

TOWN OF CHATHAM PLASTIC BAG BAN



January 1, 2017

**Chatham Merchants will no longer be allowed to provide
thin disposable plastic bags with integral handles.**

BE PREPARED

BRING YOUR OWN BAG!

**For more information call the Chatham Health Department
(508) 945-5165**

PRESS RELEASE
November 1, 2016

Town of Chatham
Board of Health

Plastic Bag Ban

On November 16, 2015, in order to protect the public health and environment the Board of Health of the Town of Chatham, in accordance with and under the authority granted by Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L.) Chapter 111, S 31, has promulgated and voted to adopt a regulation banning the distribution and/or sale of single-use plastic bags in the Town of Chatham

Single-use plastic bags for the purpose of this regulation are defined as a bag, made of plastic, with integral handles, and thickness less than 2.5 mils, that are intended to be used for the transport of products purchased at an establishment in the Town of Chatham. Exemptions to this regulation include thin-film plastic bags, used by Establishments to contain dry cleaning, newspapers, produce, meat, bulk foods, wet items, and other similar merchandise, typically without handles,

Establishments may provide reusable bags at no charge, or charge a reasonable fee for each paper or other bag, as they desire. A reusable bag is a bag that is specifically designed for multiple uses and is made of cloth, fabric or other durable materials and does not otherwise meet the definition of a single use plastic bag.

Establishments are strongly encouraged to make reusable bags available to customers at a reasonable price.

Single-use plastic bags shall not be distributed or sold at any Establishment within the Town of Chatham effective January 1, 2017.

Questions regarding this program may be directed to the Chatham Health Department at 508-945-5165 or at jgiorgio@Chatham-ma.gov .