



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 21-2223, **Version:** 1

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### Subject

Intent to Adopt an amendment to the Vienna Town Code (Chapter 13A, Section 13A.4 -Residential Refuse) to eliminate use of plastic bags for yard waste.

### EXPLANATION AND SUMMARY :

As of March 1, 2021 Fairfax, County eliminated the use of plastic bags for disposal of yard waste; enforcement starts April 19, 2021. As of April 19, 2021, the Town will no longer collect yard waste in plastic bags in order to be in compliance with Fairfax County. Residents must place grass clippings, leaves, weeds, vines, and other such material loose in a reusable container or in kraft paper bags made especially for yard waste. Fairfax County had communicated to regional waste collectors about potential rules changes over a year ago on plastic bags for yard waste. At that time the Town modified its written Solid Waste Regulations regarding yard waste to recommend avoiding the use of plastic bags. In March 2021 the Town revised the Solid Waste Regulations to restrict the use of plastic bags for yard waste. The Town put out various social media posts on this matter, as well as an article in the April 2021 Vienna Voice.

This new policy is better for the environment and also prevents expensive waste processing machinery from becoming clogged or damaged by plastic bags.

Additionally, language that clarifies the meaning of contractor-generated waste was added to include any construction material where a building permit is required. These changes support DPW's solid waste rules and regulations.

**Strategic Plan Initiative:** *Vienna is an environmentally sustainable community.*

**Departmental Recommendation :** The public works director recommends approval.

**Finance Recommendation :** N/A

**Purchasing Recommendation :** N/A

**Town Attorney Recommendation :** Town Council may approve the proposed amendments to Chapter 13A in its discretion.

**Town Manager's Recommendation :** I recommend the Town Council approve the presented updates to the Vienna Town Code, Chapter 13A, Section 13A-4 - Residential Refuse to eliminate use of plastic bags for yard waste in order to be in compliance with Fairfax County regulations, as presented.

Cost and Financing: N/A

Account Number: N/A

Decision Needed by This date: 04/26/2021.

**PROPOSED/SUGGESTED MOTION**

"I move to approve the presented updates to the Vienna Town Code, Chapter 13A, Section 13A-4 - Residential Refuse to eliminate use of plastic bags for yard waste in order to be in compliance with Fairfax County regulations."

Or

Other action deemed necessary by Council.