

## Municipal Carryout Bag Ordinances

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### Issue

Compare the provisions of municipal single-use carryout bag ordinances in Connecticut.

### Summary

Until June 30, 2021, state law requires retailers to charge a 10-cent fee on each single-use plastic carryout bag (also referred to as “check-out bags”) provided to customers at the point of sale for transporting purchased items out of the store. After that date, the bags are banned. But the law allows municipalities to enact ordinances on (1) single-use plastic carryout bags, as long as they are at least as restrictive as the state’s requirements or (2) single-use paper carryout bags, including allowing retailers to charge a fee for each bag provided to a customer ([PA 19-117](#), § 355(d)). OLR Report [2019-R-0200](#) provides additional information about the state law.

We identified 19 Connecticut municipalities with ordinances on single-use carryout bags: Branford, Darien, Fairfield, Glastonbury, Greenwich, Guilford, Hamden, Mansfield, Middletown, New Britain, New Canaan, Newtown, Norwalk, Stamford, Stonington, Washington, Weston, Westport, and Windham.

Each municipality’s ordinance prohibits certain entities from providing single-use plastic carryout bags to customers. Exemptions from the bans vary, but typically at least cover (1) “product bags” which are thin bags used to carry unwrapped items (e.g., produce, nuts, grains, hardware); (2) newspaper bags; and (3) laundry or dry cleaning bags. Many ordinances explicitly exempt sales by individuals at their homes (e.g., tag or yard sales).

The ordinances also set content standards for paper and reusable carryout bags provided to customers. For example, almost all of the municipalities require that paper carryout bags be 100% recyclable. Similarly, they generally require reusable carryout bags to be designed for multiple reuses and to meet other requirements.

The following eight municipalities require entities subject to the ordinances to charge customers a fee (generally 10 cents) for each paper carryout bag provided to customers: Darien, Middletown, New Britain, New Canaan, Newtown, Norwalk, Stamford, and Weston. However, these municipalities also exempt from the fee, bags used to carry items purchased by food assistance benefits, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC).

Most of the municipal ordinances provide a warning for a first violation. Second and subsequent violations are subject to civil fines that range from \$45 to \$250.

For each municipal bag ordinance, Table 1 summarizes the (1) general scope of the restriction; (2) covered entities; (3) bag fees, if any; and (4) penalties. It also provides links to the ordinances, if available.

**Table 1: Provisions of Municipal Ordinances on Single-Use Carryout Bags**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
Branford (not available online)	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to carry (1) produce, meat, or small unpackaged products or (2) dry cleaning</li> <li>distributing any plastic bag at a town facility or an event on town property</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided by retailers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as "Recyclable," (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content, and (3) be certified to have no old growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided by retailers to (1) have handles, (2) be made for multiple reuse (at least 125 uses), and (3) meet specific content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>entities engaged in retail sales, sidewalk sales, farmers' or flea markets, restaurants, or other commercial or nonprofit establishments that sell goods</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>may charge and keep \$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer</li> <li>may increase by \$0.05 every five years, up to \$0.25</li> <li>exempts bags for purchases by people age 65 or older</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP or other food assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: official warning</p> <p>Violation after warning (in a one-week period): \$150 fine, reducible to \$50 if the violator conducts eight hours of environmentally-based community service</p> <p>Subsequent violations (i.e., within one day after a first violation): \$150 fine</p>

Table 1 (continued)

Municipality	Bag Restrictions	Covered Entities	Bag Fee	Penalty
<p><a href="#">Darien</a>*</p>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, or grains; (2) meat or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) laundry or dry cleaning; or (7) prescriptions or hospital waste</li> <li>exempts, until 12/31/20, single location businesses of less than 10,000 square feet</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to be (1) made for multiple reuse (at least 125 uses), (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet specific content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People, businesses, or nonprofits that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; pharmacies; hospitals, libraries, or schools; or farmers' markets, street fairs, or town events)</li> <li>exempts sales by (1) individuals at their home and (2) nonprofits, even though the ordinance includes nonprofit entities as business establishments subject to the ordinance</li> <li>exempts, until 12/31/20, single location businesses of less than 10,000 square feet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper carryout bags, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP or other food-assistance benefits</li> <li>exempts single location businesses of less than 10,000 square feet</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>First violation at least 60 days after warning: citation with \$150 fine</p> <p>Second violation after warning: citation with \$250 fine</p> <p>(No more than one penalty in a seven-day period)</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Fairfield**</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) prescriptions; or (7) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable,” (2) generally have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber, and (3) show the percentage of post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles, (2) be made for multiple reuse, (3) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (4) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people or businesses that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; sidewalk vendors; or farmers’ or flea markets)</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: warning</p> <p>Second violation: \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#"><u>Glastonbury*</u></a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to carry (1) produce, meat, seafood, or other unwrapped food items; (2) newspaper; or (3) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least six mils thick, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retail, liquor, household goods, convenience, or grocery stores; restaurants; seasonal or temporary businesses; food trucks; or pharmacies</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written notice of violation with date for compliance</p> <p>Citation issued if noncompliant by the given date with a \$100 fine, per day, until violator sends notice of compliance</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$100 fine, per day of continued noncompliance (but citations must be issued at least 90 days apart)</p>

