

**D**o you know we throw away more than 30 million plastic bags each day? We are running out of landfill spaces. To protect the environment, the Environmental Protection Department (環境保護署) suggests charging plastic bags we use. What do you think about the levy?



# Green levy on plastic bags



## About the levy

THE government carried out No Plastic Bag Day campaign last year.



The campaign shows a charge of 50 cents could lead to a drop in plastic shopping bag usage by up to 54 percent. The department suggests imposing a levy covering chain or large supermarkets, convenience stores and personal health and beauty stores. (CNS)

## Green tax in other countries

THE Republic of Ireland (愛爾蘭) put a tax on plastic shopping bags a few years ago. It cut usage by more than 90 percent and raised millions of euros for the government. Taiwan (台灣) and Singapore (新加坡) also moved to ban free plastic bags.



## Cut plastic bag use

WE can reduce plastic bags by using reusable shopping bags. Besides, we can always reuse clean plastic bags. Think twice before you get or throw away one because it takes hundreds of years to decompose it.

## Chat with your friends

- 1 Would you use fewer plastic bags if you need to pay for them?
- 2 What would you do to cut plastic bag usage?



### Vocabulary

- |             |             |                        |              |
|-------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------|
| landfill 堆填 | campaign 運動 | chain 連鎖的              | reduce 減少    |
| levy 徵費     | imposing 徵稅 | convenience stores 便利店 | decompose 分解 |