



# WATER QUALITY REGULATIONS

## BAG LAW



In 2010, the District implemented the Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Act (“bag law”) that requires all District businesses that sell food or alcohol to charge five cents for each disposable bag provided to customers.

## HOW DO WE USE THE MONEY?



### Business

If the business offers a rebate when customers bring their own bag, they retain two cents.



### Anacostia River Clean Up and Protection Fund

The fund, managed by DDOE, is used to implement watershed education programs, stream restoration projects, install and maintain trash capture devices, and to purchase and distribute reusable bags.



## COAL TAR BAN



The District has banned the use of coal tar pavement products, which are used as sealants on parking lots and driveways.

## WHY BAN COAL TAR?

Contain high concentrations of



Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)



Rainwater washes PAHs into storm drains and waterbodies, threatening aquatic life. Toxic dust might also enter homes and apartment buildings and is harmful to human health.

## FOAM BAN



Effective January 1, 2016, it is illegal for District businesses and organizations that serve food or beverages to use containers and other food service products made of expanded polystyrene, commonly known as Styrofoam™.

## THE DOWNSIDE OF FOAM

Foam containers are one of the most common types of trash found in the Anacostia River. It is easily blown by wind or washed by rain into storm drains and water bodies, causing unsightly litter. In addition, toxic chemicals can stick to foam, and if birds, fish, and other wildlife eat small pieces of foam, it can cause illness. This can eventually impact humans if they eat contaminated fish.

