

**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.*