

Mac targets January for plastic bag ban

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McMaster University is among the first campuses in Canada to ban plastic bags.

The move will get rid of 150,000 bags by January 2010.

To coincide with the ban, McMaster University's Student Union is distributing 9,000 reusable cloth bags filled with freebies and campus information.

And the university bookstore, Titles, will give out 20,000 free biodegradable tote bags to students who spend more than \$25.

The store had reusable bags last year, leading to a 75 per cent decrease in plastic bags.

McMaster University is phasing out the plastic bags over the next several months until January 2010, when there will be an outright ban.

The move is part of McMaster's effort to minimize its impact on the environment.

In Alberta, the University of Calgary bookstore started a year and a half ago to discontinue the use of plastic bags.