

PLASTIC CHECKOUT BAGS



Current CT law vs. Proposal for a local ordinance by Sept 9th



PLASTIC FACTS





PLASTIC BAG FACTS

- Plastic Grocery bags (originally invented in Europe) were introduced in the USA in **1982** by Safeway & Kroger supermarkets.
- Americans use **100 billion plastic bags** a year, which require fossil fuels to manufacture.
- According to Waste Management, only **1 percent** of plastic bags are returned for recycling.
- Plastic bags resemble jellyfish. **34%** of dead leatherback sea turtles had ingested plastic.
- Bags, when exposed to light, photo-degrade, becoming **microplastics** and continue to pollute the environment and enter our food chain.
- It has been estimated that fish off the West Coast ingest over **12,000 tons** of plastic a year.

Plastic bags are used for an average of 12 minutes but takes over 500 years to degrade in a landfill.



[HTTPS://WWW.BIOLOGICALDIVERSITY.ORG/PROGRAMS/POPULATION AND SUSTAINABILITY/SUSTAINABILITY/PLASTIC BAG FACTS.HTML](https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/programs/population_and_sustainability/sustainability/plastic_bag_facts.html)



WHY DO WE NEED ANOTHER LAW?

OUR BEST EFFORTS ARE NOT WORKING





LOCAL EFFORTS



Green Up
Clean Up



Earth Day



Daniel Hand Eco Club

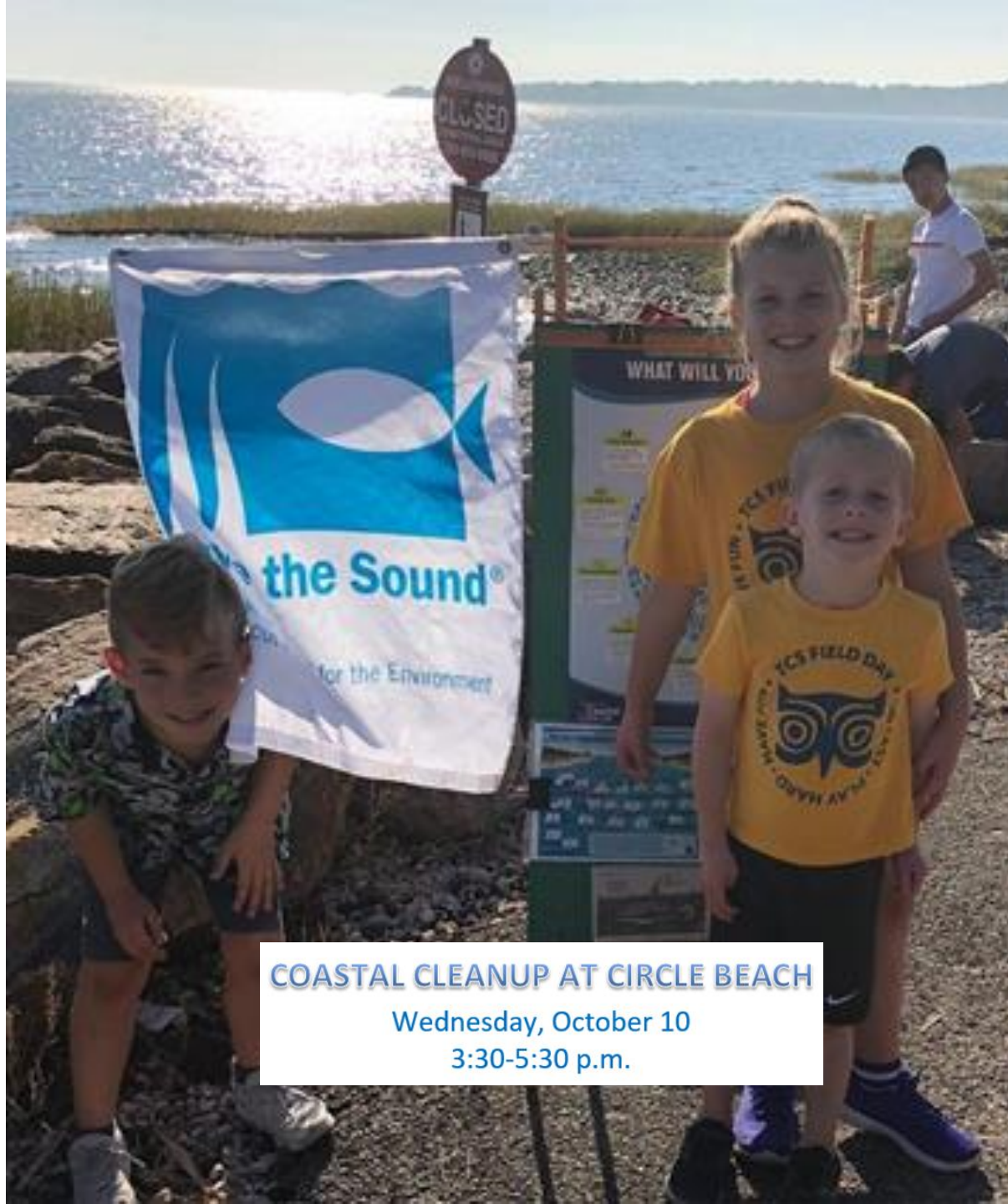


Bag it Movie @ The Country School



Ryerson 4th Grade





COASTAL CLEANUP AT CIRCLE BEACH

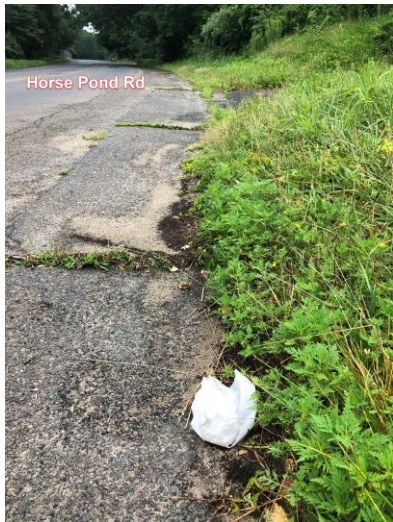
Wednesday, October 10
3:30-5:30 p.m.

LOCAL FACTS – 2 years of data

Categorized Items		
Most Likely To Find Items	2017	2018
