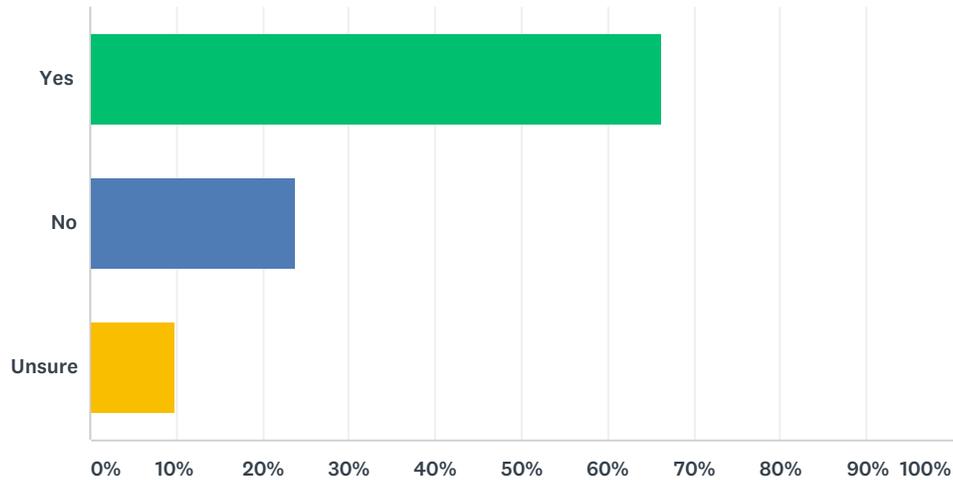


## Q6 Do you support a ban on single use plastic bags?

Answered: 644 Skipped: 34



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	66.30% 427
No	23.91% 154
Unsure	9.78% 63
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>644</b>

#	TELL US WHY OR WHY NOT.	DATE
1	Cleaner and Greener	11/17/2017 12:23 PM
2	I need for kitty litter disposal	11/17/2017 12:16 PM
3	I don't feel it will make a significant difference	11/17/2017 12:12 PM
4	Because it protects the earth and animals	11/17/2017 12:11 PM
5	Soy-based would be better and wood-based increases deforestation	11/17/2017 12:08 PM
6	Because more trees die	11/17/2017 12:06 PM
7	because I am a kid	11/17/2017 12:05 PM
8	No because shop Yes because save animals	11/17/2017 12:04 PM
9	Too much plastic in our environment	11/17/2017 12:00 PM
10	I use them	11/17/2017 11:59 AM
11	Doesn't decay. Ocean gas accumulated plastic drawn together in large groups affecting fish.	11/17/2017 11:57 AM
12	They don't break down in the landfill. We should be using hemp bags.	11/17/2017 11:52 AM
13	I reuse almost all plastic bags for trashcan liners, dog waste, wet bathing suits	11/14/2017 10:27 AM
14	Don't see it as a problem in Portsmouth. An avid kayaker I have not noted it as a problem in the bay either. Plastic bags are convenient and have many potential uses. They are only a problem when people discard them irresponsibly; probably the same people who contribute to the town's poor recycling rate. More education is needed, not a total ban.	11/14/2017 8:54 AM
15	They're unnecessary	11/13/2017 10:33 AM
16	Better for the environment	11/13/2017 10:28 AM

17	They are useful for other purposes	11/13/2017 10:12 AM
18	Plastic bags have even been found in the Arctic and they don't degrade	11/13/2017 10:11 AM
19	Are they really worse than paper?	11/13/2017 10:09 AM
20	If we have a ban, why do we have to pay for a paper bag?	11/13/2017 10:06 AM
21	Because paper is just as bad for the environment	11/13/2017 10:01 AM
22	the environment	11/13/2017 9:58 AM
23	I would have to begin purchasing plastic bags for my garbage instead of using the ones I get from the store, this creates an added expense for our household.	11/13/2017 7:52 AM
24	I use those plastic bags for many different things around the house. I find that the new paper bags being used in other towns causing more garbage for me then helping.	11/12/2017 6:50 PM
25	I don't think single use plastic bags are a problem in Portsmouth.	11/12/2017 3:05 PM
26	We have become a disposable society and we have to start somewhere to protect our environment.	11/12/2017 12:14 PM
27	They're convenient, but the environmental effect out ways the benefits.	11/12/2017 11:39 AM
28	We reuse the bags in our home to line waste baskets and to throw away some icky trash. We also use them when harvesting food from our garden and from the garden at St Mary's church when I take produce to the Martin Luther King, Jr. center.	11/11/2017 9:23 PM
29	plastic bags are easier to use as far as handles, size and sanitation. If properly recycled, less or no impact to environment. Lower cost and greater convenience.	11/11/2017 9:24 AM
30	Plastic bags can be easily recycled.	11/11/2017 6:38 AM
31	We live in the Ocean State! We should do our best to help keep plastic out of the ocean.	11/10/2017 10:31 PM
32	Simple - it is bad for the environment	11/10/2017 6:42 PM
33	terrible for the ocean and marine life.	11/10/2017 11:54 AM
34	No suitable replacement. Paper is not environmentally sensitive and sucks in bad weather. Transfer station should recycle al plastic through single streaming.	11/10/2017 8:06 AM
35	insufficient alternatives	11/10/2017 6:42 AM
36	The plastic bag ban is an easy starting point for encouraging a cultural change towards more reusable bag use.	11/8/2017 4:00 PM
37	Really no need for them and negatively impacts the ocean.	11/7/2017 8:13 PM
38	Danger to marine animals. Danger of entrance into the food chain. Ocean pollution. Unsightly in land environment. Lack of biodegradability.	11/7/2017 7:47 PM
39	Renewable vs non-renewable resource; leave some petroleum for future generations	11/7/2017 11:21 AM
40	I certainly wish to see use significantly reduced, however, there are times that reusing the bags for other purposes is very useful.	11/7/2017 10:38 AM
41	Plastic bags are extremely bad for the environment, especially in a coastal community.	11/6/2017 2:29 PM
42	Because of the positive effects that will result in the sea, waterways, animals and sea life and the earth as a planet.	11/6/2017 9:24 AM
43	Serves no significant purpose. Bags are not problem except to activists. See Question 4.	11/6/2017 9:21 AM
44	They are un-necessary, harm the environment and use petroleum	11/6/2017 7:14 AM
45	Plastic is a huge problem for the environment, and we need to do what we can to reduce it.	11/5/2017 8:21 PM
46	Save our oceans! Keep plastic out of the landfill.	11/5/2017 8:05 PM
47	This easy step for consumers can have a huge impact on our marine and terrestrial environment. We have to end our addiction to single-use plastics.	11/5/2017 5:20 PM
48	Futile exercise in feel good environmentalism that is actually counterproductive since it will force the destruction of more forests in order to supply the paper needed to make the alternative paper bags. The majority of people will not carry reusable bags and will ask for paper bags.	11/5/2017 4:51 PM

