



Republic of the Philippines  
Region IV-A (Calabarzon)  
PROVINCE OF CAVITE

MUNICIPALITY OF GENERAL TRIAS

## OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG BAYAN

### MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE NO. 12-03

**Authors: SB Member Kerby J. Salazar**  
**SB Member Jim Dominic M. Culanding**  
**SB Member Christopher N. Custodio**  
**SB Member Mario C. Amante**  
**SB Member Richard R. Parin**  
**SB Member Walter C. Martinez**

**AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING, REGULATING AND PRESCRIBING CERTAIN USES OF PLASTIC MATERIALS FOR GOODS AND COMMODITIES THAT END UP AS RESIDUAL WASTES AND PROMOTING THE USES OF ECOBAGS/REUSABLE BAGS AND OTHER ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY PRACTICES AS ALTERNATIVES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GENERAL TRIAS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.**

**Be it ordained by the Sangguniang Bayan of General Trias, that:**

**Section 1. - Title. This Ordinance shall be known as "An Ordinance Prohibiting, Regulating and Prescribing Certain Uses of Plastic Materials for Goods and Commodities that End Up as Residual Wastes and Promoting the Uses of Ecobags/Reusable Bags and Other Environment-Friendly Practices as Alternatives in the Municipality of General Trias and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof."**

**Section 2. - Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the Municipality of General Trias to design and adopt measures to minimize and finally eliminate the use of plastic materials that end up as residual wastes and promote environment-friendly practices as alternatives for stronger and continued promotion of zero waste management in particular and welfare of the citizenry in general.**

**Section 3. - Scope and Coverage. This Ordinance shall cover all types of plastic materials that end up as residual wastes. Types of plastic materials that are currently and economically diverted to be reused and recycled within the municipality through resource recovery shall not be covered. Plastic and plastic materials that form part of a product such as semi-conductor and electronics except as container or packaging materials that become residual wastes but are not explicitly prohibited, regulated or otherwise mentioned in this Ordinance are considered not covered. It also covers all stakeholders who generate, use, buy, sell, exchange, provide and dispose said types of plastic materials that generate residual wastes within the municipality such as residential, institutional, commercial, recreational and industrial establishments.**

**Section 4. - Definition of Terms. For purposes of this Ordinance, the following terms are defined and referred as:**

**Buy Back Center - a center that buys selected materials for recycling purposes.**

**Container - a material used to contain purchased products particularly liquid, wet goods, food and beverages, e.g. bottles, trays, plastic bags, plastic cups and glasses, paper bags, wrappers, laminated cartons, cans, styrofoam, etc..**

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CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO  
SB Member

  
LAMBERTO M. CAMPOT  
SB Member

  
RONALD A. LUMUNSA  
SB Member

  
ARTURO P. TACOS  
SB Member

  
MAURITO C. SISON  
SB Member

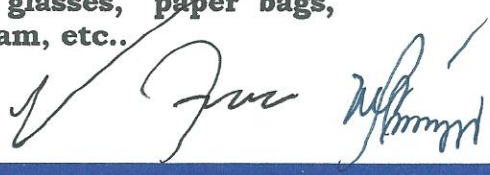
  
JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING  
SKF President

  
WALTER C. MARTINEZ  
LNB President

  
KERBY J. SALAZAR  
SB Member

  
MARIO C. AMANTE  
SB Member

  
RICHARD R. PARIN  
SB Member





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**Disposable Plastic Bags or Plastic Bags** - includes all shapes, sizes, colors and designs of flexible containers and packaging materials made of thin plastic film ranging from 2 to 100 microns as to wrap frozen products, pouches which are often used in "sari-sari" or convenient stores to contain small items, and are commonly referred as "sando bags" primarily used in grocery stores and supermarkets.

**Dry Goods** - products that do not require refrigeration or freezing to maintain freshness such as textiles and clothing.

**Generator** - a person, natural or juridical, who last uses a material for disposal or recycling.

**Primary Packaging Material** - any material which may contain but not necessarily in direct contact with the product especially for purposes of protecting, preserving, handling, transporting and marketing, e.g. cartons, carrier bags, packaging films, protective styrofoam for electronic products.

**Secondary Packaging Material** - refers to any material which acts as a secondary container to a product, i.e., for purposes of containment but not in direct contact with the product, e.g. the box which contains a bottle filled with liquid substances.

**Person** - any human being, natural or juridical, accountable of rights and obligations or of being the subject for legal questions.

