

Plastic bag ban in New York State?

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Democratic Brooklyn Assemblyman William Colton wants to make New York State the first of 50 states to ban the use of **petroleum-based** bags. They would reduce our dependence on foreign oil, as well as reduce damage done to wildlife and the environment.

Wegman is already one step ahead of that legislation. They offer polypropylene bags that are reusable as an option.

"Wegman uses approximately one million plastic bags a day, so we thought if we could convert even two percent of our customers into using these reusable bags, that would save 77 million bags a year from a landfill," said Wegman 搠 spokesperson Anne Hyatt.

Litter has been part of the landscape for a long time, and it's not unusual to see plastic bags as part of it. If the bags do become obsolete, it can at help in cleaning up out streets.

"People go to the corner stores, they get something, the bag gets tossed. Even if they put it in a can, the wind picks it up, so it's a litter issue here," said Howie Hawkins of Syracuse Greens

"As a company, we think if we can reduce the number of plastic bags leaving our store, that's good for the environment," adds Hyatt.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates Americans use 380 billion plastic bags a year

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