49	Paper bags are not practical for any wet items and they don't seal like a plastic bag.	11/5/2017 1:15 PM
50	I have seen first hand what plastic bags do to marine life. We are a coastal town and should not be using single use plastic bags... ever.	11/5/2017 12:13 PM
51	So convenient - maybe invent biodegradable bags ??	11/5/2017 11:58 AM
52	I'm tired of seeing them covering the planet's surface.	11/5/2017 10:32 AM
53	It's a band aid fix on the problem. It seems that all other types of plastic bags for fruit and vegetables are not harming the environment! They're not being addresses Portsmouth overall doesn't support recycling which protects the environment as show by poor recycling rates Its not clear that the thousands of plastic bottles are being recycled properly from sporting events at the schools and recreational sites. Education is the key and the town council, administrator and school administration should be doing more.	11/5/2017 6:59 AM
54	I hike coastal RI daily. Rarely do I find plastic bags. When I do most are able to be used to pick up other trash. The most common trash is plastic bottles, aluminum beer cans, and deflated helium balloons. You need to ban helium balloons.	11/5/2017 6:48 AM
55	Because plastic doesn't beak down and our landfills and the ocean are finite spaces. Plastic destroys ocean life and disrupts our hormones when it leaches into our water and food supplies.	11/5/2017 5:54 AM
56	The bags from stores in this Town make very little impact on pollution. Single use plastic bags from this Town are not a major problem in ocean pollution. People here reuse them, and/or dispose of the properly.	11/4/2017 9:54 PM
57	The bay is full of them. It's time.	11/4/2017 6:27 PM
58	There are better and less harmful alternatives.	11/4/2017 11:41 AM
59	They are wasteful and long term will actually cause the town to lose money due to the continuous purchase of plastic bags when the town could just buy reusable bags once and rarely have to buy more	11/4/2017 10:46 AM
60	We live in a throwaway society and it needs to be stopped and it seems that the only way to do that is to make it mandatory by law. This is sad but true.	11/4/2017 9:51 AM
61	better for environment. whole island should be on board	11/4/2017 6:51 AM
62	better for environment. whole island should be on board.	11/4/2017 6:49 AM
63	My family has been using cloth/canvas, washable bags for 7 or 8 years they work awesome and eliminate so much waste.	11/3/2017 10:29 PM
64	I use my bags for other things. I would need to buy plastic bags for the same purposes.	11/3/2017 5:31 PM
65	This is an obvious, inexpensive, easy way to improve our enviromnent and also create a cleaner town. We can do this!	11/3/2017 8:58 AM
66	Never needed them before they were invented. They make a mess in the environment.	11/3/2017 5:51 AM
67	I reuse the bags for waste.	11/2/2017 10:56 PM
68	Animals choke on them, they litter our environment, and they make way too much trash for something that get so little use.	11/2/2017 8:17 PM
69	They are not easily recyclable. They easily blow into forested areas. They do not decompose	11/2/2017 6:22 PM
70	I have always felt that the environment has been damaged by these bags. So many are careless and inconsiderate when using them and disposing them. We definitely need a ban and it will make people take reusable bags into the stores, especially if they have to pay for bags or don't like using paper bags.	11/2/2017 3:46 PM
71	Because I will have to purchase plastic bags for lining refuse containers, paying for something that is now free.	11/2/2017 1:53 PM
72	Unnecessary.	11/2/2017 12:22 PM
73	Because of the major affect they have on the environment	11/2/2017 10:48 AM
74	They're very bad for our environment. They don't decompose and end up in our oceans.	11/2/2017 7:54 AM
75	They are a disaster for the environment!	11/2/2017 6:37 AM

