

PLASTIC BAG FACTS

- *Nationally, one person uses 523 plastic bags per year. This equates to Hudson residents using more than 10 million single-use plastic bags per year.*
- *Only 7% of plastic bags are recycled.*
- *The average use time of a plastic bag is 12 minutes.*
- *Plastic bags do not biodegrade. They break down into tiny pieces that enter the food chain, endangering humans and wildlife.*
- *The equivalent of 12 million gallons of crude oil are used each year to produce thin film plastic bags in the U.S. * see our website.*



Plastic production has increased exponentially in the past four decades, leading to pollution of land, sea, and air. Since it does not decompose, nearly all of the plastic we have produced is still in our environment. Eliminating single use check-out bags is just one way to reduce our plastic usage, but please do not stop there! Start using reusable produce bags, straws, take-out containers, and water bottles. There is so much you can do to increase the sustainability of our environment.

Informational Session:

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 5th, 7 – 8 pm

Avidia Bank Community Room, 17 Pope Rd, Hudson
info@greenhudson.org
(781) 640-9499

For the works cited, please go to our website:
www.greenhudson.org



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REDUCING PLASTIC BAGS IN HUDSON

A bylaw to reduce single-use plastic checkout bags will be on the Town Meeting warrant on November 18th.



Over 122 Cities and Towns in MA have plastic bag regulations. What's happening in Hudson?

With a reduction in plastic bag use, you will start noticing a change from



plastic to recycled paper and reusable bags at stores and restaurants

around Hudson. You may also start noticing a decrease in plastic bags stuck in trees and waterways.

The citizen group, Green Hudson, and the Hudson Conservation Commission have teamed up to pass a town by-law to eliminate the usage of single-use checkout bags except paper bags made with at least 40% post-consumer recycled content.

This bylaw only concerns checkout bags and does not include: trash bags, produce bags, bags for newspaper, or dry cleaning bags.

Effective date June of 2020.

Which stores are making the switch?

Restaurants, grocery stores, pharmacies, jewelry stores, convenience stores, household goods stores, etc. Many have sister stores in towns with bag bans already in place.



What will we use instead?

The preferred is a reusable checkout bag. They can be washed and reused as much as 200 times.



Recycled paper bags will also be available. They biodegrade quickly but reusable bags are best for the environment.



What can you do to help?

- Bring reusable bags with you when you go shopping at stores and take-out restaurants.
- Keep reusable bags in your car, by the door, or near your keys so you don't forget them.
- Recycle plastic bags that you already have. Bring them to a retailer that specifically recycles thin film plastic bags like Shaw's, Walmart, and Stop & Shop. Do not put in the trash.
- Come to one of our educational events and **get a free reusable bag!**
- Join Green Hudson and help our efforts to increase sustainability and reduce pollution in your home, town and world.

For More Information:

Green Hudson

Website: www.greenhudson.org

Email: info@greenhudson.org

Hudson Conservation Commission

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