



## **Disposable Plastic Bag Ban Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. When does the disposable plastic bag ban go into effect?**

September 1, 2018.

### **2. When was the ordinance passed banning the use of disposable plastic bags?**

August 15, 2016.

### **3. What is a disposable plastic bag?**

A bag made from non-compostable or compostable plastic that is provided by a business to a customer for the purpose of transporting purchased goods out of the store.

### **4. What type of plastic bags are exempted for use inside the store?**

Plastic bags used to package bulk items such as produce, nuts and grains, and small hardware items. Bags used to contain dampness or to wrap frozen foods and raw meats. Bags used to contain prepared foods and bakery items. Bags used to contain artwork, books and periodicals.

### **5. What other uses are exempted for plastic bags?**

Packaging of prescription drugs and medical marijuana, newspaper bags, door hanger bags, laundry-dry cleaning bags. Bags sold in packages containing multiple bags for use as garbage, pet waste or yard waste bags.

### **6. What can be used in place of disposable plastic bags?**

Reusable carryout bags made of cloth, fiber or other machine washable fabric with a minimum carrying weight of 18 pounds with at least 75 uses per bag.

Paper bags with 40% recycled content that are 100% recyclable.

### **7. Who is affected by the disposable plastic bag ban?**

Retailer and customer shopping habits are affected. Retailers can no longer issue disposable plastic bags to their customers. Customers can no longer bring in disposable plastic bags to reuse for transport of purchased goods.

### **8. What happens if a disposable plastic bag is issued by a retailer after September 1, 2018 for the transport of purchased goods?**

A written warning will be given for the first offense. Following violations can result in repeated fines of up to \$300 per offense.

### **9. How will consumers and retail businesses be made aware of the details of the disposable plastic bag ban?**

Through initiatives such as Boomerang Bags put forth by Sustainable Crested Butte and the Chamber of Commerce and the distribution of flyers and informational posters to help educate consumers and businesses about this important change. Town will provide noticing and information.