

Ilminster is going Plastic Bag Free

The Chamber of Commerce has supported an initiative from the South Somerset Climate Action Group to go Plastic Carrier Bag free as soon as practically possible.

The launch of the new **Ilminster Community Bag: in washable, reusable, fairly-traded, bio-degradable, natural cotton** will be **12th June 2008** and goes on sale in shops at a cost of only £1.00 each, of which 10p per bag sold goes back to the Ilminster community fund. So look for the green logo and...



- Help YOUR environment - Help YOUR community - Support YOUR retailer -

Remember 12th JUNE 2008

Agreement is being sought from all retailers that as soon as practically possible plastic carrier bags will be phased out in our local shops.

The Chamber of Commerce have supported this very important initiative but will you? We need the general public to support our local retailers by bringing your own bag (any bag!). If you find you've forgotten yours don't worry the retailer will have the new town bag on sale for your convenience.

What's YOUR bag?

Did you know?

The average plastic carrier bag is used for 12 minutes then thrown away... The dawn of the plastic era was in 1950s. This was when we first started to use plastic for consumer goods on a mass scale. What a lot of people don't know is plastics do not biodegrade, they photo-degrade, breaking down only when exposed to sunlight, into smaller and smaller toxic bits that contaminate soil, waterways, oceans and entering the food web when ingested by animals. Because these plastic 'tears' stop degrading once away from light, Scientists estimate each plastic item could last in the environment anywhere between 400 to 1000 years.

In short, think of it this way - since the 1950's almost every piece of plastic that we have ever made, used and thrown away is still here on this planet in one form or another, whether its in our homes, in landfill or in the environment; and it will be here for centuries to come.

For more information visit www.ilminsterforum.co.uk or ring 01460 63019.