

What Retail Staff Need to Know

The following information has been developed to help retail staff answer questions about the new checkout bag bylaw.

What's New?

Businesses in Victoria cannot provide customers with single-use plastic checkout bags.

The City of Victoria's new Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw comes into effect on July 1, 2018.

The bylaw intends to reduce plastic bag litter and waste in our community and our landfill.



What do I need to do at the checkout?

- 1 You must ask customers whether they need a bag.
- 2 You must charge a minimum of 15 cents for a paper bag.
- 3 You must charge a minimum of \$1 for a reusable bag.

Some Tips for Speaking to Customers about the New Bylaw:

Question	Response
What does the bylaw mean?	Businesses in Victoria cannot provide customers with single-use plastic checkout bags.
When do businesses need to stop providing plastic checkout bags?	July 1st.
Why is the City doing this?	To reduce plastic bag litter and waste in our community and our landfill.
What can people do to help?	Remember your reusable bags. Try keeping reusable bags in a handy location like your car, backpack or purse.
Can stores provide other bags instead?	Paper bags and reusable bags can be provided for a minimum charge.
Are plastics bags restricted from all types of checkout packaging?	Plastic bags are still allowed for some purposes. A list of permitted uses is available on the City's website.
What are the consequences of not following the Bylaw?	Education and warnings will come first. The City will begin issuing fines on January 1, 2019 if needed.

Want to learn more? Visit victoria.ca/reusablebags.