

## Barrington approves plastic bag ban

### Ban is first of its kind in Rhode Island

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By Dan Carpenter

BARRINGTON, R.I. (WPRI) - Barrington's town council voted Monday night, 4-1 to approve an ordinance banning plastic bags from stores and restaurants.

It will become the first ban of its kind in Rhode Island when it takes effect on January 1, 2013.

Under the ban, stores will still be able to use plastic produce, bakery and deli counter bags.

Retailers will be able to charge a five cent fee for recyclable paper bags.

"We applaud the town council's decision to move forward with this initiative to protect the Bay and local waterways from plastic bag pollution," said Channing Jones, Program Associate with Environment Rhode Island, a citizen-based advocacy group. "Nothing we use for five minutes should pollute the Bay for future generations."

In August, Shaw's Supermarkets announced it would voluntarily ban plastic bags at its Barrington location.

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