



Let's ditch the plastic

Reducing single-use plastic bags in Oak Bay

June 2022

In April, the District of Oak Bay wrote to all licensed Oak Bay businesses to advise that Council would soon be considering a draft Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw. The purpose of this letter is to confirm Council has now passed that Bylaw, which, beginning November 24, 2022 will:

1. Prohibit the offering of single-use plastic bags at the point of purchase, and
2. Require businesses to charge a minimum fee of \$0.15 for paper bags and \$1.00 for reusable bags for an introductory period of one (1) year, after which the minimum fee will increase to \$0.25 for each paper bag and \$2.00 for reusable bags.

Oak Bay has taken this step to reduce the amount of litter and waste in our community and to improve regulatory consistency across the region (aligning with similar Bylaws in Victoria, Saanich, and Esquimalt).

While the requirements will formally take effect on November 24, 2022, many businesses have already transitioned away from single-use plastics, and we encourage others to do the same.

Oak Bay has developed some practical resources to support your business:

- Frequently Asked Questions for Businesses (enclosed)
- Informational posters
- Till toppers
- Handouts

You can either print these off yourself at www.oakbay.ca/plastics OR contact us to request printed copies for pick up at the Municipal Hall Reception Desk!

Thank you for helping Oak Bay ditch the plastic!

Did you know?

Oak Bay is one of over thirty municipalities in BC that are exploring or have already implemented bylaws to regulate single-use plastics. The Government of Canada and the Province of BC are also developing strategies to manage plastic products, and a federal ban on single-use plastic bags is anticipated in the near future.

Questions?

Email administration@oakbay.ca
or Call 250-598-3311