76	bags have many after uses. those not used after a significant period are placed in proper disposal sites	11/1/2017 1:46 PM
77	bags are used for waste collection and other useful purposes.	11/1/2017 1:31 PM
78	What does Clements want to do? The other grocery stores on the island are banning the bags per town regulation.	11/1/2017 12:19 PM
79	Eliminating single use plastic bags would be one more step in the direction of protecting our planet. We should be doing everything that we can to help our environment, especially with a moronic president who believes climate change is a hoax. I fully support this ban!	11/1/2017 9:22 AM
80	This will not stop the damage to our environment and wildlife caused by these items, but it will greatly reduce the local impact and "start the ball" rolling for the state to move forward on this action. Plus it will avoid confusion across Aquidneck Island from the concurrence of all 3 communities ban of single use plastic bags.	11/1/2017 9:01 AM
81	They are hanging off trees and hurting animals	11/1/2017 8:17 AM
82	What are the alternatives for people who don't have cloth bags	11/1/2017 8:12 AM
83	Uglies the environment. Can harm wildlife. Re-usable totes and paper (if necessary) are enough	11/1/2017 8:10 AM
84	Used for other things. Come in handy	11/1/2017 7:50 AM
85	clean up our waters, road sides. reduce the misuse at the Johnston facility. Block storm drains. Help our landfills manage production without these bags. a need to work with the community to change our habits and use only reusable bags. Surely, there must be more reasons to get these bags out of our lives then to continue using them.	11/1/2017 7:09 AM
86	Single use bags are the safest way to go. re using used bags exposes you to bacteria. Used bags could have been exposed to meat or other types of contamination	11/1/2017 6:42 AM
87	Waste of resources and damage to our coastal and ocean environment.	10/31/2017 2:34 PM
88	To help decrease our dependency on plastic and to lower the impact we have on our environment.	10/31/2017 12:31 PM
89	Sometimes we need a little motivation to do the right thing - you don't tend to forget your other bags when they are your only option!	10/30/2017 12:03 PM
90	We have to do something about all the trash we are putting into the environment. Plastic bags are useful for a few key things though such as raw meat as they help prevent contamination of other groceries. I hope we can make some specific exceptions like this	10/30/2017 11:56 AM
91	They are very useful	10/30/2017 10:14 AM
92	It makes no sense	10/30/2017 10:12 AM
93	handy for reuse. Other towns nearby have them so what would it accomplish?	10/30/2017 10:10 AM
94	Killing Our Environment	10/30/2017 9:54 AM
95	The bags are not needed.	10/30/2017 8:43 AM
96	It is wasteful and harmful to the environment	10/30/2017 8:02 AM
97	Bad for environment and wildlife	10/30/2017 8:00 AM
98	Bad for environment and wildlife	10/30/2017 7:58 AM
99	They are harmful to the environment as well as to fish & wildlife	10/30/2017 7:55 AM
100	that would mean I would have to buy heavier trash bags right now they are used for trash bags and when I need them I get them with my groceries and if I don't need them I take my own bags to the store. It would be a waste of larger plastic bags that won't be filled when disposed of thus adding more plastic to the land fill reusing plastic grocery bags for trash for small families and the elder means less plastic in the landfill due to the fact we don't have enough trash to fill a large bag. Some of us only use one or two plastic grocery bags a week for trash less plastic then a large heavier plastic garbage bag. and they can also be used for many other uses around the house, from wrapping large items one must store between holidays. The newer grocery bags are thin and biodegrade I have had them due this as an experiment with my grandchildren. Heavier black or white trash bags take longer to biodegrade. Cloth bags are good to use but not for meats that bleed and if you put them in a paper bag they might leak through and rip.	10/30/2017 7:29 AM

101	Although I find plastic bags convenient, and I do reuse them around my house, I feel that the negative impact on the environment outweighs the convenience. Plus, I really dislike seeing them blowing all over the place when people don't discard them properly.	10/30/2017 7:00 AM
102	Seems reasonable to reuse for many things.	10/29/2017 5:57 PM
103	Since I reuse them for disposal of pet waste and as trash can liners, I need something for these purposes. If the ban occurs, I will mostly likely need to purchase something else to use in their place.	10/29/2017 5:17 PM
104	Our close proximity to the ocean leads to a higher probability that bags will end up in the water. They are not truly recyclable. We need to reduce our use of plastics and this is a small step to that goal.	10/29/2017 2:56 PM
105	I never see bags flying around and in trees like I used to. I recycle mine after I get more use out of them. With paper people discard right out the car window and onto sides of streets. It will also cost more for merchants. Where is the savings in that? I am always picking paper up in my yard that the wind blows up my street.	10/29/2017 9:52 AM
106	Paper bags have a negative environmental impact at manufacture.	10/29/2017 8:28 AM
107	I like freedom of choice. Not being told what to do by government.	10/29/2017 8:22 AM
108	Petroleum products are over. Not need to do this.	10/29/2017 5:34 AM
109	It's a start, though cutting back on plastic packaging for bottles and others will reduce the waste we find in the water. Again, a good start.	10/28/2017 8:55 PM
110	Portsmouth should join neighboring towns in eliminating plastic bags, which harm the environment and can be easily replaced with Clements-style re-useable bags.	10/28/2017 7:58 PM
111	I think people will be perfectly fine without plastic bags after an adjustment period. It will be much better for the environment.	10/28/2017 4:00 PM
112	To preclude waste and harm to the environment and wildlife. To preclude adding toxics to soil and ocean.	10/28/2017 12:54 PM
113	I use them for my house garbage and then into trash bin. I don't want to see Clements Market in any jeopardy because of this. I'm hoping the new Market Basket does not cut down on their customers either. It is the only place I get my groceries. It is a great store.	10/28/2017 11:50 AM
114	I think it is good for the environment	10/28/2017 10:18 AM
115	I'm more concerned about plastic bottles	10/28/2017 10:04 AM
116	now that you have made it clear how detrimental they are to the environment...we all need to establish new habits...thank you!	10/28/2017 10:02 AM
117	Plastic bags are made of petro-chemicals, a process that highly pollutes our air and water; the byproduct of that process is a carcinogen. The bags end up in our bay and water supply, damage our marine environment, fish eat the plastic particulates, metabolize them, and then we eat the fish -- again this is carcinogenic. We live in a community with many world-famous marine businesses made up of people who respect and treasure our marine environment; it's good business practice for our town to do the same. Please, let's not be the last community in our region to do the right thing. My neighbors and I all support this ban. Even the workers at Clements support it, even if the owners want to save money and use the cheaper plastic bags. Everyone has fabric bags we can take to the store. There is no need for plastic bags today; it's only an old habit. Let's break that dirty habit, together, and we'll feel proud of our decision and our town. Thank you.	10/27/2017 11:19 PM
118	Think globally, act locally. Set a positive example. Never discount the small act. Stewardship involves long range thinking. It's the right thing to do. Paper bags work as well.	10/27/2017 6:03 PM
119	Because of the negative impact to OUR ocean in particular. We are the Ocean State and it's being shown that they are negatively impacting its inhabitants. In addition there are creating eyesores everywhere you look.	10/27/2017 5:34 PM
120	The town of Portsmouth's contribution to the problem is insignificant in the big picture. It would be a major inconvenience to most people.	10/27/2017 4:56 PM
121	It is ridiculous to use something that stays in the environment forever for just a few minutes. People need to take responsibility for the future of our planet. It's not a big deal to bring a bag with you. They have ones that roll up and you can keep in your car or in your purse.	10/27/2017 4:49 PM

