



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 2016

Contact: Emily Norton

[emily.norton@sierraclub.org](mailto:emily.norton@sierraclub.org)

(508) 397-6839

## Mass. Sierra Club Applauds State Senate For Plastic Bag Ban Vote

The Mass. Sierra Club applauds State Senators Cynthia Creem, Jamie Eldridge and the entire Mass. State Senate for their leadership in voting to ban plastic carryout bags from large retail establishments in Massachusetts. Thirty two cities and towns have already passed restrictions on these bags. Plastic bags offer five minutes of convenience in exchange for generations of toxicity in our environment. These lightweight bags blow into trees, parks and waterways where they choke marine life; for example, turtles mistake them for jellyfish and ingest them. Plastic does not biodegrade but rather breaks down into microplastics which have been found at the deepest depths of the ocean. These microplastics are eaten by marine life and eventually make their way into fish that are eaten by humans. As a coastal state with hundreds of rivers and streams, it is particularly important for Massachusetts to say no to this unnecessary and deadly source of toxic pollution. Sierra Club applauds the Mass. Senate for saying BYOB, "Bring Your Own Bag!"

### **ABOUT Massachusetts Sierra Club**

Sierra Club is the nation's oldest and most effective grassroots environmental group. The Massachusetts Chapter was established nearly fifty years ago and has a strong track record of enabling Bay Staters to "enjoy, explore and protect the planet."

###

[www.facebook.com/MassSierraClub](http://www.facebook.com/MassSierraClub)

@MassSierraClub