**Plastic** - natural and synthetic materials that are produced by chemically modifying natural substances or are synthesized from organic and inorganic raw materials. On the basis of their physical characteristics, plastics are usually divided into thermosets, elastomers and thermo plastics. The following table illustrates the most common types of plastic materials used, their applications and the symbol which is often used to identify them:

Polymer Types	Example of Applications	Symbol
Polyethylene Terephthalate	Fizzy drink and water bottles, salad trays.	
High Density Polyethylene	Milk Bottles, bleach, cleaners, and most shampoo bottles.	
Polyvinyl Chloride	Pipes, fittings, windows and door frames (rigid PVC), thermal insulation (PVC foam) and automotive parts.	
Low Density Polyethylene	Carrier bags, bin liners and packaging films.	

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CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO  
SB Member

LAMBERTO M. CARAMPOT  
SB Member

RONALD A. USMUNSA  
SB Member

ARTURO P. TACOS  
SB Member

MAURITO C. SISON  
SB Member

JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING  
SKF President

WALTER C. MARTINEZ  
LNB President

KERBY J. SALAZAR  
SB Member

MARIO C. AMANTE  
SB Member

RICHARD R. PARIN  
SB Member

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



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<p><b>Polypropylene</b></p>	<p>Margarine tubs, microwavable meal trays, also produce as fibers and filaments for carpets, wall coverings and vehicle upholstery.</p>
<p><b>Polystyrene</b></p>	<p>Yoghurt pots, from hamburger boxes and egg cartons, plastic cutlery, protective packaging for electronic goods and toys, insulating materials in the building and construction industry.</p>
<p><b>Unallocated References</b></p>	<p>Any other plastics that do not fall into any of the above categories - for example polycarbonate which is often used in glazing for the aircraft industry.</p>

**Post-consumer Materials** - materials or products generated by a business or consumer which have served their end use, and which have been separated or diverted from solid wastes for the purpose of collections, processing and used as raw materials in the manufacture of recycled products, excluding materials and by products generated from, and commodity used within an original manufacturing process.

**Recycled Waste** - any waste material retrieved from the waste stream and is made free from contamination that can still be converted into suitable beneficial use of for other useful purposes.

**Recycled Material** - post consumer material that has been processed to be used for making a product, e.g. recycled paper.

**Residual Wastes** - waste materials that are collected, transferred and transported for final disposal as garbage.

**Semi-conductor and Electronic Products** - products containing semi-conductor materials and operated by electricity such as communication and information technology gadgets like cellular phones, computers and appliances such as radio and television.

**Styrofoam** - a kind of plastic material made from polystyrene (PS, coded number 6) and is commonly used as food containers, coffee/noodle cups, plates, protective packaging for electronic products, etc.

**Wet Goods** - products that require refrigeration or freezing to maintain freshness such as fish, meat, fresh poultry products, cold cuts, fruits, beverages and cooked foods.

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*[Signature]*  
 CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 LAMBERTO M. CARAMPOT  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 RONALD A. BUMUNSA  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 ARTURO P. TACOS  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 MAURITO C. SISON  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING  
 SKP President

*[Signature]*  
 WALTER C. MARTINEZ  
 LNB President

*[Signature]*  
 KERBY B. SALAZAR  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 MARIO C. AMANTE  
 SB Member

*[Signature]*  
 RICHARD R. PARIN  
 SB Member



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**Wet Market** - the section selling store products that require refrigeration or freezing to maintain freshness. These include the wet section in public markets, supermarkets, grocery stores, mini marts, and restaurants.

**Ecobags or Reusable Bags** - are bags made out of different materials that can withstand several uses as containers and for packaging rendering them "eco friendly" as alternatives to disposable bags; commonly used ecobags are made of fabric, recyclable or indigenous materials; it may also refer to "thick" plastic bags or any bag made out of plastic provided that the material is strong that will render the bag durable for reuse; bags made from recycled materials such as paper are not necessarily considered ecobags if not reusable as stated, like thin paper bags commonly known as "supot" used for "pandesal".

**Section 5. - Prohibited Use of Plastic Materials for Goods and Commodities.**

Listed below are the prohibited uses of plastic bags/materials:

1. As packaging material or container for dry goods;
2. As packaging material for wet goods;
3. Use as non-reusable plasticware and styrofoam for food as containers and packaging material for dine-in and take out purposes;
4. Use of plastic pouch and drinking straws for beverages such as softdrinks, juices and other cold drinks like "palamig and gulaman";
5. The use of all types of sando bags as garbage bag;
6. Reuse of plastic and plastic materials as flaglets and "banderitas" during special occasions.

