

Effective January 1, 2023

COLORADO LAW\* NOW REQUIRES A

**\$0.10 FEE**



**ON EACH PLASTIC OR PAPER CHECKOUT BAG**



**✓ BRING YOUR BAG & SKIP THE BAG FEE**

**RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL OR STATE FOOD ASSISTANCE ARE EXEMPT FROM BAG FEES.**

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\*Colorado House Bill 21-1162: Management Of Single-Use Products. Signage adapted from the City of Denver. The City and County of Denver owns, reserves and retains all rights and interests in any intellectual property provided herein.

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

It is estimated that a person living in the US uses 365 plastic bags per year. In 2021, Colorado legislators passed the Plastic Pollution Reduction Act (House Bill 20-1163) to reduce the most toxic and polluting single-use plastics. Starting January 1, 2023, paper and plastic checkout bags distributed at large Colorado retailers will incur a fee of \$0.10 per checkout bag.

### What are the benefits of the new bag fee?

Applying a small fee on plastic and paper checkout bags can reduce plastic and paper bag use by over 70%. Sixty percent of the fees collected will be retained by municipalities, and 40% will be retained by the retailer.

#### Environmental Benefits of Reducing Paper and Plastic Bag Use:

Plastic bags are one of the most common pollutants in Colorado's rivers, and never biodegrade. Birds, fish, and cattle often mistake plastic for food, which can be lethal.

Paper bags require a great amount of water and energy to produce. A single paper bag requires 1 gallon of water to produce. The mass production of paper bags also contributes to deforestation.

### 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.
- If you forget your bags in the car, most stores will let you pack your items into the cart. Then you can transfer items to your bags when you get to your car.

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

**Thanks for remembering to  
GRAB YOUR BAG!**

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