

**PLEASE  
BRING  
YOUR  
OWN  
BAG**



# Homer's Single Use Plastic Bag Ban Goes Into Effect January 1, 2020



## What is going to change?

Starting January 1, businesses in the City of Homer, including but not limited to

- grocery stores
- general retail stores
- pharmacies
- restaurants and
- fair & market vendors

will no longer be able to provide customers with thin plastic bags to carry their purchases.

## What is a single-use plastic disposable shopping bag?

A bag made of plastic, less than 2.5 mils thick which is neither intended nor suitable for continuous reuse.

## Are there penalties for violations?

The City will work with business owners and the public to achieve voluntary compliance; however, any business that violates the new rules after January 1, 2020 is subject to a fine.

## Can stores give out paper bags, and can they charge for them?

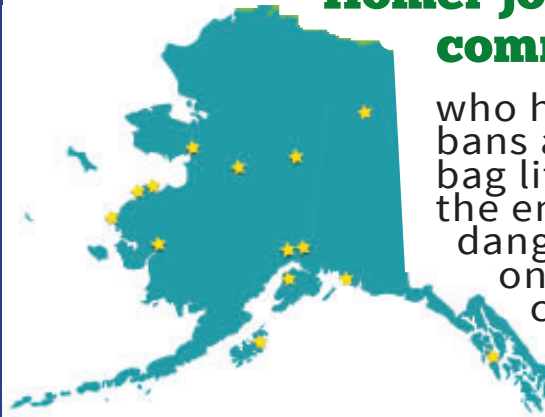
Yes, stores may choose to offer paper bags instead of plastic. The choice to offer a different type of bag or charge customers for bags is up to individual sellers.

## Tip for remembering your reusable bags:

Put your reusable bags back in your car, your handbag or on a shelf near the door after you unpack them so you won't forget them.

In the 2019 General Election, Homer voters approved Prop 1, which prohibits single use plastic shopping bags.

## Homer joins 14 other Alaskan communities

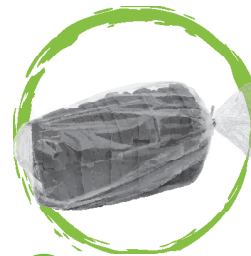


who have already enacted bans aimed at reducing plastic bag litter, which is harmful to the environment, poses a danger to wildlife, is a burden on the landfill and often clogs storm water drains.

## Are ALL plastic bags prohibited?

No. Several types of plastic bags are still allowed:

**1** Bags used to contain leaks or dampness from items such as frozen foods, meat or fish, flowers or potted plants.



**2** Bags provided by pharmacists to contain prescription drugs.

**4** Bags used to protect prepared foods or bakery goods.



**3** Bags used inside stores to package bulk items like fruit, nuts, vegetables, candy, nails, screws, nuts & bolts.



**6** Garbage bags sold in packages and other similar bags for collection of pet or yard waste.



**Learn more at [www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)**