



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **EXPANDED BAG BAN COMING SOON**

*Not just for Grocery Stores Anymore*

PLEASANTON, Calif. — Effective May 1, 2017, the plastic bag ban will expand to include all retail stores within Alameda County, including Pleasanton. The Reusable Bag Ordinance for Alameda County was adopted by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority and is designed to reduce waste and litter, and keep plastic bags out of local waterways.

Since January 2013, grocery stores and convenience stores within the County have been covered by the reusable bag law. The overall impact has been significant, with a 44 percent decrease in plastic bags found in County storm drains, according to StopWaste.org. To build on this success, the law was expanded and on May 1, retail stores will be included in this effort and in November 2017, the single-use, plastic bag ban will also encompass restaurants and food trucks.

Stores will be charging at least 10 cents for paper or reusable (including thick plastic) bags. Restaurants can provide paper bags for free or charge at least 10 cents for reusable bags. The law only applies to carryout bags, not to bags without handles that are used to protect merchandise, such as produce, soups or meat.

More information is available at [www.ReusableBagsAC.org](http://www.ReusableBagsAC.org), or contact [bags@stopwaste.org](mailto:bags@stopwaste.org) or call 510-891-6575.



Alameda County Waste Management Authority

## Reusable Bag Ordinance

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