



Join us in working towards a

Plastic Bag Free

Torquay and Surf Coast



The Surf Coast Shire Council is committed to reducing the use and distribution of single use plastic bags. The pristine natural environment and waterways within the Surf Coast Shire can be significantly impacted by plastic bag waste, causing marine debris and harm to the fragile ecosystem.

In collaboration with local businesses, shop owners and consumers the Surf Coast Shire Council wants to work towards a conscious transformation from single use plastics to reusable and eco-friendly and sustainable alternatives.

The Surf Coast Community, led by local organisations such as Plastic Bag Free Torquay, has made it a priority to advocate for the prohibition of single use plastic bags. The community wants to see a significant change in consumer and supplier practices, ceasing the distribution of single use plastic bags and introducing the implementation of durable and reusable products.

How do we achieve a plastic bag pollution revolution?

The Surf Coast towns of Anglesea, Aireys Inlet, Deans Marsh, Winchelsea and Fairhaven have already successfully replaced single use plastic bags with reusable and durable alternatives. Now it is Torquay's turn. The phase out will discourage the use and distribution of single use plastic bags with handles made of polyethylene polymer less than 35 microns.

Plastic bags labelled 'degradable' will also be scaled back in use and distribution. Degradable plastic as the name suggests actually does not break down. Instead it fragments into small pieces, further spreading the plastic into the environment.

WHICH BAGS SHOULD BE PHASED OUT?



Polyethylene polymer bags



100% Degradable bags

WHICH BAGS SHOULD BE USED AS AN ALTERNATIVE?



Boomerang bag



Ecobag



Compostable bags that meet Aust. Standard AS 4736-2006



Durable reusable bags



Paper bags



Corn starch bags



Where can you get reusable and eco-friendly alternatives?

Supplier/Source	Contact Details	Products
Plastic Bag Free Torquay	www.plasticbagfreetorquay.org.au	Boomerang Bag stations- local initiative providing access to free durable and reusable bags
Going Green Solutions	946 Main Rd Hurstbridge VIC 3099 Phone: (03) 9718 0126 www.goinggreensolutions.com.au/	Upcycled reusable bags, bulk biodegradable and certified compostable checkout bags
Buy Eco Green Australia	Toll free: 1300 663 488 Email: info@buyecogreen.com.au www.buyecogreen.com.au	Recycled paper bags, sustainable bamboo bags, organic cotton bags, natural jute bags, recycled PET bags

For more information contact:

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Plastic Wise Stakeholders

