

Fewer plastic bags in our world!



John and Shola Kahiapo

"I see the damage plastic bags can cause. That's why our family has made the change to take reusable bags wherever we go."

All four Hawai'i counties have passed plastic bag reduction laws.

Some local retailers have voluntarily chosen to not offer plastic bags.

Many places have banned free single use plastic bags:

COUNTRIES

- China
- Italy
- Ireland
- Germany
- Holland
- Switzerland
- Bangladesh and more...

CITIES

- Los Angeles
- San Francisco
- San José
- Washington D.C.
- Portland, OR
- Mexico City
- Toronto, Canada
- Delhi, India
- Rangoon, Burma and more...

Reduce

Buy food in bulk and at farmer's markets to avoid plastic and paper packaging that can't be reused.

Don't use plastic trash bags, just wash out trash cans. It's easier to clean if you compost food scraps.

Keeping scraps and other organics out of the landfills slows the increase of methane gas emissions from the landfills- a cause of global warming.

Compost is good for your garden.

Reuse

Take reusable bags when shopping.

Bags made from washable fabric are long lasting.

Nylon fabric bags are compact and easy to carry.

Keep a spare reusable bag in your handbag or wallet.

If you can't avoid a single use plastic bag, reuse it to freeze food, store items or while walking your dog.

Recycle

Recycle single use plastic bags but make sure they are empty and clean to aid the recycling process.

Recycle single use bags at:

- local stores that offer recycling,
- the Mixed bin at recycling and transfer stations. Remember to tie them in a knot so they don't blow in the wind.

Reusable bags are the best option. NOT paper bags.

Production and transportation of paper and biodegradable bags cause air and water pollution as well as consume energy and natural resources.

A guiding principle of the Hawai'i State Sustainability 2050 Plan is to respect and live within the natural resources and limits of our islands.



For more information and rules visit www.HawaiiZeroWaste.org