons, get their attractive shine from their metallic coating.

When filled with helium or other gases that are lighter than air, mylar balloons become a safety hazard because they are attracted to and float into powerlines. Since mylar is a type of metallic foil, it conducts electricity and causes power outages.

2. What does the Mylar Ordinance do?

The Mylar Ordinance prohibits the sale of mylar (metallic) balloons filled with helium or gas that is lighter than air. Mylar balloons may be sold if they are filled with air only, and are attached or mounted to a post or decorative structure at the point of sale. Uninflated mylar balloons may not be sold.



You can view the entire Mylar Ordinance at [BurbankWaterAndPower.com/mylar-balloons](https://www.burbankwaterandpower.com/mylar-balloons)



3. Why did the City of Burbank pass the Mylar Ordinance?

Mylar balloons are the leading cause of power outages in Burbank. Mylar balloons are a safety hazard when they contact or come close to high-voltage power lines. The electricity between the powerline and the conductive material from mylar balloons can cause power outages, explosions, downed power lines, and damaged infrastructure.

One mylar balloon has the potential to leave hundreds of residents and businesses in the community without power for up to an hour or more.

4. When does the Mylar Ordinance go into effect?

The Mylar Ordinance is effective on February 11, 2022.

5. Are latex balloons included as part of the Mylar Ordinance?

No. The Mylar Ordinance only applies to mylar (metallic) balloons.



6. Can I sell a mylar balloon that is filled with air, not helium?

Yes. Mylar balloons can be sold in Burbank if they are filled with air only, and are attached or mounted to a post or decorative structure at the point of sale.

7. Do businesses need to stop selling helium tanks?

No. The Mylar Ordinance does not restrict the sale of helium tanks or latex balloons filled with helium air.

8. How do I properly dispose of a mylar balloon filled with helium air?

To properly dispose of mylar balloons filled with helium air, cut the balloon open to release any helium that is remaining inside. Empty mylar balloons can be discarded in your black trash bin.

9. What do I do with my mylar balloon inventory?

You may sell mylar balloons filled with air and attached to a stick, mounted to a post or other decorative structure. They may not be sold inflated with gas lighter than air.

10. May I sell uninflated mylar balloons?

No. The Mylar Balloon Ordinance specifically prohibits the sale of mylar balloons whether or not inflated with gas which is lighter than air.

11. What happens if a business does not comply with the ordinance?

Our goal is to provide education on the new Mylar Ordinance and obtain voluntary compliance from business owners. Administrative Citations may be issued for Mylar Ordinance violations, please see the Burbank Municipal Code BMC Section 1-1-105 and Section 1-1-108.1.



Burbank Municipal Code:
<https://www.codepublishing.com/CA/Burbank/#!/Burbank01/Burbank0101.html#1-1-108.1>

12. Will businesses be fined for selling mylar balloons with helium or other gas?

The City of Burbank makes safety violations a priority. If a business repeatedly does not comply with the Mylar Ordinance, then the business is subject to fines.

13. What do I do if I see a business not following the Mylar Ordinance?

If you see a business not complying with the Mylar Ordinance, please report the incident to the City of Burbank using the online form at the URL provided below, by email at CodeEnf@burbankca.gov, or by phone at **(818) 238-5225**.



City of Burbank online form:
[Burbankca.gov/web/community-development/code-enforcement](https://www.burbankca.gov/web/community-development/code-enforcement)

14. Who do I contact if I have more questions about the Mylar Ordinance?

For questions about Mylar Ordinance enforcement, please contact the City of Burbank Code Enforcement by email at CodeEnf@burbankca.gov or phone at **(818) 238-5225**.