

31 May 2022

## Light weight plastic bag banned from 1 June 2022

From 1 June 2022 the supply of lightweight shopping bags will be banned by the NSW Government, impacting our local businesses and suppliers.

The NSW Lightweight plastic bags with handles, that are 35 microns or less in thickness at any part of the bag and is fully or partly plastic will be banned from 1 June 2022.

Lightweight biodegradable plastics, compostable plastics, or bio-plastics are also banned, including those made from Australian certified compostable plastic.

“This change is an initiative from the NSW Government and will impact our local businesses, organisations and consumers greatly,” said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Ambrose Doolan. “Let’s help our businesses with the transition from 1 June 2022.”

The bans do not apply to barrier bags such as:

- Produce bags and deli bags
- Bin liners
- Human or animal waste bags
- Bags used to contain items for medical purposes

If you still have banned single-use plastic items at home when the bans come into effect they can still be used for personal use but cannot be supplied to a business or organisation such as a sporting club or community club.

The NSW Environment and Protection Authority (EPA) is the regulator and will monitor and enforce the bans. Fines if caught supplying a banned item are \$55,000.00 for a corporation and \$11,000.00 for an individual.

“This State Government initiative will be rolled out across the entire state of NSW, and it’s important for everyone to cooperate with the changes,” Cr Doolan concluded.

The NSW Government and the National Retail Association is delivering a range of resources to help businesses and organisations to implement the legislation and there is a toll-free hotline on 1800 844 946 or email [sustainability@nra.net.au](mailto:sustainability@nra.net.au)

For more information visit [Planet Ark](#) Website

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Banned from 1 June 2022



### Lightweight plastic shopping bags

**The ban applies to:** lightweight plastic shopping bags with handles that are **35 microns or less** in thickness at any part of the bag, including those made from compostable or 'degradable' plastic.

**The ban does not apply to:** other bags, such as barrier/produce bags, bin liners, animal waste bags, medical waste bags, or sealed product packaging.

