

**Public comment for proposed revisions to 7 DE Admin. Code 1301 Section 14
“Plastic Carryout Bag Ban and At Store Recycling Program.”**

There are multiple case studies here in the states and internationally that have shown plastic bag fees as low as 5 cents are effective at reducing plastic bag use. Studies show that bag fees serve as a psychological instrument rather than an economic one. A small fee evokes a strong emotional response, in changing human behavior, which will serve to more efficiently cut plastic waste. There should be a mandatory bag fee implemented into the policy.

Here are two studies that highlight this psychological effect.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6399129/>

https://scaan.net/docs/ScAAN_Bags_report.pdf

I agree with the Delaware Nature society that regulations need to be more aggressive. I want to see a policy that includes that 25% of recycled resin content be required for reusable plastic bags by 2022 (there needs to be an incentive by manufacturers to produce products made from recycled plastic resin content)

I saw that there was a remark made in the October meeting that Wilmington can make changes to the law within its city by an act of the Wilmington City? Can you please expand on what that means? Does that mean they can add stricter provisions or add more exemptions?

Are there manufacturers who are partnering (recycling) markets to close the “loop and support this program by manufacturing bags from recycled content resin provided by the film and bag recycling program?

How does the DNREC enforce the policy? Do they have reps visiting stores to ensure regulations are followed randomly throughout the year?

Thank you for added clarifications for • “store”, “Marketplace”, “paper bag”, “Retail Space”, “Reusable bag”, “store” definition