QC reimplements plastic bag ban

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QUEZON City Mayor Josefina Belmonte on Sunday led a kick-off event for the reimplementation of the city's Plastic Bag Ban Ordinance beginning March 1.

The ordinance prohibits the distribution and use of plastic bags as carry-out bags in retail establishments throughout the city.

"We suspended the implementation of the ordinance during the pandemic, but now we can manage the pandemic better so we will reimplement it. We know for a fact that plastics are one of the greatest polluters of our oceans and bodies of water, clogs our waste streams and pose health risks," Belmonte said.

The mayor, along with Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department head Andrea Villaroman, distributed bayong (traditional bag made from abaca or buri leaves) and ecobags in the Galas, Muñoz, Suki, A. Bonifacio, Frisko and Kamuning markets.

Supermarkets, malls, shopping centers, fast-food restaurants and other businesses violating the ban will be slapped with a fine of P1,000 for the first offense, P3,000 and revocation of environmental clearance for the second offense, and P5,000 and revocation of business permit for the third offense.