

Council

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August 13, 2018

Dear Retailer:

Several months ago, the Port Royal Town Council adopted an Ordinance prohibiting single-use plastic bags for retail checkout of purchased goods at business establishments. In doing so, we joined Beaufort County and other municipalities in the county and throughout the country that have chosen to adopt Ordinances that help reduce waste and protect the environment.

The Ordinance goes into effect November 1, 2018. On this date, business establishments will no longer be allowed to provide disposable plastic carryout shopping bags to customers. Instead, we encourage you to provide reusable carryout bags or recyclable paper bags for your customers. We applaud those businesses that are already making these types of bags available to their customers, either as a courtesy or for sale at a minimal charge, and that are encouraging customers to shop with reusable carryout bags.

Under the Ordinance, there are still some plastic bags allowed, including newspaper, dry cleaning, bags for meat and produce, and more. This packet includes information explaining exemptions and other information to help your business prepare for and implement the policy. Plus, you can visit our website for information. Over the next few months, we will educate the public on this new Ordinance.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to improve and protect the environment, and protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents and visitors within the Town by reducing disposable bags at retail establishments and at Town facilities and events. We seek to reduce the number of plastic bags being used, discarded and littered, and to promote the use of reusable checkout bags. This law is one of the many strategies we are taking to create and maintain a sustainable environment for future generations to live in and enjoy.

We understand you may have concerns and questions about the impact of this new law to your businesses. Our staff is available to answer questions and help your business comply with the new regulations. If you have any questions, you may contact our Codes Enforcement at 843-986-2225.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brooke Plank-Buccola". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Brooke Plank-Buccola
Town of Port Royal
Municipal Clerk