

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S “BRING YOUR OWN BAG” LAW

Effective January 1, 2026



## WHAT THE LAW DOES

- Increases the bag tax to 10 cents per bag (of which the retailer gets to keep 5 cents).
- Bans plastic carryout bags, except in some municipalities.

## Exemptions

- Customers paying with SNAP/WIC benefits (no bag fee).
- Restaurants providing prepared/leftover food, takeout, and drive-through (no bag fee).
- Bulk or perishable items like produce, meat, and fish.

## Penalties for Non-Compliance

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

## Why This Matters

- Revenue from the bag tax supports the County's water quality and anti-litter initiatives, as part of a broader effort to reduce waste and protect the environment.

## Learn More

- Call 311
- Scan the QR code
- Visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/bag](https://montgomerycountymd.gov/bag)



**THANK YOU FOR HELPING MAKE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY CLEANER  
AND MORE SUSTAINABLE.**

