

BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2013



DON'T FORGET ME.  ReusableBagsAC.org

Get Ready to Bring Your Own Bag!

Plastic bags are one of the most common litter items found in our creeks, storm drains and streets—but one reusable bag can replace more than 600 single-use bags over its lifetime.

To save valuable natural resources, reduce litter, and reduce the cost to the public of litter cleanup, a new countywide ordinance has been adopted by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority to promote the use of reusable bags in place of single-use plastic carryout bags.

Beginning January 1, 2013, stores in Alameda County that sell packaged foods—including most grocery stores, minimarts, convenience stores, liquor stores, and pharmacies—will no longer provide customers with single-use plastic bags at checkout. Bags made of recycled paper or reusable bags will be available for a minimum price of 10 cents per bag. Consumers may bring any type of bags from home—and are strongly encouraged to do so!

Small plastic bags used to protect and transport produce, bulk food or meat from within a store to the checkout or cash register will still be available free of charge.

Tips to get ready for the Reusable Bag Ordinance now:

- Get in the habit of bringing your own bags when you go to the store.
- Keep reusable bags in your car to use when you go shopping.
- Store bags near the front door, the door to the garage, or wherever you keep your grocery list.

Learn more at ReusableBagsAC.org



Helpful Reminders

- Residential customers can increase recycling capacity at no additional cost. Call Waste Management at (510) 613-8710 for a larger or additional cart.
- A second green waste cart is also available from Waste Management. (Fees may apply.)

Mandatory Commercial Recycling

With the passage of AB 341, commercial enterprises and public entities that generate four or more cubic yards of waste per week, and multi-family housing complexes with five or more units are now required to adopt recycling practices. The state law went into effect on July 1, 2012.

Benefits of AB 341

In addition to less material going into landfills, AB 341 also contributes to the local economy. The Department of Resource Recycling estimates that local jurisdictions, schools, and businesses will save \$40 million to \$60 million per year from 2012-2020, due to lower recycling versus disposal costs. A higher volume of recyclables will also create manufacturing and recycling jobs and help contribute to California's economy.

Waste Management is working with the jurisdictions that it serves on a program to support commercial customers and multi-family complexes in meeting the AB 341 requirements. Waste Management can also provide customers with a free waste and recycling assessment. To set up a waste and recycling assessment appointment for your business or multi-family housing complex, call Waste Management at (510) 613-8710.

New Oro Loma service brochures have been mailed to residential, commercial, and multi-family customers. If you did not receive yours, call Waste Management at (510) 631-8710 to request one.

