

## RESOURCES FOR ADVOCATES

- [ALGALITA FOUNDATION](#) – incredible resource to learn about the impact of plastic on the marine environment
- [CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PLASTIC PLAGUE \(CAPP\)](#) – Learn more about the Campaign Against the Plastic Plague (CAPP)
- [EARTH RESOURCE FOUNDATION](#) – Great background on the plastic grocery bag problem from CAPP
- [MY OWN BAG](#) – Great list of facts and statistics about paper and plastic grocery bags
- [REUSABLEBAGS.COM](#) – Another great place to learn about the bag problem and statistics
- [AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT](#) – Information and analysis from the Australian government regarding their efforts to curb plastic bag use
- [MINDFULLY.ORG](#) – Great information about the impact of plastics on human health
- [PLANETARK.COM](#) – Plastic bag information from an advocacy group in Australia

**To learn more about community organizing and starting your own campaign check out:**

### ADVOCACY TRAINING PROGRAMS:

[MIDWEST ACADEMY](#)

[GREEN CORPS](#)

[SPIN PROJECT](#) – learn how to work with the media

[GREENPEACE ORGANIZING TERM](#) – for college students

### BOOKS:

[Organizing for Social Change: Midwest Academy: Manual for Activists](#)

[Rules for Radicals by Saul Alinsky](#)

[REVIEW OF SEVERAL BOOKS](#)



## TEN THINGS YOU CAN DO TO CREATE A REUSABLE BAG HABIT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

1. Wage a campaign in your town or city to end the use of single-use bags by encouraging legislators to implement a grocery bag fee. Contact [advocacy@chicobag.com](mailto:advocacy@chicobag.com) for help and more information.
2. Talk to local community and environmental groups about the bag issue and find out if they want to get involved.
3. Create a petition asking for your city or town to take on the single use bag problem. Circulate it at schools, universities, the library, grocery stores, farmer's markets, and anywhere else where you can connect with your neighbors.
4. Encourage local grocers and retailers to take the following actions to reduce single-use bags:
  - Offer a bag refund to customers who bring their own bags
  - Put signs on the door and near the cash register reminding people to bring their own bags
  - Create an area in the store where customers can drop off reusable bags for others to use
  - Start charging for carryout bags
  - Print messages on their bags reminding customers that the bags are recyclable and reusable
  - Create an in-store bag recycling program if they don't already have one
  - Sell reusable bags in the store
  - Ask store managers to train checkout staff to ask "Did you remember your reusable bag today?" If the customer says no, checker can share that affordable, durable bags are for sale in the store.
5. Bring an extra reusable bag to the grocery store the next time you shop and give it away to a stranger who doesn't have one. Ask them to "Pay it Forward" and give a bag away the next time they shop. Check out our Pay it Forward Kit at [Earthshare.org/payitforward](http://Earthshare.org/payitforward)
6. Write a letter to the newspaper explaining the environmental problems with paper and plastic bags. Use our resources to help you come up with talking points.
7. Start a ChicoBag fundraiser to raise money for an environmental or litter prevention group. Contact [fundraisers@chicobag.com](mailto:fundraisers@chicobag.com) for more information!
8. Stage a [Bag Monster](#) sighting in your community. Contact [bagmonster@chicobag.com](mailto:bagmonster@chicobag.com) to set it up!
9. Give your friends and family reusable bags as gifts for birthdays, graduation, housewarming parties, and special holidays.
10. Set a good example by just saying no to single use bags when you're at the store. Others in line will follow suit!

