

10 Steps to reducing plastic bag use for retailers:

<p>Plan</p> <p>Target a date to start the phase out of plastic bags, or for starting to charge customers for plastic bags</p>	<p>Remind</p> <p>Give out reminders with reusable bags, such as door hangers or fridge magnets</p>
<p>Change policy</p> <p>Display signs stating that plastic bags will no longer be given away routinely, and customers will need to ask for one</p>	<p>Reward</p> <p>Develop a rewards system for customers who bring the bags back or use their own bags. This could be in the form of a discount or a "frequent shopper" card</p>
<p>Change behavior</p> <p>Train & educate staff to ask customers <i>"do you need a bag?"</i> with their purchase.</p> <p>Educate staff to promote reusable bag options to all customers by saying, <i>"would you like to buy a reusable bag?"</i></p>	<p>Inform & educate</p> <p>Put plastic bag reduction posters and reusable bags near check-out tills.</p> <p>Pictures of animals caught up in plastic bags are a very effective way to get people to use reusable bags instead of plastic.</p>
<p>Charge</p> <p>Start charging for plastic bags, donate money to environmental cause or use to purchase reusable bags</p>	<p>Publicize</p> <p>Have a media release, register with our website (www.wastefreeworld.org)</p>
<p>Reuse</p> <p>Introduce a reusable bag for your store or association</p>	<p>Test</p> <p>Have a trial period for 6 months, followed by an evaluation</p>