Food Wrappers (candy, chips, etc.)	30	48
Take Out/Away Containers (Plastic)	2	8
Take Out/Away Containers (Foam)	3	6
Bottle Caps (Plastic)	10	23
Bottle Caps (Metal)	2	4
Lids (Plastic)	14	17
Straws, Stirrers	7	6
Beverage Bottles (Plastic)	37	23
Beverage Bottles (Glass)	15	15
Beverage Cans	64	23
Grocery Bags (Plastic)	3	37
Other Plastic Bags	31	65
Cups & Plates (Plastic)	17	49
Cups & Plates (Foam)	9	17
Category Totals	253	361
Other Trash		
Balloons	26	27
Category Totals	51	53
Tiny Trash Less Than 2.5cm		
Plastic Pieces	74	249
Category Totals	119	380
TOTAL	502	956



THURSDAY AM





CURRENT CT STATE LAW

WHY IT IS NOT GOOD FOR THE ENVIRONMENT NOR MADISON





HB-07424 SEC. 355 – WHAT IT MEANS FOR CT & MADISON

State of CT

- Effective August 1, 2019 : Retailers ... **are required to collect a \$0.10 fee per single-use plastic checkout bag.**
 - Receipt must show the # bought and charge
 - Plastic bags <4 mils thick
 - Paper bags and plastic “Product” Bags are excluded
- **On July 1st, 2021 – all plastic checkout bags are banned**

FY20

FY21

Est. CT Tax Revenues \$27.7M

\$26.8M

Town of Madison

- For Madison with a population of 18,000 – this would amount to **\$657,000 per year.**

(The average American uses 1 plastic bag per day*)

[*https://reducing4more.wordpress.com/2008/01/19/plastic-bags-how-much/](https://reducing4more.wordpress.com/2008/01/19/plastic-bags-how-much/)

- For Businesses – this would mean buying more expensive paper bags to help the customers who want to avoid this tax.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE STATE LAW?

