

Wetaskiwin Plastic Checkout Bag Bylaw



The Ban so far

- Ban will come into effect July 9, 2019
 - Plastic checkout bags less than 2 mils thick
 - Covers all grocery, retail, restaurants, anywhere a good is sold.
- Paper bag fee (\$0.15) will come into effect June 1, 2020



What is targeted and what is exempt?

- Hygienic type bags are exempt
 - Bags used for dirty, greasy items
 - Bags used for food products
- Non-profits are exempt
 - This will affect some thrift stores
 - Also ensures the food bank is exempt



Creating benchmarks

- Surveys: targeted Businesses and Residents
 - Went out in August 2018 over one month
- Another round of surveys is planned for when the ban is in full swing.
- Municipal waste audit will help us gauge if less bags are being thrown out
 - Scheduled for first week of May



Change Management

- Focused on changing habits and is informed by public engagement
- “Did you bring you bag?” posters for stores
- Coming soon: A bag for every household!
- Education on alternatives to bags



Resources

- Canadian Plastic Association vs. City of Victoria 2018
- Wood Buffalo Bylaw
- City of Victoria Resources

