

## Sample Letter to Business Owners and Friends

Source: [www.BagItMovie.com](http://www.BagItMovie.com)

To get started, we invite you to copy and paste from the letters below and send them to your local business owners and friends. This is a great way to start a plastic bag reduction campaign in your community. Feel free to adjust them to fit your needs to start other campaigns as well.

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### Letter to Business Owners

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

As one of \_\_\_\_\_'s regular customers, I am writing to ask you to change your policies regarding single-use plastic bags, and to join in with Ikea, Costco, Whole Foods and other retailers either by 1) offering a \$.05 or \$.10 credit per bag for customers who bring their own and/or 2) introducing a .15 cent fee on single-use plastic bags. You'll both save money and make your business more environmentally responsible!

Introduced just 25 years ago, single-use plastic bags have become environmental menaces. They are now consumed at an unprecedented rate of about 1 million per minute! These bags often wind up in waterways or on the landscape, becoming eyesores and worse, and degrading water and soil as they break down into tiny toxic bits. Their manufacture, transportation and disposal use large quantities of non-renewable resources and release equally large amounts of global warming gases. Ecologically, hundreds of thousands of marine animals die every year when they mistake plastic bags for food. And paper bags, unless made of 100% recycled content, have been proven to have as many negative impacts as plastic ones.

It doesn't have to be this way—and it's changing all over the world! The Irish government, as one of many examples, introduced (in cooperation with retailers) a plastic bag tax that has slashed consumption over 90% and raised \$9.6 million for environmental and waste management projects.

Charging for disposable bags and rewarding the use of reusable bags works. It saves consumer dollars, saves retailer dollars, saves the environment, and promotes cooperation between public and private sectors. Won't you please consider getting on board? I would love to help with this in any way I can. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_

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### Letter to a Friend

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

Want to learn why you should be even more outraged by the pervasiveness of plastics in our culture, and then learn what it is you can do to live a more plastic-free life? Then you should see *Bag It*, an engaging new documentary about plastic bags, plastic politics, single-use disposables, how plastics are affecting the health of our oceans and the health of our own bodies. *Bag It* is the story of Jeb, an average guy who begins by asking where a single plastic bag from the grocery store will end up—and ends up traveling the world to find out how plastic pollution and chemistry alter not only our environment but our bodies and our children's bodies as well.

I recommend this film for kids and adults alike, as it asks us to listen to the facts and figures and then to consider changing the way we think, feel, and act regarding plastic products, plastic packaging, plastic garbage and plastic pollution. The film also offers some concrete solutions that we can all incorporate into our lives, making our lives both simpler and healthier.

I also urge you to visit their website, whether or not you see the film, as it is a great resource for researching this subject on your own. Their website is [www.bagitmovie.com](http://www.bagitmovie.com). This film could be used as a great tool for inspiring change. I hope you will check it out!

All the best,

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