



City of Martinez

Plastic Bag Ban Basics



Single-use Plastic Carryout Bags are the plastic bags provided by businesses at the check stand, cash register, point of sale or other point of departure for the purpose of transporting food, merchandise, or other goods out of a **Retail Establishment** or **Public Eating Establishment**.

The ban on single-use plastic carryout bags does not include *Produce Bags* (bags without handles used exclusively to carry produce, meats, or other food items), *Product Bags* (bags integrated into the packaging of the item, such as bread bags), or *Plastic Garment Bags*.

Requirements

- All retail establishments **must make reusable bags available for purchase**.
- A minimum charge of **ten cents (\$0.10) per recycled paper carryout bag** must be applied at **Retail Establishments** to encourage the use of reusable bags over the distribution of paper carryout bags (with the exception of any customer participating in California's WIC program or a food stamp program).
- **Public Eating Establishments** (restaurants) are not required to add a minimum charge for the customer to use a recycled paper bag and may distribute reusable bags to customers free of charge if they so choose.

Reusable Bag Compliance Criteria

- The bag has a minimum lifetime of 125 uses.
- The bag is machine washable or capable of being cleaned and disinfected.
- The bag does not contain any heavy metals.
- If the bag is made of plastic, it must be a minimum of 2.25 millimeters thick.