Two Things:

1. The “fee” is a tax that goes back to the **General Fund** and NOT to a “protected” Environmental Fund
2. This “Tax” will encourage a greater use of “*free*” Paper Checkout Bags which are as detrimental as plastic.

HB 07424 is not good for the Environment nor Madison





PAPER OR PLASTIC?

When asked this question at checkout, the correct answer is Neither.

Bring Your Own!



Paper Bags

- Requires 14 million trees to be cut down annually
- Requires thousands of gallons of water to create 1 ton of pulp
- Requires fossil fuels to transport
- Have twice the carbon footprint as plastic
- Are biodegradable in compost but **NOT** in a landfill



Plastic Bags

- Litter prone and clog storm drains
- Endanger wildlife
- Break down into microplastics that end up the food chain
- Are manufactured from fossil fuels
- Are detrimental to recycling systems, causing jam ups.
- Are NOT biodegradable and will last centuries in the environment

When considering litter and its impact on marine life and the food chain, from the environmentalist's view, PAPER is the LESSER of TWO EVILS.



ORDINANCE PROPOSAL

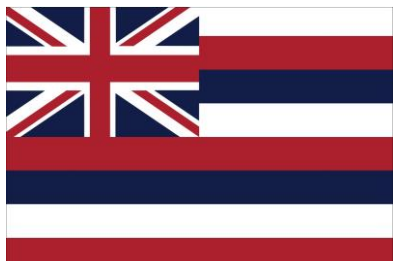
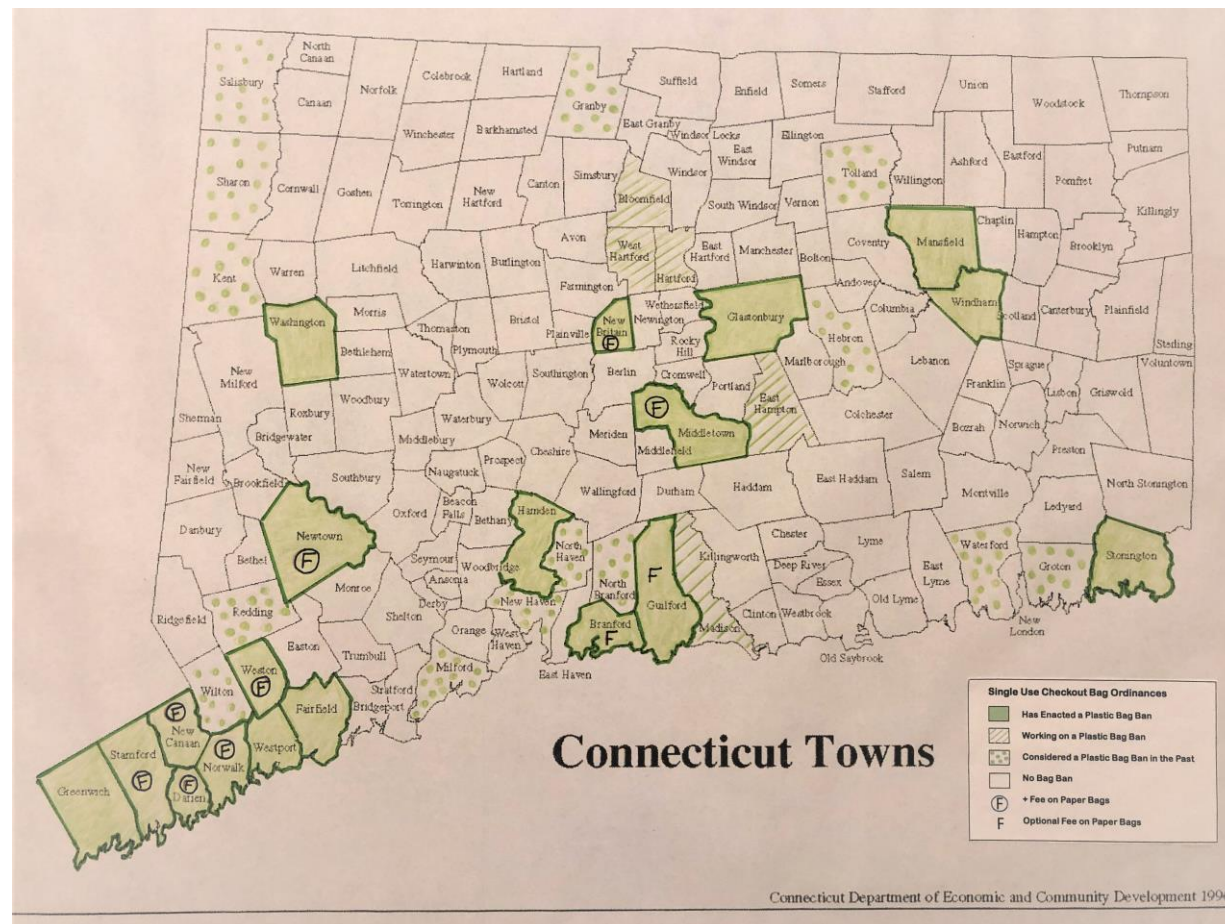
DETAILS, COMMUNITY SUPPORT, EFFECTIVENESS





