



Letters from Sunnyvale Sun readers

From Sunnyvale Sun readers

Posted: 12/09/2011

No such things as a free bag

There is no such thing as a free bag!

Sixty-nine million plastic single-use shopping bags a year--that is the estimated number of single-use plastic bags used by Sunnyvale residents each year. Great for the plastic bag industry's bottom line, but bad for others who bear the costs: customers, wildlife, our environment and the taxpayer.

The customer pays more for products as retailers recoup the cost of plastic bags by raising prices.

The environment pays as plastic bags are manufactured and again as they blow onto landscapes and waterways, to pollute the water and entangle, choke and poison wildlife.

The taxpayer pays as recycling machinery and storm drain filters are clogged by plastic bags and as litter cleanups are required.

And Big Plastic profits from making a harmful product. Enough already!

There's no need to wait for a plastic bag ban to go into effect. By just remembering to bring our own shopping bags--everywhere--starting today, we can collectively have a big impact!

We will be protecting birds and sea life, reducing costs for tax/ratepayers, reducing litter, conserving energy and natural resources, and improving air quality--all by bringing a reusable bag whenever shopping.

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