**Section 6. - Regulated Uses of Plastic Materials for Goods and Commodities.**

1. A plastic bag may used for wet goods as primary container.
2. Use of a plastic bag as container for wet goods shall be optimized, i.e. the smallest size possible to contain said wet goods shall be provided in a manner that, two or more wet goods shall be contained provided that taste/ flavor/ odor is preserved and food safety allows.
3. Wet goods that are already pre-contained in plastic wraps, pouches, bag and the like as part of the product's packaging materials such as frozen products, shall not be contained in other plastic bags.
4. Other wet goods that are not pre-contained in plastic pouches, wraps, or bags are preferably to be contained in customer supplied "reusable", pre-cleaned and sanitized hard plastic containers.
5. Plastic products, for as long as they will end-up recyclable waste may be allowed such as plastic cups (commonly regarded as HI or High Impact), ice cream cups, egg trays, spoon and fork.
6. Oil plastic bottles shall be reused at all times since they don't usually end up as recyclable waste; other plastic bottles that are not acceptable at "buy back centers" like barangay (Material Recovery Facilities) MRF, central MRF or junkshops be reused and should not end up as

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CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO  
SB Member

LAMBERTO M. SARAMPOT  
SB Member

RONALD A. DEMUNSA  
SB Member

ARTURO P. TACOS  
SB Member

MAURITO C. SISON  
SB Member

JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING  
SKF President

WALTER C. MARTINEZ  
ENB President

KERRY J. SALAZAR  
SB Member

MARIO C. AMANTE  
SB Member

RICHARD R. PARIN  
SB Member

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



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residual waste.

**Section 7. - Use of Ecobags/Reusable Bags and Other Environment-Friendly Practices.**

1. Posting of Information Education Campaign (IEC) materials that shall be mandatory to all commercial establishments such as sari-sari stores, convenient stores, grocery stores, market stalls, food establishments like eateries, fast food chains, restaurants, bar and grills, general merchandise establishment selling school supplies, hardware or any trading business establishment that will require containers and packaging materials for the product they trade and sell.
2. Proprietors, managers and operations officers of business establishments shall orient or train their respective personnel who will be in the frontline of implementing this Ordinance.
3. All sectors are enjoined to use ecobags or reusable bags in all aspects of their business transactions and operations whenever applicable and the general public shall bring appropriate containers (baskets, bayong, fishnets) when they go to the market and other commercial establishments.
4. Business establishments are encouraged to give discounts and other forms of incentives to users of ecobags or reusable bags.
5. Business establishments and non-government organizations are enjoined to promote the use of ecobags or reusable bags by developing their own IEC materials such as posters, pins, tarpaulins, streamers, etc..
6. Ecobags or reusable bags shall be strongly encouraged to be used by all citizens of the Municipality of General Trias.
7. Recycled and recyclable bags are recommended as second best thing to use next to ecobags.

**Section 8. - Monitoring and Enforcement.** The Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO) shall monitor and assess the widest and effective implementation of this Ordinance.

The MENRO in its conduct of annual compliance monitoring inspection shall include business establishments covered by this Ordinance. This shall include business establishments such as sari-sari or convenient stores, peddlers, food establishments, groceries and supermarkets in coordination with barangay officials and market stalls in coordination with the Market Administrator/Market Supervisor.

**Section 9. - Information Education and Communication Campaign.** Upon approval of this Ordinance, the Municipal Government, through the Municipal Information Officer, Barangay Official and Non-government Organizations (NGOs) shall conduct massive information education and communication campaigns using all possible media such as printed materials, radio, television and internet.

**Section 10. - Rules and Regulations.** The Municipal Mayor may issue clarificatory or additional rules and regulations should need arises.

