



HISTORIC PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION ACT SIGNED INTO LAW!

On July 6, 2021, Governor Jared Polis signed HB21-1162, the Plastic Pollution Reduction Act into law, the second most comprehensive law in the country. Prior to HB21-1162's passage, 10 states had plastic bag bans and 7 states had polystyrene foam bans.

With the signing of this bill, Colorado becomes the first state in the U.S. to strike a state plastics preemption law, restoring the right of local municipalities to enact their own plastic regulations.

What the new law will do:

- **Charge a \$0.10 fee on plastic and paper carry out bags** at large grocery and retail stores (restaurants and small Colorado-only stores with 3 or fewer locations are excluded) *starting Jan. 1, 2023*. The retailer will keep \$0.04 of the fee to implement the program and municipalities and counties will get \$0.06 of the fee to implement and enforce the law as well as use it for recycling, composting and waste diversion programs and education.
- **Ban plastic carry out bags at large grocery and retail stores** (restaurants and small Colorado-only stores with 3 or fewer locations are excluded) *starting Jan. 1, 2024*.
- **Ban polystyrene food containers and cups at all restaurants and schools** *starting Jan. 1, 2024*.
- Allow municipalities and counties to enact, implement and enforce more stringent bag and polystyrene laws *and* enact, implement and enforce laws that prohibit, restrict or mandate the use or sale of plastic materials, containers, packaging or labeling *starting July 1, 2024*.

Questions? Please contact Randy Moorman, Eco-Cycle Director of Legislative and Community Campaigns at randy@ecocycle.org