122	Makes environment sense.	10/27/2017 3:53 PM
123	Because we do not throw the bags in the ocean, on the beach, out the car window to fly around on the road or get in other people's yard, or wherever other lazy people throw them. They are very handy around the house and we use them to dispose of other things like very wet left over food, etc. Should we not use them? Probably, but there are a lot of things that we should not be tossing, like cigarette butts, the plastic rings that hold together a six pack and end up in the ocean (now there is a good one). Ban those.	10/27/2017 3:28 PM
124	Only if there is a viable option to replace what is currently being used. There should be an alternative bag that either can decompose or recycle. (Like the old paper bags!)	10/27/2017 1:55 PM
125	People would be more aware of the waste they contribute to.	10/27/2017 1:33 PM
126	They create terrible environmental situations - on land as well as in the ocean.	10/27/2017 1:33 PM
127	There is no need to have single use plastic bags. If everyone gets into new habits of bringing their own bags, we will make a big impact on the health of our planet.	10/27/2017 11:38 AM
128	I find them useful to reuse.	10/27/2017 9:21 AM
129	It doesn't break down and there are other better alternative (such as paper bags) out there.	10/27/2017 8:12 AM
130	Switching to paper will destroy more trees and trees help the environment.	10/27/2017 8:00 AM
131	we need to stop using these plastics	10/27/2017 7:02 AM
132	I would rather have reusable bags because they are stronger and sometimes the plastic bags rip open.	10/27/2017 6:19 AM
133	We live on an island. All communities must share responsibility for clean water and our environment. It's a step toward environmental sensitivity	10/27/2017 5:51 AM
134	Newport and Middletown are leading us on this. Impact of bag production, impact in waterways, impact in soil, impact on landfill. As a society, we need to be smarter about when petroleum products are NECESSARY and when we need to adopt other habits. I do shop at Clements weekly and am disappointed that when a ban was last discussed it seemed like the grocery was opposed. We need to do this for our future.	10/27/2017 5:21 AM
135	We lived without them for most of our lives, we can do it again to help our environment.	10/26/2017 10:25 PM
136	We lived without them before, we can do it again!	10/26/2017 10:12 PM
137	We reuse most of them in bathroom trash cans, pet messes transporting things and we recycle the very few we have left.	10/26/2017 9:38 PM
138	If give options on disposing plastic bags I would use it .	10/26/2017 9:12 PM
139	Plastic bags from various stores are used in my household as garbage bags. They do not get discarded without being used at least one more time. If they are ban I will be forced to purchase plastic bags as there replacement. The net result will be the same environmental impact but an increase in cost to my household.	10/26/2017 7:07 PM
140	Clearly a ban would benefit the environment. However. What I dislike is the town of Portsmouth calling the build-up to a ban on plastic bags a "discussion" or "conversation" when, clearly, the town strongly advocates a position on the matter. There has been no impartial presentation of fact, but rather, a polemical advocacy for the ban (which, I may add - I am in favor of!) I just dislike the disingenuous framing of this issue.	10/26/2017 6:32 PM
141	I recycle all bags except for those used to line the trash can. If I cannot get bags from the store i will BUY trash bags so banning them will accomplish nothing	10/26/2017 6:26 PM
142	It will end costing more for necessary groceries.	10/26/2017 6:08 PM
143	Reduce plastic litter on streets and waterways.	10/26/2017 5:02 PM
144	much better for environment	10/26/2017 3:54 PM
145	this survey does not take into account the people who walk or take the bus especially after work on payday.	10/26/2017 3:45 PM
146	they are a hazard to the environment & a waste of natural resources	10/26/2017 3:26 PM
147	need for animal waste	10/26/2017 2:24 PM

148	It will be a hardship on businesses to comply with a new law. It will be inconvenient for business patrons to be required to bring their own bags and/or be charged for other bags.	10/26/2017 2:19 PM
149	I do not expect this to have any major positive impact and I do expect it will add a burden to my shopping.	10/26/2017 2:11 PM
150	Because they don't break down quickly and become bad for the environment. Plastic diapers should also be banned and there are plenty of them in use world-over.	10/26/2017 1:26 PM
151	Plastic bags have a lesser environmental production and delivery footprint than paper bags. Plastic bags are much more convenient to carry than paper and don't break if they get damp from cool foods. Reusable bags are prone to contamination by (PHF) food products and can be transferred to foods that may not be cooked. Putting reuseable bags on a counter could contaminate the surface as they were probably put on the floor or ground at some point in the history. There are biodegradable plastic bags which have been written out of Newports and Middletown's ordinance that addresses many of the concerns noted by COA.	10/26/2017 12:33 PM
152	I place all these bags in recycling bins	10/26/2017 10:59 AM
153	This is only a feel good initiative, and not a significant contributor to the environment.	10/26/2017 10:35 AM
154	Am elderly. Paper bags get packed more solidly and are heavy to carry.	10/26/2017 10:33 AM
155	I can carry three time the volume and weight with a single reusable bag	10/26/2017 10:07 AM
156	plastic bags are everywhere.by the roadside,in trees and worst of all in the ocean where it breaks down and is eaten by small organisms which then get eaten by larger organisms and so on. this means that larger fish many of which are consumed by people are contaminated by breakdown products of plastics.anything we can do to cut down on the contamination of our already contaminated environment is a good thing. the concern of one local business should not stand in the way of doing what is right.i am hoping filling out this survey will not be in vain as the results of the last survey(on the transfer station) was ignored and the voices of the vocal few prevailed.	10/26/2017 9:44 AM
157	Because, plastic bags are good for wet or frozen items. Also paper bags cause us to cut down more trees.	10/26/2017 9:43 AM
158	Many European countries banned single use bags in the mid-1980s. Time to wake up.	10/26/2017 9:39 AM
159	i see too many as litter	10/26/2017 8:32 AM
160	I return over 90% of these bags to my grocer	10/26/2017 8:29 AM
161	Seems like common sense not to use a relatively non-biodegradable item one time and then throw it in a pile of garbage. There are many better alternatives, including mandatory recycling programs, multiple use bags, paper bags, boxes, home delivery crates, etc.	10/26/2017 8:16 AM
162	There is no reason that we all can't get used to using multi-use bags. It's so wasteful that so many plastic bags end up in landfills or just blowing around our community.	10/26/2017 8:11 AM
163	Unless we can use plastic bags that are recycled 100% of the time the bags should be banned. It's not difficult to use bags. The grocery stores are supportive but we must change habits when shopping at Walgreens and CVS	10/26/2017 8:05 AM
164	Can be recycled	10/26/2017 7:45 AM
165	Anything that can be done to eliminate excess waste is a positive thing. People will adjust and start bringing their own bags when shopping.	10/26/2017 7:44 AM
166	Yes, this is a good step in the right direction for our planet. We must redirect our mindset for our children, grandchildren and future generations.	10/26/2017 7:06 AM
167	It's extremely wasteful. Another alternative is to charge \$.10 per bag and use the tax to benefit local programs.	10/26/2017 6:50 AM
168	It is the right thing to do for the environment and would force me to bring my own bags. I could do that now, I just forget a lot of the time or get lazy and don't bring them. This would change my behavior.	10/26/2017 6:42 AM
169	Impact on local business	10/26/2017 6:37 AM
170	better for the environment	10/26/2017 6:23 AM
171	Relatively small behavior change = big impact	10/26/2017 12:12 AM

