

FACT SHEET

Single Use Carryout Bag Ordinance

L.A.M.C. 182604 (LAMC section 195.01, et. Seq)



Key Provisions:

Stores may no longer use single-use plastic bags (pharmacy and produce bags are exceptions)
Stores must charge a \$0.10 fee for each recyclable paper bag used
Stores must offer reusable bags free or at a cost to shoppers
Stores must provide free recyclable paper bags or free reusable bags to participants of California special programs (WIC, SNAP, EBT)
Stores must provide a quarterly report to the City with the number of recyclable paper bags provided to customers, the amount collected from paper bag charges, and the efforts taken to promote the ordinance

Stores affected January 1:

All large stores with gross annual sales of over \$2 million a year or with at least 10,000 square feet of retail space that generate sales or use tax and have a licensed pharmacy (includes large grocery stores like Vons, Ralphs, Food-4-Less, etc., large pharmacies like CVS, Walgreens, etc., large retail stores selling groceries like Target, Walmart, etc.)

Stores affected July 1:

Small grocery stores and markets, small pharmacies, convenience stores selling milk/bread/soda/snacks (7-11, Arco ampm, etc.), liquor stores

Stores not affected:

Restaurants, dry cleaners, retail stores that don't sell groceries (toy stores, clothing stores, hardware stores, etc.)

Note about alcoholic beverages:

Neither the provisions of the California Alcoholic Beverage Control Act nor the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control's business regulations require any licensee to put alcoholic beverage purchases in bags or other containers before customers leave the licensed premises

Benefits of the ordinance:

Protects water bodies from plastic debris
Decreases dangers to wildlife from ingestion or entrapment
Reduces litter in our parks, beaches, streets and communities
Eliminates single use plastic bags in landfills
Redirects for alternate uses the millions of barrels of oil used every year to create plastic bags

Plastic bag statistics:

The average plastic bag is used for is 12 minutes
Americans typically each use around 330 disposable plastic bags per year
Half a million plastic bags are used in the United States every minute
Plastic bags take 1,000 years to break down, if at all
Californians use about 19 billion plastic bags every year

For more information, please visit www.lacitybag.com
For questions, please call 1-800-773-2489

