



**BAG YOURSELF A BETTER ENVIRONMENT
HOUSEHOLD PLASTIC BAG SURVEY**

The following survey is designed to analyse your weekly household consumption and use of plastic bags. This survey will require you to keep a diary of your use over 1 week period. It is recommended that you complete this on a daily basis.

This survey relates to HDPE plastic bags. HDPE plastic bags are the lighter bags that have a 'crinkly' feel and are used by most supermarkets. Please do not include the heavier 'boutique' style bags in this survey.

1. How many plastic bags do you currently have stored in your household? _____
2. Before commencing this survey, please write down how many plastic bags you believe your household will accumulate this week: _____
3. Plastic Bag Diary. Please complete the following and tally at the end of the week.

Item to Measure	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.	Total
1. # of plastic bags received.								
2. # of plastic bags reused *								
3. # of plastic bags used as bin liners.								
4. # of plastic bags taken back to a central collection point for recycling**								
5. # of alternative bags used ie calico / paper								

* Reusing plastic bags defines extending the life of a plastic bag more than once and includes reusing bags again at the supermarket, to freeze food, pack lunches, store clothing etc. Using plastic bags as bin liners is not classified as a reuse.

** Central collection point includes dedicated plastic bag recycling bins at all Coles, Woolworths and Bi-Lo stores.

4. Looking at the total number of plastic bags you accumulated this week, and your answer to Question 2, were you surprised with your overall consumption? **Yes / No**

The challenge is currently out there to reduce plastic bag use by 50% and increase recycling by 50%. Why not take this challenge and complete this survey again over another week to track your progress.

Thank you for completing this survey. Please fax the completed form to the Environment Stewardship Team on (02) 6274 1640 or email to Barbara.butt@ea.gov.au.

Bag Yourself a Better Environment is a national plastic bag awareness campaign taking place in March 2003. This campaign is partnered by the Commonwealth Government's Natural Heritage Trust, Clean Up Australia, Coles & Bi-Lo Supermarkets, Australian Retailers Association and Woolworths.