To reduce litter and landfill, many retailers in the City of Hillsboro will no longer be permitted to give away free plastic bags. Paper and reusable bags will be sold, not given away, to encourage reuse.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the ordinance go into effect?
June 1, 2019 for retailers with more than ten full time employees.
January 1, 2020 for all other retailers, restaurants, and City sponsored and permitted events.

What does this mean for businesses?
Retailers and restaurants will no longer be allowed to offer single-use plastic bags at check-out. Large retailers will be required to charge $.05 for recyclable paper bags at check-out. Smaller retailers (ten or fewer full-time employees) and restaurants may opt to charge $.05, but are not required to do so.

What does this mean for customers?
Customers are encouraged to bring their own reusable shopping bags. At larger stores they will have to pay $.05 for each paper bag they use.

Are any customers exempt from being charged for a bag?
Customers who qualify for SNAP or WIC may not be charged for bags upon their request at time of checkout.

What about plastic produce bags and collecting pet waste?
Plastic produce bags are not included in the ordinance and will still be available for use. Plastic pet waste bags and trash can liners can still be used.

What about plastic bags at food pantries and food banks?
The ordinance does not apply to food pantries or food banks because they do not sell food.

Questions?
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