



TOWN OF WEST BOYLSTON  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Town of West Boylston Increases Pay-As-You-Throw Bag Prices**

(West Boylston, MA)- For the first time since the Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT) trash program was implemented fourteen years ago, the cost of “green bags” in West Boylston will be increased. Effective March 11, 2024, a sleeve of ten (10) small bags will increase to \$8.00 and a sleeve of ten (10) large bags will increase to \$18.00.

The price increase comes after the Select Board asked the Solid Waste Advisory Team (SWAT) to evaluate the costs of the PAYT bags. SWAT presented their findings and recommendations to the Select Board over last several months. Citing the many years with no increase, West Boylston having one of the lowest PAYT bag prices in the Commonwealth, and increases to the trash collection and disposal program, SWAT recommended an increase.

On January 24, 2024, the Select Board adopted the increase with an effective date of March 1, 2024. Due to notification requirements to the retailers that sell the bags on behalf of the Town, the effective date was extended to March 11, 2024.

The PAYT program is one of the most effective tools a municipality has for reducing waste- the more trash you generate, the more you pay for green bags and the less you generate, the less you pay. Anecdotally, SWAT reported a ten-cent increase on small bags and twenty-cent increase on large bags in nearby Shrewsbury resulted in direct reduction in pounds of trash collected.

SWAT plans to begin evaluating bag prices every two to three years in the future as the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection recommends increases every three to five years.

To find out where to purchase bags, visit the following link: [West Boylston Trash Bags - Info & Where to Buy | Town of West Boylston MA \(westboylston-ma.gov\)](#).

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