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 CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO  
 SB Member

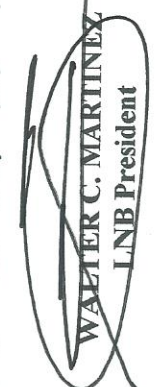
  
 LAMBERTO M. CARAMPOT  
 SB Member

  
 RONALD A. LUMSAD  
 SB Member

  
 ARTURO P. TACOS  
 SB Member

  
 MAURITO C. SISON  
 SB Member

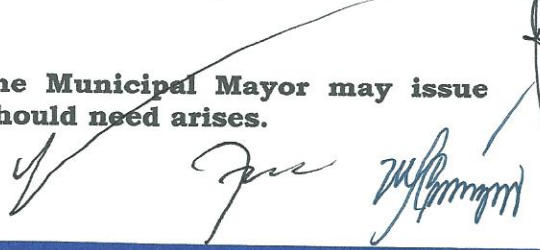
  
 JIM DOMINIC M. CULLANDING  
 SKF President

  
 WALTER C. MARTINEZ  
 LNB President

  
 KERBY J. SALAZAR  
 SB Member

  
 MARIO C. AMANTE  
 SB Member

  
 RICHARD R. PARIN  
 SB Member





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**Section 11. - Fines and Penalties.**

A. For individual or person found guilty of violating Sections 5, 6 & 7 of this Ordinance shall be penalized by paying fines as follows:

First Offense	:	Php 100.00
Second Offense	:	Php 200.00
Third Offense & Beyond	:	Php 500.00

and/or imprisonment of not more than seven (7) days and both fine and imprisonment upon the discretion of Court.

B. For owners, managers and operators of business establishments found guilty of violating Sections 5, 6 & 7 of this Ordinance shall be penalized by paying fines as follows:

First Offense	:	Php 1,000.00
Second Offense	:	Php 1,500.00
Third Offense & Beyond	:	Php 2,500.00

and temporary suspension of license to operate for ninety (90) days.

**Section 12. - Separability Clause.** If for any reason, any part/parts or provision/provisions of this Ordinance shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision hereof which are not affected, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 13. - Repealing Clause.** All previous ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance shall be deemed repealed or modified accordingly.


**Section 14. - Effectivity Clause.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon approval and after ten (10) days of posting on the Bulletin Board of the Municipal Hall, Barangay Halls and conspicuous places in the Municipality.

**Moratorium (Grace Period).** A grace period of six (6) months upon effectivity of this Ordinance shall be given to concerned stakeholders who generate, use, buy, sell, exchange as stated in the abovementioned restrictions to consume or dispose their current supply or inventory.

APPROVED under THIRD/FINAL READING on 14 FEBRUARY 2012.

  
**MAURITO C. SISON**  
 SB Member

  
**ARTURTO P. TACOS**  
 SB Member

  
**RONALD A. LUMUNSAAD**  
 SB Member

  
**LAMBERTO M. CARAMPOT**  
 SB Member

  
**CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO**  
 SB Member

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**KERBY J. SALAZAR**  
 SB Member

  
**MARIO C. AMANTE**  
 SB Member

  
**RICHARD R. PARIN**  
 SB Member

  
**JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING**  
 SKRP-President

  
**WALTER C. MARTINEZ**  
 LNB-President





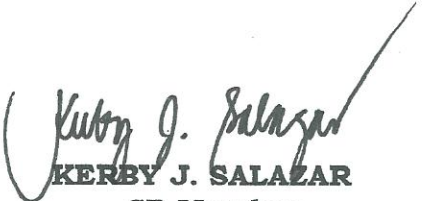
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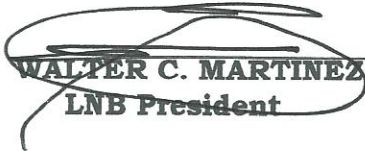
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**RICHARD R. PARIN**  
SB Member


  
**MARIO C. AMANTE**  
SB Member

  
**KERBY J. SALAZAR**  
SB Member


  
**WALPER C. MARTINEZ**  
LNB President

  
**JIM DOMINIC M. CULANDING**  
SKF President

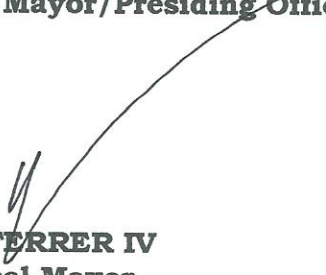
CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT:

  
**WENCESLAO P. CAMINGAY**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

APPROVED:

  
**FERNANDO P. CAMPAÑA**  
Municipal Vice Mayor/Presiding Officer

NOTED:

  
**LUIS A. FERRER IV**  
Municipal Mayor  
February 20, 2012  
Date

mjm/jrp/jfa/app

  
**RONALD A. LUMUNSA**  
SB Member

  
**ARTURO P. TACOS**  
SB Member

  
**MAURITO C. SISON**  
SB Member

  
**CHRISTOPHER N. CUSTODIO**  
SB Member

  
**LAMBERTO M. CARAMPOT**  
SB Member