Table 1 (continued)

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Greenwich</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) prescriptions; (7) laundry or dry cleaning; or (8) hospital waste</li> <li>generally providing a plastic carryout bag at a town facility or event</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable,” (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber, and (3) show the manufacture’s name and location and the percentage of post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or nonprofits that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; hospitals, libraries, or schools; or temporary vendors at a farmers’ market, street fair, or town event)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the price of a reusable carryout bag, if sold by a business, must be for at least a paper carryout bag’s cost</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Second violation: \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p>

Table 1 (continued)

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Guilford*</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) prescriptions; (7) laundry or dry cleaning; or (8) hospital waste</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable,” (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber, and (3) show the manufacturer’s name and location and the percentage of post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to have handles, and be made for long-term multiple reuse (e.g., at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for- or not-for-profit businesses that sell goods directly to customers (e.g., grocery, department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; hospitals, libraries, or schools; or temporary vendors at farmers’ markets, street fairs, or town events)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>may charge and keep \$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>



**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Hamden</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) prescriptions; (6) laundry or dry cleaning; or (7) hospital waste</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable,” (2) generally have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber, and (3) show the manufacturer’s name and location and the percentage of post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to be made for multiple reuse and meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or nonprofits that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; hospitals, libraries, or schools; or temporary vendors at a farmers’ market, street fair, or town event)</li> <li>hardship deferments available, including 18-month deferment for farm stands and stores</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Second violation: notice of violation and \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: citation and \$250 fine</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Mansfield</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; or (6) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper bags provided to customers to be 100% recyclable</li> <li>reusable bags provided to customers to be made for multiple reuse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for-profit entities that sell goods (e.g., grocery, department, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; or pharmacies)</li> <li>six month economic hardship deferment available</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written warning with 14 days to comply</p> <p>If noncompliant, then a citation and a \$90 fine are issued</p> <p>If the fine is unpaid after its due date, then an additional \$90 fine, per day of continued noncompliance, applies</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Middletown</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) produce, meats, or other food items to the point of sale; (2) newspapers; or (3) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” or “Recyclable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse and (2) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>for-profit businesses such as retail, grocery, convenience, household goods, or liquor stores; seasonal or temporary businesses; pharmacies; restaurants; or food trucks</li> <li>exempts (1) nonprofits or charities distributing food, grocery products, or household items and (2) sales by individuals at their homes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning with at least seven days to comply</p> <p>If noncompliant, then a \$45 fine, per day of continued noncompliance</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">New Britain</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; or (6) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable” and (2) generally have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or organizations that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants or delis; food trucks; hospitals or pharmacies; sidewalk vendors; or farmers’ or flea markets)</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Second violation: \$99 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p> <p>(No more than one penalty imposed in a 24-hour period)</p>

Table 1 (continued)

Municipality	Bag Restrictions	Covered Entities	Bag Fee	Penalty
<a href="#">New Canaan</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; or (6) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers by businesses with more than 10,000 square feet of retail space to (1) have a capacity of less than 600 cubic inches or (2) be 100% recyclable, listed as "Reusable and Recyclable," and have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least six mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or organizations that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants or delis; food trucks; hospitals or pharmacies; sidewalk vendors; or farmers' or flea markets)</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer by a business with more than 10,000 square feet, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Second violation: \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p> <p>(No more than one penalty in a 24-hour period)</p>

Table 1 (continued)

Municipality	Bag Restrictions	Covered Entities	Bag Fee	Penalty
<a href="#">Newtown</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) meat or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) laundry or dry cleaning; or (7) prescriptions or hospital waste</li> <li>generally distributing a plastic carryout bag at a town facility or event</li> <li>gift stores or boutiques from providing plastic gift bags</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “reusable” and “recyclable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or organizations that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; hospital, libraries, or schools; pharmacies; or farmers’ or flea market)</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes</li> <li>six month hardship deferment, with additional extension, available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>at least \$0.10 per paper carryout bag provided to a customer, which the business may keep</li> <li>allows a fee of at least \$.15 per nonrecyclable paper bag</li> <li>at least \$0.10 per paper gift bag provided by a gift store or boutique that fails to meet the paper bag requirements</li> <li>restaurants and places offering freshly prepared foods are exempt from charging per paper bag</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning with 14 days to comply</p> <p>If non-compliant, then a \$100 fine, per day of continued noncompliance</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Norwalk</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) laundry or dry cleaning; or (7) prescriptions</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “reusable” and “recyclable” and (2) generally have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic, and (3) meet other content standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people, businesses, or organizations that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants or delis; food trucks; hospitals or pharmacies; sidewalk vendors; or farmers’ or flea markets)</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Second violation: \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p> <p>(No more than one penalty imposed in a 24-hour period)</p>

