



SINGLE USE PLASTIC BAG BAN ORDINANCE

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP EAC, 2024

SINGLE USE PLASTIC: BACKGROUND

The U.S. uses billions of single use plastic (SUP) bags, straws, bottles and cups every year

Used for a few minutes but last for many years in our environment, creating litter, clogging storm drains, choking wildlife and breaking down into 'microplastics'.



SINGLE USE PLASTIC: IMPACT

Pollute our parks, local waterways and oceans

Harm and kill wildlife

Generate toxic microplastics that are inhaled and ingested by people and animals

Heavy metals, BPA and PFOs (forever chemicals)

SINGLE USE PLASTIC: BACKGROUND

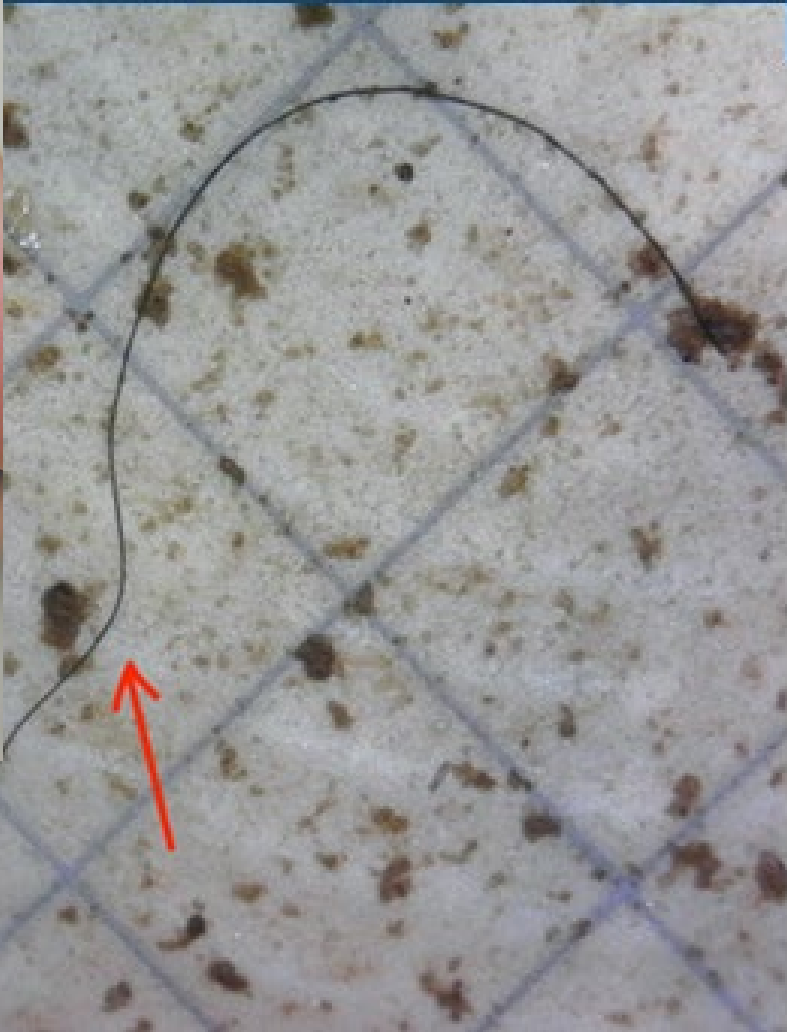
Single use plastic bags are RARELY recycled

They impede normal recycling systems

Most end up in the environment, landfills or incinerators

Even through specialty collections sites (like Kohls) these bags end up in landfills (usually in Asia)





LOCAL ACTION IN PA

Plastic ordinances in PA

- 29 total ordinances
- Over 18% of PA
- 900 million single-use plastic bags per year
- 4,900 tons of plastic eliminated per year
- Narberth Borough
- West Chester Borough
- City of Philadelphia
- West Goshen Township
- Haverford Township
- City of Pittsburgh
- Easttown Township
- Solebury Township*
- Media Borough
- Radnor Township
- Ambler Borough
- Tredyffrin Township
- West Norriton Township
- Uwchlan Township
- Doylestown Borough*
- Cheltenham Township
- Swarthmore Borough
- Lower Merion Township
- Upper Moreland Township
- Upper Merion Township
- Whitemarsh Township
- Springfield Township
- Lancaster Township
- Montgomery Township
- Newtown Township*
- Edgewood Borough
- Phoenixville Borough
- Newtown Borough*
- Upper Dublin Township

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Web-based community survey* | 2018-2019 |
| Participation with regional SUP coalition | since 2019 |
| Community Engagement at table events and FB | since 2019 |
| Educational packet for BoS and | |
| Resolution for voluntary reduction in SUP <u>passed</u> : | Nov 2021- Jan 2022 |
| Action Plan: | January 2022 |
| Door-to-door <u>business survey</u> : | June 2022 |
| Created engagement letter and | |
| list of addresses for restaurants: | December 2022 |
| Presented results to BoS | January 2023 |

*70% support for SUP bag ban

ORDINANCE OVERVIEW

A ban on single-use plastic bags given out at the point of checkout.

Most other single-use bags are exempt from this ban.

There is a 6 month run in period before implementation for awareness and preparation by merchants

Reusable bags are described

Paper bags may be supplied by the vendor, but must contain a minimum of 40% recycled fiber, and the vendor must charge a minimum of 15c per bag.

We know that the small fee for paper bags influences behavior towards the use of reusables.

The bag fee stays with the vendor (this is not a tax)



QUESTIONS