

## Do you know about Pleasantville's Reusable Bag Initiative?

Single-use plastic shopping bags are a chronic litter and pollution problem. While they offer a few minutes of convenience, the damage they can cause is lasting. PleasantvilleRecycles, the Village's recycling committee, proposes that Pleasantville join New Castle, Larchmont, Mamaroneck, the city of Rye, and many other municipalities, states, and countries around the world to adopt an ordinance that will encourage customers to use reusable bags by restricting the availability of single-use plastic shopping bags and imposing a fee on paper bags. Doing so will help make Pleasantville a cleaner and safer place to live.

## **Plastic Bags**

- Cause litter and pollution.
- Do not biodegrade.
- Endanger marine life and other wildlife.
- Plastic particles are found in our food chain.
- Fewer than 5% of all plastic bags are recycled.

## **Paper Bags**

- 14,000,000 trees cut annually to produce.
- Transporting uses significant fossil fuels.
- Thousands of gallons of water used to produce one ton of paper pulp.
- Paper products in general are the largest contributor to municipal solid waste.
- Recycling paper incurs environmental costs.

## **Proposed Pleasantville Ordinance**

To encourage shoppers to bring reusable bags:

- Ban most single-use plastic bags in all stores. Exceptions: meat, fish, and produce bags, dry cleaning bags, large bags (28" by 36" or larger).
- Require all stores to charge 5 cents for paper bags. Stores keep the bag fees.

For more information, visit PleasantvilleRecycles.org