



Middletown's Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance Information for Restaurants

What you need to know:

- Middletown's Ordinance goes into effect on October 1, 2019 and it is more restrictive than the State law.
- The Middletown Ordinance pertains to all for profit establishments, including restaurants, farmers markets, food trucks and other establishments who sell products for profit.
- Middletown businesses and restaurants will no longer be able to provide plastic check-out bags as of Oct. 1, 2019. There are no exemptions.
- If customers don't have their own bag, merchants can provide alternative paper bags for ten cents. The cost of each bag must be printed or written on the receipt. The ten cents stays with the merchant.
- Alternative paper bags must contain no old growth fiber, must be 100% recyclable, must contain 40% post consumer recycled content and must display the word "Reusable" or "Recyclable" on the outside of the bag.
- Merchants must post signs near the point of purchase to notify customers of this ordinance.
- This does not apply to bags such as laundry or dry cleaning bags, newspaper bags, paper gift bags, produce bags, product bags, or bags sold in packages intended for garbage, food storage, pet waste or yard waste bags.
- More information can be found at: <http://www.middletownct.gov/1033/Bring-Your-Own-Bag-Ordinance>. We will be providing samples signs and vendor listings.
- *Thank you for your assistance in making Middletown a sustainable and healthy place to live and shop.*



City of Middletown Bring Your Own Bag Questions and Answers for Restaurants

1. Are plastic bags used for take out meals or left over meals banned? Yes.

As of October 1, 2019 plastic bags cannot be used for take out meals or left overs. Paper bags can be used for a ten cent fee. Customers should be encouraged to either not take a bag (for a small amount of items) or bring in their own bag to carry out a large amount.



2. What if we have an item that may spill? Restaurants can use a plastic product bag with no handles to package up items that may spill. These are allowed and there is no charge for these bags.

3. Is the ten charge paper bag charge subject to sales tax? Yes it is.

Please direct questions to the City Recycling Coordinator at kim.orourke@middletown.gov or 860-638-4855.

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