

Circular 12 Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags, Producer Responsibility Scheme for Glass Beverage Containers & Green Tips for Exhibitors**Environment Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags**

Introduced under the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap. 603) ("PERO"), the Environmental Levy Scheme on Plastic Shopping Bags seeks to address the problem of excessive plastic shopping bag use. The Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance imposes duty on seller to charge for plastic shopping bags in retail sale of certain goods to a customer. A seller must charge the customer an amount not less than 1 dollar for each plastic shopping bag or each pre-packaged pack of 10 or more plastic shopping bags, unless exempted under the Ordinance. Exemptions apply to plastic shopping bags carrying only certain items, such as food that are unpackaged or are not wholly contained in packaging or "takeaway" food contained in a non-air tight packaging and ready for immediate consumption by the customer. Plastic shopping bags containing only food or drink that are frozen, chilled or already wholly contained in packaging are no longer exempted from levying. Any person who fails to comply commits an offence and will be liable to a fine at HK\$100,000 on the first occasion and to a fine at \$200,000 on each subsequent occasion.

For further information, please contact the Environmental Protection Department at (852) 31522299 or email psb@epd.gov.hk.

Producer Responsibility Scheme for Glass Beverage Containers

Under the Product Eco-responsibility Ordinance (Cap. 603), starting from 1 February 2023, manufacturers and importers of glass-bottle beverages shall apply to the Environmental Protection Department to register as suppliers of such articles. From 1 May 2023 onwards, those manufacturers and/or importers who fail to register as suppliers are prohibited from distributing such articles. Registered suppliers are subject to certain reporting and record-keeping requirements on the distribution and consumption of glass-bottle beverages, and are required to pay container recycling levy currently set at \$0.98 per litre volume of glass containers.

Any manufacturers or importers who distribute glass-bottle beverages without registering as a supplier may be fined up to HK\$100,000. Any persons who fail to comply with the reporting or record-keeping requirements and/or to pay the recycling levy may be fined up to HK\$100,000 on first offence and up to HK\$200,000 on subsequent offence(s). Failure to pay the recycling levy may also attract up to a 10% surcharge on the levy.

From 1 May 2023, any persons who dispose, import and/or export glass container waste are also required to obtain a relevant licence and/or permit under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354).

For details of the Producer Responsibility Scheme, please visit the website of the Environmental Protection Department at

https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pro_responsibility/gprs.html.

To make a greener fair, the following green tips are suggested for your participation at the fair.

Booth construction and set up

- To avoid excessive decorations
- To use natural decorative materials
- To use energy saving light bulbs or LED lights

Ref: Tea-2024-06 (HK & OS)

- To use fewer electrical appliances or instruments
- To avoid energy-intensive appliances
- To avoid transport and bring in excessive display materials
- To maximize the usage of reusable panels, cabinets, signage boards and recyclable carpet
- To use re-erectable booth to reduce waste generated
- To adopt environmental friendly construction materials e.g. low VOC paints, FSC-certified wooden products and other wooden products with E0 or E1 formaldehyde standards
- To adopt re-usable exhibit

Booth Operation

- To arrive the fairground by public transports provided by the Organisers
- To use e-brochures or e-catalogues and minimizes the distribution of printed matters (e.g. catalogues, brochures)
- To avoid providing plastic bags or environmental friendly bags and reduce packaging, if used, make a charity donation
- To reduce souvenirs or choose souvenirs with a practical use
- To switch off all appliances or instruments consuming energy when not in use
- To place recycling bins in booths and practice waste separation
- To use re-usable utensils or biodegradable utensil instead of one-off disposable ones
- To avoid providing straws, or if necessary, use paper straws or biodegradable straws

Post-event Management

- To take back materials for next use
- To record leftover materials and avoid them next year
- To separate recyclable wastes and dispose of recyclable wastes at recycle bins
- To minimize posting printed matters to interested buyers
- To donate food waste and unwanted edible food products at the fairground to two Hong Kong's food rescue charities - **Food Angel** and **Food For Good** to promote food recycling