172	Plastic bags are an unneeded expense that businesses pay to make the sale of their product more convenient. This may be a hospitality tactic but it is certainly not a logical tactic when you consider the waste that comes from producing and disposing of them. Consumers have reusable bags in some form and as a society we need to recognize the inefficiency of single use bags and strive to shift our cost saving and eco friendly alternative reusable bags!	10/25/2017 11:56 PM
173	They are an insidious toxic element that takes a 1000 years to dissolve and endangers our food supply.	10/25/2017 9:20 PM
174	I think is more important education than ban things.	10/25/2017 8:54 PM
175	Single use plastic bags are really harmful for the environment. I do trash clean ups in Portsmouth and I find them everywhere. In the summer I pick them up out of the Sakonnett River . It is a true problem that our society is facing. These bags never go away!	10/25/2017 7:55 PM
176	However it is important that the alternative is made out of a biodegradable material, not thicker plastic. There are lots of studies that examine the actual benefits of banning plastic bags and it's not as simple as you'd think.	10/25/2017 6:53 PM
177	Plastic bags are convenient and cost-effective. I reuse them as trash bags at home (bathroom and bedroom trash cans), and to carry multiple small items around, like my lunch or beverages. I can't see how a paper or reusable bag could fill that role. Paper bags are expensive, they rip, and get ruined in the rain. Reusable bags, regardless of materials, aren't all bad, but I think they carry a few significant disadvantages. 1. You need to carry them around whenever you go shopping. Inconvenient. 2. If you don't have enough bags with you, what do you do with the rest of your groceries? Put them in a plastic bag? What would be the point of that? 3. Reusable bags eventually rip and fall apart (saying this from personal experience). What do you do with a broken reusable bag? Throw it away in a plastic garbage bag? I would like to see some facts (not the anecdotal kind) regarding the local environmental impact of plastic bags vs the alternatives. I would also like to know if reusable bags and paper bags are actually better for the environment. How much energy and material does it take to make a paper or reusable bag vs a single-use plastic bag? Is it really worth switching? I think if we were to educate people better about recycling & reusing, plastic bags wouldn't be such an issue. Banning plastic bags in Portsmouth could hurt small businesses from the cost increase, and would only do so much to limit the influx of plastic bags, as anyone who shops off the island will probably return with plastic bags.	10/25/2017 6:17 PM
178	They're useful around the house	10/25/2017 5:52 PM
179	I work at a store that has plastic bags and it's really hard to bag stuff fast in paper bags. Plastic bags make it quick and efficient	10/25/2017 4:41 PM
180	Too much plastic is killing wildlife	10/25/2017 4:02 PM
181	We have other resources to use, there is no need for them. Not to mention where most of them end up, in places they shouldn't	10/25/2017 2:59 PM
182	We don't need them, most people don't recycle them - it is not a burden to carry your own. Neighboring communities have a ban on them - why would we keep them?	10/25/2017 2:49 PM
183	It will force people like myself to actually remember to bring the reusable bags.	10/25/2017 2:12 PM
184	I reuse them for diaper disposal	10/25/2017 1:04 PM
185	If there are none to be had, I would have to bring my own every time.	10/25/2017 1:03 PM
186	Many people i know shop off the island. Most stores provide plastic bags. I won't mind going back to paper though. This would have to be a multi-state ban in order to work well. Although I guess we have to start somewhere.	10/25/2017 12:47 PM
187	Better for the environment.	10/25/2017 11:49 AM
188	Too much waste	10/25/2017 11:48 AM
189	I personally find it insane how many bags i find outside. I've even found a few in the deep woods sometimes.	10/25/2017 11:42 AM
190	Multiple utility - animal waste / paint brushes (paint on brush will not harden if placed/wrapped in bag) / as glove for cleaning nasty stuff when no gloves are in the house...	10/25/2017 11:33 AM

