



PROTOCOLS FOR REUSABLE BAGS IN GROCERY AND RETAIL STORES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

On April 22, 2020, the State implemented a temporary 60-day suspension of the reusable grocery bag fee was issued by the State of California. The temporary suspension has now been lifted and the single-use carryout bag ban is in effect. Reusable bags save money, reduce clutter and help the environment by reducing plastics in our oceans, rivers, and soils.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (Public Health) recommends the following guidance when handling reusable bags:

Protocols for Customers:



- Leave reusable bags in the shopping cart while shopping.
- Don't place bags on conveyor belts or any other area outside of shopping carts.
- Bag your own purchases.
- Don't bag items in the checkout area if physical distancing cannot be maintained. Items can be placed in a cart and bagged elsewhere by the customer.
- Clean the reusable bags frequently.

Protocols for Stores and Employees:



- Frequently disinfect bagging areas used by customers.
- Disinfect self-checkout areas between customers when customer reusable bags are brought in.
- Post signs at all entrances instructing customers to do the following:
 - Use cloth face covering when in the facilities.
 - Use hand sanitizer when entering the facility and prior to checkout.
 - Only touch products they intend to purchase.
 - Leave their own bags in the shopping cart and bag their own groceries or items so that employees do not have contact with the bags.
 - If an employee bags items as an exception, the employee should wear and change gloves after handling customer bags.

