

# News of the Waste Reduction Ordinances



Alameda County Waste Management Authority

## Reusable Bag Ordinance

### ***Bring your own bag – not just for grocery stores beginning May 1***

By now you're probably used to bringing your own bags to grocery, drug and liquor stores in Alameda County. These stores have been covered by a reusable bag law since January, 2013, which has significantly reduced the number of single-use plastic and paper bags distributed at checkout. To build on this success, the law is being expanded to include *all* stores and restaurants in the county, starting May 1, 2017 for retail stores and November 1, 2017 for restaurants and food trucks.

Stores will be charging at least 10 cents for paper or reusable (including thick plastic) bags. Restaurants can provide paper bags for free or charge at least 10 cents for reusable bags. The law only applies to carryout bags, not to bags without handles that are used to protect merchandise, such as produce, soups or meat.

*If your local store is not participating, let us know at the contact info below and we'll follow up with them.*

The Reusable Bag Ordinance for Alameda County was adopted by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority and is designed to reduce waste and litter, and keep plastic bags out of local waterways. More information is available at [www.ReusableBagsAC.org](http://www.ReusableBagsAC.org)

## RETAIL STORES

**BEGINNING MAY 1, 2017**  
**BAG LAW FOR ALAMEDA COUNTY**

**No More**  
single-use  
plastic bags

**Pay**  
for paper & plastic  
reusable bags

or  
**Bring Your  
Own Bag**

## ***Bring your own bag – not just for grocery stores beginning May 1***

The reusable bag law for Alameda County is being expanded to include *all* stores and restaurants in the county, starting May 1, 2017 for retail stores and November 1, 2017 for restaurants and food trucks.

Stores will be charging at least 10 cents for paper or reusable (including thick plastic) bags. Restaurants can provide paper bags for free or charge at least 10 cents for reusable bags. The law only applies to carryout bags, not to bags without handles that are used to protect merchandise, such as produce, soups or meat.

If your local store is not participating, contact [bags@stopwaste.org](mailto:bags@stopwaste.org). More info at [www.ReusableBagsAC.org](http://www.ReusableBagsAC.org).