Table 1 (continued)

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Stamford</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, grains, or hardware items; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; or (6) laundry or dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable, (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content, and (3) display a statement asking users to recycle the bags</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse and (2) be at least 12 mils thick if made of plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>retail stores, restaurants, food trucks, sidewalk vendors, farmers' or flea markets</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes and sales by nonprofits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$0.10 per paper bag provided to a customer, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Subsequent violations: \$250 fine</p> <p>(No more than one penalty imposed in a seven-day period)</p>



Table 1 (continued)

Municipality	Bag Restrictions	Covered Entities	Bag Fee	Penalty
<a href="#">Stonington</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used generally to carry (1) produce, nuts, or grains; (2) frozen food, meat, or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) prescriptions; (6) newspapers; (7) laundry or dry cleaning; or (8) clothing via a double-opening bag</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Reusable” and “Recyclable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse, (2) be at least 3 mils if made of plastic, and (3) have the words “Reusable” or “Reuse”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>businesses such as retail stores, restaurants, sidewalk vendors, farmers’ or flea markets</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes and sales by nonprofits</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written warning with 14 days to comply</p> <p>Subsequent violations: written order with \$150 fine</p> <p>Businesses that violate the ordinance may not have a municipally-issued license renewed</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<p>Washington (not available online)*</p>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry (1) bulk items such as produce, nuts, candy, or grains; (2) meat or fish; (3) flowers, plants, or other damp items; (4) unwrapped prepared food or bakery items; (5) newspapers; (6) laundry or dry cleaning; or (7) prescriptions or hospital waste</li> <li>• generally providing a plastic carryout bag at a town facility or event</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• paper carryout bags provided to customers to be made of recycled materials</li> <li>• reusable carryout bags provided to customers to be made for multiple reuse (e.g., at least 12 mils if made of plastic)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• people, businesses, or nonprofits that sell goods (e.g., grocery stores or delivery services; department, clothing, hardware, convenience, or liquor stores; restaurants; food trucks; hospitals or pharmacies; libraries or schools; or farmers' or flea market)</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: business works with municipality to comply with ordinance</p> <p>Second violation: citation and \$150 fine</p> <p>Subsequent violations: citation and \$250 fine</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Weston</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is used to generally carry such things as (1) produce, (2) meats, (3) small unpackaged items like beads or nails, or (4) dry cleaning</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “recyclable” and “reusable,” (2) generally have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content, and (3) be certified by the Forest Stewardship Council and have no old-growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bag provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse and (2) be at least 4 mils thick if made of plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people engaged in retail sales at retail stores, restaurants, sidewalk sales, or farmers’ or flea markets</li> <li>exempts sales by (1) individuals at their homes and (2) nonprofits or governmental organizations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>at least \$0.10 per paper or reusable bag provided to a customer, which the business keeps</li> <li>exempts bags to carry items purchased using SNAP, WIC, or other food-assistance benefits</li> </ul>	<p>First violation: written warning</p> <p>Subsequent violations: citation and \$150 fine</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Westport</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is (1) at least 28 by 36 inches in size or (2) used to carry produce, meats, or other items to the point of sale</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Recyclable” and “Reusable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old-growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bag provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse and (2) be at least 2.25 mils thick if made of plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>people engaged in retail sales at retail stores, restaurants, sidewalk sales, or farmers’ or flea markets</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes and sales by nonprofits</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written notice with date to correct violation</p> <p>If noncompliant, then a citation with a \$150 fine applies (with an additional \$150 fine, per day of continued noncompliance after four more days)</p> <p>(No more than one citation in a 90 day period)</p>

**Table 1 (continued)**

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Bag Restrictions</i>	<i>Covered Entities</i>	<i>Bag Fee</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
<a href="#">Windham</a>	<p>Prohibits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>providing a plastic carryout bag unless it is (1) at least 28 by 36 inches in size or (2) used to carry produce, meats, or other items to the point of sale</li> </ul> <p>Requires:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>paper carryout bags provided to customers to (1) be 100% recyclable and labeled as “Recyclable” and “Reusable” and (2) have at least 40% post-consumer recycled content and no old-growth fiber</li> <li>reusable carryout bags provided to customers to (1) have handles and be made for multiple reuse and (2) be at least 2.25 mils thick if made of plastic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>individuals or businesses engaged in retail sales at retail stores, restaurants, sidewalk vendors, farmers’ or flea markets</li> <li>exempts sales by individuals at their homes or by nonprofits</li> </ul>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>First violation: written notice with date to correct violation</p> <p>If noncompliant, then a citation with a \$150 fine applies (with an additional \$150 fine, per day of continued noncompliance after four more days)</p> <p>(No more than one citation in a 90 day period)</p>

\*takes effect January 1, 2020

\*\*takes effect February 1, 2020

KM:kl