

RESOURCES FOR ADVOCATES

- **5 GYRES**
Learn about plastic pollution through exploration, education and action. The mission of 5 Gyres is to conduct research and communicate about the global impact of plastic pollution in the world's oceans and employ strategies to eliminate the accumulation of plastic pollution in the 5 subtropical gyres.
- **CHICOBAG COMPANY**
An interactive map showing all bag-related legislation across the world, a great resource for advocates.
- **PLASTIC POLLUTION COALITION**
A global alliance of individuals, organizations and businesses working together to stop plastic pollution and its toxic impacts on humans, animals and the environment.
- **SURFRIDER FOUNDATION**
A non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves and beaches.
- **RISE ABOVE PLASTICS**
A project of Surfrider Foundation, dedicated to reducing the impacts of plastics in the marine environment by raising awareness about the dangers of plastic pollution and advocating for a reduction of single-use plastics and recycling of all plastics.
- **HEAL THE BAY**
An environmental non-profit organization making southern California's coastal waters and watersheds safe, healthy and clean using science, education, community action and advocacy.
- **PLASTIC BAG LAWS.ORG**
An excellent resource on all legislation, litigation and studies related to plastic bags.
- **BAG MONSTER BLOG**
A blog dedicated to bringing awareness to the reusable bag movement. Up to date source of information for all bag bans, fees and general reduction efforts around the world.
- **FACEBOOK**
Discuss Bag Monster issues on Facebook.



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 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.
6. Write a letter to the newspaper explaining the environmental problems with paper and plastic bags.
7. Start a ChicoBag fundraiser to raise money for an environmental or litter prevention group. Contact fundraisers@chicobag.com for more information!
8. Stage a **Bag Monster** sighting in your community. Contact 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!