191	I can see decreasing the use of bags but I always reuse bags for many things...packing ornaments, yard and pet waste, as trash bags in the kid's rooms near their desks, to bring things/lunch to work, etc. It's also convenient if I am not in my own car when I run an errand and may not have all of my reusable bags. I'd like the option of getting a bag.	10/25/2017 10:36 AM
192	Have to save the environment	10/25/2017 10:32 AM
193	They are a wasteful use of our limited resources. And they often end up in our environment (beaches, waterways, parks, trees on the side of the road - everywhere!).	10/25/2017 9:41 AM
194	too many find their way to the ocean	10/25/2017 9:41 AM
195	Going green to save our planet	10/25/2017 9:32 AM
196	Plastic bags keep your food clean and separated. People do not know enough about the reusable bags they don't think to clean them after every use or separate them so one is specifically for meats and others for veggies etc. The germs that collect fester in those bags, they seep into the cloth and make people sick. Everyone I know reuses the plastic bags for other small trash in their bathrooms, cars etc which in turn helps the small trash from floating around the streets.	10/25/2017 9:26 AM
197	Litters our area	10/25/2017 9:17 AM
198	They are not needed, add to our throwaway society, choke wildlife, and pollute the environment.	10/25/2017 9:11 AM
199	I am a nurse and am constantly amazed at the increasing rates of children and adults with autism, cancers and very unusual diseases. I know that plastics carry toxins. Are these diseases related to plastics? The overall health of our citizens is declining. We can start to control some of these toxins and a plastic bag ban is a beginning. There are many more reasons to ban the single use plastic bag, but neither one of us has all week to discuss the benefits!!!	10/25/2017 9:11 AM
200	I am a nurse and am constantly amazed at the increasing rates of children and adults with autism, cancers and very unusual diseases. I know that plastics carry toxins. Are these diseases related to plastics? The overall health of our citizens is declining. We can start to control some of these toxins and a plastic bag ban is a beginning. There are many more reasons to ban the single use plastic bag, but neither one of us has all week to discuss the benefits!!!	10/25/2017 9:10 AM
201	These bags are wreaking havoc on our environment and must be controlled	10/25/2017 8:56 AM
202	We live on island, throw away single use plastics are wasteful and a threat to our islands water and long term health.	10/25/2017 8:52 AM
203	I have lived all over the world and see the effects of both first-hand. People get used to using their own bags quickly, and I still have some I bought well over 10yrs ago. In the places I've lived where there is a ban, you see significantly less plastic bag waste both on land and in the water. People think more about litter in general and do more to dispose of plastic waste more sustainably. In the places that did not, people are much more reckless and litter, in general, is a bigger problem. The initial cost to purchase bags can seem a little prohibitive, but most stores sell re-usable sustainable bags usually at cost or close to it, to help lessen the impact, and I have also seen community groups come together to purchase them with money from a grant, and distribute them to the poorest folk in a community. In another area, a local sewing group held a workshop twice a week in the evenings and showed people how to make bags out for their old clothing. Portsmouth doesn't have many shops like Middletown & Newport and I think that we should follow, to make the ban Island wide. It wouldn't change my habits and I wouldn't drive out of the area to purchase my goods.	10/25/2017 8:51 AM
204	I reuse plastic bags. If they are banned I must buy plastic bags and my budget is already stretched to its limit.	10/25/2017 8:44 AM
205	Don't see how paper is going to better	10/25/2017 8:41 AM
206	The world needs less plastic!	10/25/2017 8:18 AM
207	It helps the environment.	10/25/2017 8:15 AM
208	Not a significant source of pollution in town or town waters. Need to concentrate on the real problems.	10/25/2017 8:01 AM
209	Anyone who researches the topic will learn that there is no question that these plastic bags end up significantly harming the environment.	10/25/2017 7:57 AM
210	They pose a huge hazard on the environment in many ways	10/25/2017 7:17 AM
211	Because they are harmful to the environment.	10/25/2017 6:34 AM

212	n	10/25/2017 6:14 AM
213	I've seen too many pictures of animals tangled in plastic of all kinds, sea animals eating them because they look like food, the mess along the roadways, and know that plastic takes forever to decompose.	10/25/2017 6:09 AM
214	I dislike my town, state, country regulating me. Stay out of my medicine cabinet, wallet, buying habits!! I'm a responsible citizen who doesn't pollute. Don't regulate the thousands like me because of the few who might discard a plastic bag	10/25/2017 6:05 AM
215	It is another positive step we can easily take to help with cleaning and lessening the harmful impact on animals and the planet.	10/25/2017 5:57 AM
216	I use them, and I think a ban may be business unfriendly - and RI (not specifically Portsmouth) is bad enough for businesses.	10/25/2017 5:09 AM
217	Come on Portsmouth! Make me do it!	10/25/2017 4:10 AM
218	If people recycle them then it is not an issue. If we ban them then businesses will be forced to use paper bags. Paper bags cost more, weigh more so there is more energy in shipping of these bags. Creating a bigger carbon footprint. Not to mention using more paper equals more trees. The issue is recycling plastic as a whole not just eliminate plastic bags.	10/24/2017 10:56 PM
219	We live on an island that depends on the ocean and open spaces to provide a good quality of life. Removing this type of plastic pollution will help keep these area clean and be a model for the rest of the state	10/24/2017 10:50 PM
220	Because they are not good for the environment or wildlife-at all!!	10/24/2017 10:30 PM
221	They are horrible for the environment and we will get used to shopping without them.	10/24/2017 10:30 PM
222	It is the right thing to do for our community and our environment.	10/24/2017 10:28 PM
223	Hello! Plastic bags make zero sense. Not for businesses not for the environment not for anyone	10/24/2017 10:17 PM
224	There's a 0% chance a bag will become litter if it is never given out by a store.	10/24/2017 10:09 PM
225	Don't like it when they end up in the water hurting water life or even when they are in the middle of the road and end up attached to the bottom of your car.	10/24/2017 10:04 PM
226	I feel if these are banned there should be an option to pay for them for things like wet frozen foods	10/24/2017 9:53 PM
227	Environmental reasons	10/24/2017 9:46 PM
228	Portsmouth needs to do better environmentally.	10/24/2017 9:32 PM
229	They are polluting our environment!!! AND advocating their use is a plot by big oil corporations to keep their sales up as we move to electric cars.	10/24/2017 9:08 PM
230	Unsanitary and inconvenient.	10/24/2017 9:00 PM
231	I use them for many other purposes and not just to bring groceries home in. If you reuse them or bring them to a grocery store to recycle them the right way then they have no effect on the environment. If people were more aware of where they can be recycled and which places take them back, it would help reduce the amount that goes into the trash cans.	10/24/2017 8:55 PM
232	Absolutely barbaric to use petroleum based bags. The bag maker for Clements should be banned from this town discussion.	10/24/2017 8:46 PM
233	Its time!!!	10/24/2017 8:45 PM
234	It will force people like me to not use them	10/24/2017 8:36 PM
235	I use them for small trash cans and dog waste. I also use them when packing items to be shipped. When I have more than I can use, I either bring them to a place that recycles them or I give them to a friend who is a potter. She reuses them all the time when bagging up her customers purchases. Especially if they have more than one item. They're great for layering and cushioning between items.	10/24/2017 8:34 PM
236	Plastic doesn't not break down! As a result, it accumulates in our environment and poses a threat to animal and plant life.	10/24/2017 8:24 PM

