

Montgomery County Carryout Bag Tax



IT'S THE LAW!

Montgomery County law requires all retailers to charge 5 cents for each plastic or paper carryout bag.

Whether you agree with the law or not, you **MUST** charge every customer for a carryout bag given at the point of sale (register).

Why do we have a bag law?

- Plastic bags are a significant source of litter in our community which pollutes our neighborhoods, streams, and playgrounds.
- The Carryout Bag Law is in place to reduce the use of disposable bags and the costs incurred with removing them from the environment.
- Fees from the Carryout Bag Law exclusively fund programs that fight litter and provide stormwater pollution control in Montgomery County.

If you do not collect the bag tax for each carryout bag provided to a customer, it is a **tax law violation** which can subject your employer to **significant fines** for noncompliance.

DO NOT cause your employer to be subject to a fine. Make sure you charge every customer who wants a disposable bag for their purchase.

Thank you for your help with following the Carryout Bag Law!

For more information,
visit montgomerycountymd.gov/bag or call **311**.

Providing a free disposable bag to customers may seem helpful, but we do receive reports of noncompliance with the law from customers and will follow up with the offending business. Always follow the law and charge customers for a disposable bag.



DEPARTMENT OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION**