



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 disposable plastic bags. 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?

Certain towns within the Surf Coast Shire have successfully replaced single use plastic bags with reusable and durable alternatives and now it is Torquay's turn. The phase out will discourage the use and distribution of 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?



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?**

<b>Supplier/ Source</b>	<b>Contact Details</b>	<b>Products</b>
Byars Flexible Packaging	135 Fyans st South Geelong VIC 3220 Ph: 5229 9998 <b>www.byars.com.au</b>	Brown Kraft paper bag- Take-away and large sizes available
Plastic Bag Free Torquay	<b>www.plasticbagfreetorquay.org.au</b>	Boomerang Bag stations- local initiative providing access to free durable and reusable bags
GreenPack	Online store based in Billinudgel NSW Ph: (02) 6680 2550 <b>Greenpack.com</b>	Brown paper bags sourced from sustainable plantations and made in Australia
Tailored Packaging Retail	Online store based in Baulkham NSW Toll free: 1300 852 088 Ph: (02) 8765 1488 <b>www.tailoredpackagingretail.com</b>	Corn starch plastic bags, compostable bags, paper bags
Eternal Source	Toll free: 1300 722 945 Email: info@eternalsource.com.au <b>www.eternalsource.com.au</b>	Biodegradable plastic bags and reusable bags
Buy Eco Green Australia	Toll free: 1300 663 488 Email: info@buyecogreen.com.au <b>www.buyecogreen.com.au</b>	Recycled paper bags, sustainable bamboo bags, organic cotton bags, natural jute bags, recycled PET bags
Jute Bags	Online store <b>www.jutebags.com.au</b>	Durable and reusable bags made out of a range of natural plant fibres

**Surf Coast Shire Council**  
PO Box 350 (1 Merrijig Drive) Torquay  
Victoria 3228  
**Phone:** 03 5261 0600  
**Email:** info@surfcoast.vic.gov.au  
**www.surfcoast.vic.gov.au**

