

COLORADO LAW NOW REQUIRES A

\$0.10 FEE



**ON EACH
PLASTIC OR
PAPER
CHECKOUT BAG**



BRING YOUR

BAG

AND SKIP THE FEE*



*Recipients of state or federal food assistance are exempt from paying bag fees.

The State of Colorado's Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (House Bill 21-1162) was passed in 2021 to reduce and mitigate plastic pollution in Colorado.

Starting January 1, 2023, large Colorado retailers will be required to charge \$0.10 per paper and plastic checkout bag.

Why is a fee being applied to plastic and paper bags?

It is estimated that the average person living in the US uses 365 plastic bags per year. **Plastic bags** are one of the most common pollutants in Colorado's rivers, and birds, fish, and cattle often mistake plastic for food, which can be lethal. **Paper bags** require a great amount of energy and water to produce—a single paper bag requires 1 gallon of water to make!

What are the benefits of the new bag fee?

Applying a small fee on plastic and paper checkout bags can reduce bag use by 70% or more, saving money, energy, water, and trees.

Where will funds from the bag fee go?

By law, 40% of the fees will be retained by retailers, and 60% will be retained by municipalities to fund recycling, compost, or waste diversion programs.

Tips for avoiding the new bag fees

Store reusable bags in your car, on your bike, or in your purse or backpack so that you have one when you need it! *Recipients of state or federal food assistance are exempt from paying bag fees.*