

COUNTY OF ULSTER

P.O. BOX 1800
KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12402

DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
17 Pearl Street, Kingston NY
Phone: 845-338-7287
environment@co.ulster.ny.us



PATRICK K. RYAN
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

AMANDA L. LAVALLE
COORDINATOR

NICHOLAS E. HVOZDA
DEPUTY COORDINATOR

June 13th, 2019

Dear Ulster County Business,

On July 15th, the Ulster County Bring Your Own Bag Act (BYOBag Act) will go into effect. Under the Act, the distribution of most types of **plastic bags will be prohibited** and retailers will be required to collect a fee on any recyclable paper bags provided.

Enclosed with this letter are copies of the BYOBag Act brochure as well as a one page flyer. We hope you find these resources useful in answering question that you or your customers may have about the Act. For additional information, including answers to Frequently Asked Questions and resources for retailers, we encourage you to visit the BYOBag Act website at ulstercountyny.gov/BYOBagFAQ or submit your questions to BYOBagAct@co.ulster.ny.us.

Ulster County has a strong history of leading the State when it comes to environmental stewardship and sustainability. After the passage of the Ulster County BYOBag Act in 2018, New York State passed a plastic bag ban. The County's law will remain in effect until March 1st of 2020 at which time it will be superseded by the State law. As we learn more about the details of the NYS law and this transition, we will update our FAQ website.

Plastic bags, although useful and convenient, all too often contribute to litter, impact our environment, and have the potential to affect human health. Reducing our reliance on plastic bags and encouraging the use of reusable bags is an important way to reduce plastic pollution. **On July 15th, let's continue to demonstrate Ulster County's environmental leadership to New York State and beyond in our roll-out of the Ulster County BYOBag Act.**

Sincerely,

Amanda LaValle, Coordinator