



For Immediate Release

Monday, December 19, 2022

State of Colorado Implements Disposable Bag Fee

Alamosa, CO – Beginning January 1, 2023, the State will require businesses and retail food establishments with more than three locations in Colorado to charge customers a \$0.10 fee for each single-use plastic and paper bag used at the point of sale. The State of Colorado passed House Bill 21-1162 in 2021, also known as the Plastic Pollution Reduction Act, which initiates a bag fee on carryout bags in Colorado.

Between January 1, 2023 and January 1, 2024, a store may provide a recycled paper carryout bag or a single-use plastic carryout bag to a customer if the customer pays a fee of \$0.10 per bag.

Beginning January 1, 2024, a store may provide only a recycled paper carryout bag to a customer for a fee of \$0.10 per bag businesses and retail food establishments are prohibited from providing single-use plastic carryout bags to customers.

Certain retail food establishments, and small businesses that operate solely in Colorado and have three or fewer locations, may continue to provide single-use plastic carryout bags.

Beginning January 1, 2024, the act prohibits a retail food establishment from distributing an expanded polystyrene product (more commonly known as Styrofoam) for use as a container for ready-to-eat food.

The State of Colorado requires any store located to begin charging the \$0.10 bag fee on every bag starting January 1, 2023. The store is entitled to retain \$0.04 of the bag fee revenue, and must remit the remaining \$0.06 to the City of Alamosa (if located within city limits) on a quarterly basis. Businesses also have the option of not providing any single-use bags.

For questions regarding the bag fee, please see Colorado House Bill HB 21-1162 at <https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/hb21-1162> or visit the City of Alamosa website at <https://cityofalamosa.org/departments/finance/> or call 719-589-2502 to speak to our Finance Department.

