



# Fact Sheet

## Single-Use Bag Ban

[House Bill 2509](#) (2019) prohibits the use of single use check out bags at Oregon retail stores and restaurants. In most instances, retail stores and restaurants also must charge at least five cents for bags they provide to customers. Restaurants may still provide recycled paper bags at no cost. This change was approved by the 2019 Oregon Legislature, which passed the Sustainable Shopping Initiative.

### Bags Provided by Retail Establishments

Fee required (5 cents per bag minimum):	No fee required:	Prohibited:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycled paper checkout bags</li> <li>Reusable fabric checkout bags</li> <li>Reusable plastic checkout bags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reusable fabric checkout bags (as a promotion on 12 or fewer days in a calendar year)</li> <li>Recycled paper checkout bags or reusable plastic checkout bags to customers who use:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vouchers issued under the Women, Infants and Children Program established under ORS 413.500.</li> <li>Electronic benefits transfer cards issued by the Department of Human Services.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-use checkout bags</li> </ul>

### Bags Provided by Restaurants

Fee required (5 cents each minimum):	No fee required:	Prohibited:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reusable plastic checkout bags</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recycled paper checkout bags</li> <li>Reusable plastic checkout bags to customers who use an electronic benefits transfer card issued by the Department of Human Services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single-use checkout bags</li> </ul>

#### Translation or other formats

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# FAQ

## How is “single-use checkout bag” defined?

“Single-use checkout bag” is a bag made of paper, plastic or any other material that is provided by a retail establishment to a customer at the time of checkout, and that is not a recycled paper checkout bag, a reusable fabric checkout bag or a reusable plastic checkout bag.

The single-use checkout bag ban applies to bags provided to customers at checkout. The ban does not apply to bags provided at other times, including:

- Bags containing bulk items such as fruit or small hardware items
- Bags containing items for sanitary purposes
- Bags containing prescription drugs
- Certain specialty bags, such as garment bags;
- Bags sold in a package for uses such as food storage, garbage or pet waste.

## How is “retail establishment” defined?

“Retail establishment” means a store that sells or offers for sale goods at retail and that is not a restaurant.

## How is “restaurant” defined?

“Restaurant” is an establishment where the primary business is the preparation of food or drink:

- For consumption by the public;
- In a form or quantity that is consumable then and there, whether or not it is consumed within the confines of the place where prepared; or
- In consumable form for consumption outside the place where prepared.

## Where does the fee go?

Businesses keep the fee, which allows them to recover costs in providing reusable bags.

## How do I file complaints?

DEQ recommends checking with local governments to learn more about enforcement in your area, and to file any complaints.

## Contact

Materials Management Program: [DEQ contact web page](#)

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