WE ARE NOT ALONE!

- By mid 2020 – there will be 5 US States with Plastic Bag Bans (all with paper bag fees) in effect: Hawaii, California, New York, Maine and Vermont.
- Currently, there are **19 CT municipalities** with Plastic Bag Bans (**10 with paper bag fees**).



2015



2016



Mar 2020



Apr 2020



July 2020



MADISON

HYBRID MODELED AFTER
GUILFORD, NORWALK &
NEWTOWN

BAN/FEE HYBRID MODEL



Proposed Ordinance for the Town of Madison

- Bans all Plastic Checkout Bags within 3 months of enactment
- Paper Bags must meet Recycled Paper Checkout Specifications
 - 40% post-consumer recycled content
 - 100% recyclable
- “Product Bags” are exempt
 - Single use bags used before checkout that are used to
 - carry bulk items such as fruit, vegetables, nuts, etc.
 - to wrap fish, meat, frozen foods
 - to carry pharmacy prescriptions
- Business Establishments shall charge a **\$0.10 per bag fee for Paper Checkout Bags. This fee shall be retained by the Business.**

Business Impact

- ❖ Short-term: Upfront costs to convert to new bags partially offset by the 10-cent fees collected for paper bags.
- ❖ Medium-term: Bag expense (i.e. inventory & carrying costs) will **decrease** as more residents bring reusable bags.

ALL ARE ON BOARD



Widespread Business & Resident Support

- **Over 450** Madison petition signatures
- **22** Madison Businesses are proud sponsors – including Roberts, RJ Julia, Bradley & Wall, and many more.
- **5** local Faith Based Organizations
- **10** State and National Environmental Organizations including the Sierra Club.
- The **CT Food Association** - a trade association with over 240 member companies—food retailers, wholesalers, distributors, and pharmacies.

● ● ● ● PLASTIC BAG BANS WORK !!

**BANS WITH PAPER
BAG FEES ARE MUCH
MORE EFFECTIVE**



Post Ban Effectiveness Studies

Hybrid Ban

1. City of San Jose, CA (2012) – plastic ban plus **10 cent fee** for paper; **Reusables up from 4% to 62%**; storm drain pollution down 89% within a year of implementation.
2. Richmond, CA (2014/16) – plastic ban plus **5 cent** (2014) then **10 cent** (2016) on paper; **reusable bag usage up to 70%**, people using no bags jumped from 5 to 30%.
3. Aspen, CO (2018) - plastic ban plus **20 cent** (2012); a study showed **15% of shoppers bought paper bags**, 45% used no bags, **40% brought reusable bags**.