Hong Kong Trade Development Council

通告 12 塑膠購物袋環保徵費計劃、玻璃飲料容器生產者責任計劃 及參展商綠色小貼士**塑膠購物袋環保徵費計劃**

產品環保責任條例（香港法例第603章）引進的塑膠購物袋環保徵費計劃是為解決過度使用塑料購物袋的問題。產品環保責任條例規定如有某些貨品以零售方式出售予顧客，賣方有義務向顧客就塑料購物袋收取訂明的款額。除非獲該條例豁免，賣方就直接或間接向顧客提供的每個塑膠購物袋或經預先包裝的每份為數10個或以上的塑膠購物袋，向顧客收取不少於一元的款額。獲豁免的種類包括只盛載某些類別物品的塑膠購物袋，例如沒有載於任何包裝或並非完全載於包裝的食品的塑膠購物袋，及盛載非氣密包裝、可供即時食用餐飲外賣的塑膠購物袋等。只盛載急凍、冷凍或完全載於包裝的食品或飲品的塑膠購物袋將不再獲得豁免。任何人如未能遵從即屬犯法，首度被裁定犯該罪行時可被判處港幣100,000元罰款，而在其後每次被裁定犯該罪行時可處罰款港幣200,000元。有關詳情可查詢環境保護署（電話：(852) 3152 2299或電郵：psb@epd.gov.hk）

玻璃飲料容器生產者責任計劃

根據《產品環保責任條例》（香港法例第603章），從2023年2月1日起，玻璃樽裝飲品的製造商和進口商應向環境保護署申請登記為此類物品的供應商。從2023年5月1日起，那些沒有登記為供應商的製造商和/或進口商將被禁止分發此類物品。已登記的供應商必須遵守有關玻璃樽裝飲品分發和耗用的呈報和記錄保存要求，並須支付容器循環再造徵費，徵費目前為每升玻璃容器港幣0.98元。

任何製造商或進口商如果沒有登記為供應商而分發玻璃樽裝飲品，可被罰款高達港幣100,000元。任何人士如不遵守呈報和記錄保存的規定及/或不繳付徵費，初犯可被罰款高達港幣100,000元，再犯可被罰款高達港幣200,000元。未能繳納徵費的，亦可被徵收高達10%的附加徵費。

從2023年5月1日起，任何處理、輸入及/或輸出玻璃容器廢物的人仕，亦須根據《廢物處置條例》（香港法例第354章）取得有關牌照及/或許可證。

有關生產者責任計劃的詳情，請瀏覽環境保護署的網頁：

https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/pro_responsibility/gprs.html

展位建築及佈置

- 避免使用過量佈置或裝飾品
- 盡量使用天然佈置材料
- 盡量使用節能照明產品，如節能燈泡及發光二極管照明等
- 減少使用電器或電動儀器
- 避免使用高耗能的電器
- 避免運送過量展品至會場展示
- 盡量使用可再用物料，如可再用圍版、儲物櫃、展示版及地毯
- 採用可重用組件來設置攤位以減少廢物的產生
- 使用環保建築物料搭建展位，如含低揮發性有機化合物成份的漆油、獲森林管理委員會認證的木製產品或低甲醛釋放量，如 E0 及 E1 級標準的物料
- 盡量使用可重複使用的展品

展覽運作

- 乘坐公共交通工具來往展覽會場
- 盡量使用電子小冊子或電子單張作宣傳及推廣，以減少派發印刷宣傳品
- 避免派發膠袋，環保袋及減少產品包裝，如需使用，建議可向非牟利環保機構捐款，從另一層面支持各種環保工作的推行
- 盡量減少派發紀念品或選擇派發實用性的紀念品
- 於每日展覽結束時關掉所有展位內的電器或電動儀器
- 將垃圾分類並放進回收箱
- 如需派發餐具，應提供可再用的餐具或以可降解物料製成的餐具，而不應派發一次性的餐具
- 盡量減少派發飲管，如需使用，建議派發紙飲管或以可降解物料製成的飲管

展後安排

- 帶走剩餘物資於下一次活動使用
- 將剩餘的物資及展品作記錄，避免來年再運送過量展品
- 將可循環再用的廢物棄置會場內的回收箱
- 盡量減少郵寄印刷宣傳品予有興趣買家
- 鼓勵展商在展覽完結後捐贈食品到慈善團體，讓「惜食堂」及「齊惜福」回收剩餘的包裝食物及廚餘，宣傳回收可食用的剩餘食物及廚餘的訊息

香港貿易發展局