237	To reduce waste (many times litter into the ocean or the street), production of waste, and energy to transport the waste to landfills. Paper bags are way more useful and reused for those who do not have their own cloth bags yet. I also support the providing of cloth bags and nalgenes, if wondering.	10/24/2017 8:02 PM
238	There is absolutely no need of plastic bags. They are ruining the environment. It's 2017 I think it's beyond time for a change. Let's do this Portsmouth!	10/24/2017 7:42 PM
239	Unless it is a state law we shouldnt be doing this town by town. It affects business and if its not a level playing field its not right.	10/24/2017 7:30 PM
240	The longest journey begins with a single step. We need to start this journey!	10/24/2017 7:30 PM
241	I see plastic bags littered everywhere. It's easy to use reusable bags or paper.	10/24/2017 7:23 PM
242	This survey has not reLly defined single use plastic bags. Pay per throw is the definition of single use plastic bags Plastic that covers boats in the winter and plastic that covers hay in the fields make up mor square feet of single use than a small market like Clements could possible use in a single year. This is hippocracy at it ultimate!	10/24/2017 7:07 PM
243	I support a ban on single use plastic because of the adverse affect these bags have on our environment. Using eco-friendly bags when shopping is an easy, inexpensive way to help save the earth.	10/24/2017 6:53 PM
244	One day, in the far future, we will look back at the days of single use plastic bags with sheer wonder and amazement. We will wonder how we could have been so foolish and crazy.	10/24/2017 6:48 PM
245	Instead of an all out ban, consider requiring biodegradable single use bags. Technology has passed this issue a long time ago.	10/24/2017 6:44 PM
246	Because the ocean is overtaken with plastics!	10/24/2017 6:43 PM
247	Plastic bag litter is pervasive and harms marine life. Plus the other Aquidneck Island municipalities have passed similar bans.	10/24/2017 6:36 PM
248	I pick up trash on a regular basis and discover on my walk at least 1 plastic bag trapped in a bush. They land in the rocks at the beach and are essentially everywhere. Have you seen the documentaries on what lands in our ocean? It's horrific seeing how much are sea life and birds are consuming.	10/24/2017 6:27 PM
249	I use them for animal waste if they are without holes. All the rest get saved up and recycled at the store.	10/24/2017 6:11 PM
250	Just charge for the bag and put that money to good use	10/24/2017 6:09 PM
251	They are bad for the environment as a whole	10/24/2017 6:03 PM
252	Reusable bags are better for the environment.	10/24/2017 5:48 PM
253	Let the consumer decide. I shouldn't have to pay extra because people can't be responsible. I cleaned up trash at the beach with clean ocean access and found little to no bags at the beach. Further more they grouped plastic bags with other plastic debris in the log sheet they gave me. Plastic bags aren't the problem. People need to respect and be more responsible with the environment. What will we do about all the glass bottles I found at the clean up at the beach? Ban glass bottles?	10/24/2017 5:45 PM
254	I am tired of government telling me what I can and cannot do	10/24/2017 5:12 PM
255	I find the bags helpful, I reuse them for dog waste, garbage etc. thank you	10/24/2017 5:01 PM
256	I reuse plastic bags as trashcan liners. If I did not have these I would be forced to buy plastic bags for this purpose. Banning plastic bags defeats the idea of not having plastic bags.	10/24/2017 5:00 PM
257	Sometimes you just need a plastic bag. Ww reuse our plastic bags for many other purposes. Reusable bags, if handled correctly, require the use of water and energy to launder.	10/24/2017 4:56 PM
258	I have seen the impact it has on ocean life first hand. Other coastal communities have banned plastic bags and it has been extremely successful.	10/24/2017 4:37 PM
259	If this were REALLY a problem then the recycling centers would find a way to properly handle plastic bags. Having the recycling center simply say they don't accept plastic bags proves its not a REAL problem.	10/24/2017 4:32 PM
260	To protect sea life	10/24/2017 4:19 PM

