

Restarting
July 1st

BYOBAG

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is reducing the amount of single-use checkout bags important?

Prior to implementing action on single-use checkout bags, Salmon Arm residents used approximately 200 bags every year, which equates to 3.5 million plastic bags. These regulations will continue to reduce waste in our community and our regional landfill.

What types of businesses are covered by the Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw?

All businesses operating within the City of Salmon Arm are subject to the Checkout Bag Regulation Bylaw.

What if I forgot my bag?

Businesses may still provide paper bags for a fee of 25 cents, and provide reusable bags at a minimum fee of \$2.00.

Can residents continue to use plastic bags that they already have after the bylaw comes in effect?

The bylaw regulates business practices and states that new single-use plastic bags cannot be distributed to customers after January 1st. Residents can continue to reuse their existing plastic bags.

Are biodegradable bags allowed?

No. Compostable and biodegradable options are problematic alternatives to conventional single-use items because they can contaminate recycling streams and do not break down effectively at compost facilities.

Are reusable bags safe to use during the COVID-19?

Yes. Businesses in Salmon Arm continue to allow the use of reusable bags while keeping staff safe during COVID-19, although it is recommended to wash your reusable bags regularly. The BC CDC has specific information for grocery stores, restaurants and other food premises for employers and workers here: www.bccdc.ca


Who gets to keep the funds collected?


The fee will be charged and kept by the business. These fees can be used to help businesses recover the cost of more sustainable checkout bags and/or communications materials to outline their specific bag policy.

How will the bylaw be enforced?

The City uses a range of enforcement from education to fines. Our intent is support business transition to the requirements of the bylaw. If penalties are necessary, the fines the City may use are consistent with other City bylaws.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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 www.salmonarm.ca