Straight Ban

1. Westport, CT (2010) – plastic bag ban only, no paper fee; survey showed customers used **50% reusable bags**, **roughly 45% paper bags**, and 2% used no bags at all.
 - ❖ **Comparing similar stores in areas with & without an ordinance, the ban-only ordinance increased the use of paper bags dramatically.**



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

BYO MADISON WILL BE
THERE THROUGHOUT
THE TRANSITION



Educational Events



Jointly Present

bag it
IT TAKES TWO TO TACKLE IT



Wednesday, May 22
The Country School
7:00 PM

Join us for a FREE
special viewing of the
film **bag it** - a
documentary on plastic
and its impact on the
world.

Guest Speaker
Captain
Christopher Mitchell
will share his
experiences and his
findings navigating The
Sound for over 20 years.

For the latest information visit us on Facebook!

 facebook.com/byomadison
www.byomadison.org

Small
Business
Workshops



Survey

Social Media



Farmers' Market Table



FAQ's / Fact
Sheets



NEXT STEPS





NOW IT IS YOUR TURN

- What do you need from us in order to come to a considered decision?
 - Business Survey is ready
 - Draft Ordinance is ready
 - Our second Public Educational Event is scheduled for **Sept 5th @7 PM** at the First Congregational Church – can you be there?
 - What more do you need to enable a vote at the **Sept 9th** Board of Selectmen Meeting?



THANK YOU





● ● ● ●

BACK UP





RETAILER BAG COSTS

2.4 cents / bag



ECONOMY T-SHIRT BAGS

HIGH DENSITY

Thrifty bags hold T-shirts, carryout and loose retail items.

- Gusseted sides. Resists tears.
- Convenient carrying handles.
- "Thank You" script design.

ECONOMY T-SHIRT BAGS

Red or Black

MODEL NO.	SIZE W x D x L	MIL	QTY./ CTN.	PRICE PER CARTON			ADD TO CART
				1	5	10+	
S-19027	11 1/2 x 6 x 21"	.5	1,000	\$24 per carton			Specify Color

11 cents / bag



RECYCLED GROCERY BAGS

GUSSETED 30-70 LB.

Earth-friendly bags for environmentally conscious shoppers.

- Meet most U.S. recycled paper bag requirements.
- FDA compliant.
- 100% recycled. Minimum 40% post-consumer content.

KRAFT RECYCLED GROCERY BAGS

MODEL NO.	SIZE W x D x H	BASIS WEIGHT	QTY./ BUNDLE	PRICE PER BUNDLE (MIN. 2)			LBS./ BUNDLE	ADD TO CART
				2	5	10+		
S-21265	4 1/8 x 2 5/8 x 7 7/8" (2)	30 lb.	500	\$16	\$15	\$14	5	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>
S-20657	5 x 3 1/8 x 9 3/4" (4)			17	16	15	8	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>
S-21266	6 x 4 1/16 x 12 3/8" (8)	35 lb.		23	22	21	12	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>
S-21267	7 x 4 3/8 x 13 3/4" (12)	40 lb.		31	30	29	17	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>
S-20658	12 x 7 x 17" (1/6 BL)	57 lb.		60	55	52	54	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>

FLAT HANDLE RECYCLED GROCERY BAGS

S-20659	12 x 7 x 17" (1/6 BL)	70 lb.	300	\$63	\$58	\$55	45	2 <input type="button" value="ADD"/>
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Remember – There is no such thing as a FREE Bag !!



RESIDENTS COMMENTS



Lisa /

We started using reusable bags a couple of years ago, after a vacation to Aruba where plastic one-use bags are already illegal.

After the initial couple of times forgetting to bring the reusable canvas bags on a shopping trip, it has just become a habit now, and no trouble at all. I toss the bags into the washer whenever I feel they're getting a little soiled.

Zero trouble, and so happy not to be exacerbating the problem with plastic in the landfills and oceans. It's such a small effort, and such good results!

52m [Like](#) [Reply](#)



Gail /

Actually, the bags that grocery stores sell are squared off in the bottom so they hold more groceries and are much sturdier than the flimsy old plastic ones they give you.

21m [Like](#) [Reply](#)