261	I would rather the town worry about more important things like garbage pick up.	10/24/2017 4:13 PM
262	Who would it hurt? And it seems to only have positive ramifications	10/24/2017 4:13 PM
263	Yes, because it is wasteful	10/24/2017 4:12 PM
264	my bags don't end up as garbage out in the world, as none of my other waste does not either. I reuse the bags for my garbage that can't be recycled or composted. It is super annoying to run into a store and have to remember to bring bags. And to bring bags from house to car and car to store. I like plastic bags.	10/24/2017 4:06 PM
265	It's inconvenient but also good for the environment. Probably should do it.	10/24/2017 3:41 PM
266	I think that people are lazy, myself included, and we can all be trained to bring reusable bags. As long as plastic bags are available, people will be lazy about conservation and recycling.	10/24/2017 3:26 PM
267	It is important for the environment and the alternative of using cloth bags can be an affordable and reasonable alternative for consumers.	10/24/2017 3:25 PM
268	A ban will force us to find more eco friendly resources. Business owners won't do it on their own.	10/24/2017 3:18 PM
269	Most people re use or recycle their bags. They will just have to buy new plastic bags for garbage disposal instead of reusing the bags from the store.	10/24/2017 3:17 PM
270	It just makes sense.	10/24/2017 3:15 PM
271	Obviously bad for the environment	10/24/2017 3:08 PM
272	Portsmouth needs to get on board with the rest of the island and start making smarter choices.	10/24/2017 3:01 PM
273	It would be far more productive to give residents trash pick up.	10/24/2017 2:51 PM
274	When disposed of properly, they do not create an environmental issue. They should be accepted at the transfer station.	10/24/2017 2:40 PM
275	Some are biodegradable so depending on how long that process takes, I can't see a huge threat. We reuse ours (all of them) as trash bags in various rooms of the house	10/24/2017 2:36 PM
276	Every time I drive down the road there are several bags on the side of the road or in the water. They are a hazard to small animals.	10/24/2017 2:30 PM
277	Let's get in line with the rest of aquidneck island. Let's show passing-through tourists that we care about our town, and they should act like-minded while visiting. Let's discourage laziness caused by convenience!	10/24/2017 2:12 PM
278	The plastic gets into the ocean, and the particles get into the fish and the wild life. They also create trash when blown into places they should not be.	10/24/2017 2:06 PM
279	It's overkill.	10/24/2017 1:55 PM
280	Too much \$\$ for local owned businesses.	10/24/2017 1:48 PM
281	I don't need another reason not to shop in Portsmouth.	10/24/2017 1:44 PM
282	Plastic bag are more environmentally friendly the paper. The use less energy to produce and ship then paper and take up less room in a land fill. all around they are better for the enviroment.	10/24/2017 1:43 PM
283	I don't want to put Clements out of business and I'm not sure that paper bags are better	10/24/2017 1:33 PM
284	They're not needed. We spent centuries without them and managed just fine. They don't degrade well. They are harmful to wildlife. They are EVERYWHERE outside.	10/24/2017 1:13 PM
285	If it's not plastic bags it will be something else is contaminating the environment I never asked for plastic bags in the first place when I was younger we always had paper bags at the time that plastic bags were introduced was considered an improvement and now has been proven to be environmentally unsafe I don't have any solutions	10/24/2017 1:09 PM
286	They aren't necessary. In this day and age, we can all be a little less lazy and a little more concerned with the world around us. It's not a huge inconvenience to bring your own bags.	10/24/2017 1:09 PM
287	As opposed to reusing plastic shopping bags as garbage bags I would have to buy plastic garbage bags and bring them home in my reusable bag....	10/24/2017 1:07 PM
288	I need those bag for further use	10/24/2017 1:00 PM

289	This survey appears to be biased to produce a result against bags based on option a to question 3- the only verbiage option is SOME rather than Giving options such as most of all.	10/24/2017 12:59 PM
290	Less waste.	10/24/2017 12:54 PM
291	they are not needed and terrible for the environment	10/24/2017 12:51 PM
292	After years of using plastic bags for trash and garbage, I have finally figured out how to buy compostable bags and separate other trash. The problem is one needs to sort paper and recycles with regular trash. Once at the transfer station, I will have to dump the garbage bag and reuse it. This is not easy. I am single and retired so on a scale of 1-10, I have very little trash.	10/24/2017 12:50 PM
293	They unintentionally litter our environment, in the trees and in the ocean. Marine animals mistake plastic bags for food, cause them serious harm, starvation, and death. It is not fair to create hazardous materials that billions of species that cannot properly identify as hazardous. Babies swallow and chew on inorganic objects (like plastic toys) all the time and we take extreme caution in baby-proofing our homes, so don't we take the same precautions for other living species?	10/24/2017 12:34 PM
294	They are wasteful, pollute the sea and use fossil fuels to manufacture. I think if paper is a burden to stores they should charge a dime for them. They take up space in my home and make me feel guilty.	10/24/2017 12:33 PM
295	We still constantly use them in our home for kids room, lunches, extra clothing and accessories	10/24/2017 12:27 PM
296	It would be better for the environment and help reduce pollution in town and in the water. It will help us to keep Portsmouth healthy and beautiful!	10/24/2017 12:20 PM
297	Single Use Plastic Bags are environmental and wildlife hazards which are completely unnecessary and preventable with reusable bags. They clutter our beaches, roads, trails, yards and oceans. There is a safe, inexpensive and total solution which only requires the will and cooperation of the residents who enjoy and benefit aesthetically, emotionally, medically and financially from this beautiful coastal community	10/24/2017 11:57 AM
298	Unfortunately, like seat belt laws, you have to legislate people to do the right thing rather than hoping they will do it themselves	10/24/2017 11:57 AM
299	There are cases where single use plastic bags are preferable to reusable bags. If the town wants to reduce waste and increase its recycling rates, it should get stronger controls over the transfer station, not allow cars that lack a transfer station sticker (I see them ALL THE TIME) when I am getting rid of my trash and find ways to increase recycling rates. Doubling my transfer station sticker price, when I wanted and most survey respondents wanted curbside service IS NOT THE ANSWER. The number of cars with Massachusetts plates using the Portsmouth transfer station that lack a transfer station sticker is unbelievable. Institute a scanning system, with cars being scanned into the station, find a way to eliminate the sharing of stickers among families and neighbors.	10/24/2017 11:57 AM
300	It is an inconvenience with little positive value. I also think that this survey is extremely biased toward eliminating plastic bags based on intro info.	10/24/2017 11:50 AM
301	I lived in Europe for many years. Most countries have already banned single use plastic bags. It only takes a trip or two to get used to the change and it really does have an impact on our environment.	10/24/2017 11:48 AM
302	I reuse them a lot including poop bags for dogs	10/24/2017 11:45 AM
303	ABSOLUTELY YES! Climate change is a serious problem and we all need to take responsibility. If it's a minor convenience like going back home to get cloth bags, I'll make that trip to save the world from destruction. This is a no-brainer issue.	10/24/2017 11:15 AM