



City Integrates with State on Carryout Bag Initiative

State Law Enacts Fee on All Bags Beginning Jan 1, 2023

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-November 18, 2022-The State of Colorado enacted a single-use carryout bag ban and fee as part of [House Bill 21-1162](#) that required the city to reconcile its Plastic Bag Ban and Paper Bag Fee adopted several years earlier through Ordinance No. 2699.

“Steamboat Springs gave plastic the sack and now Colorado as a whole is doing the same through Plastic Pollution Reduction Act,” said Winnie DelliQuadri, Special Project and Intergovernmental Services Manager. “The state law allows the city to be more restrictive enabling our local municipality to maintain the bag fee at its current 20 cent level.”

The fee applies to both paper and plastic single-use carryout bags at all stores in Steamboat Springs, including grocery stores, small stores, Farmers Markets, Roadside Market or Stand, Festival, and other temporary vendors or an event that includes temporary vendors.

Stores must begin charging the fee on January 1, 2023. On a quarterly basis, starting April 20, 2023, stores and retail food establishments must remit the total amount of carryout bag fees collected in the previous quarter to the city. Large markets that have been collecting a bag fee will continue to collect and remit as they have been through the end of 2022 before switching to the new system.



Until June 1, 2024, a store may provide a plastic carryout bag for the 20-cent fee. After that date, stores will be prohibited from providing single-use plastic carryout bags to customers.

Shoppers can avoid the bag fee by bringing their own reusable bags. 16-cents of the 20-cent fee will go to the city for recycling, composting and other waste diversion programs: including outreach and education activities.

Additional information including Frequently Asked Questions, the adopted Ordinance and links to the state program can be found at steamboatsprings.net/BYOB.

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