

# Sri Lanka bans plastic after garbage crisis

September 1 2017

---



Flash flooding in the capital has also been blamed on plastic, after storm drains became clogged

Sri Lanka banned plastic bags and other disposable products on Friday after the collapse of the island's biggest dump led to a rubbish disposal crisis.

Rotting garbage piled up in many parts of the capital after the giant rubbish tip collapsed in April, crushing dozens of homes and killing 32 people.

Many blamed the haphazard use of plastic, which was also cited in flash flooding in the capital after [storm water](#) drains became clogged.

In response, President Maithripala Sirisena banned the sale of [plastic bags](#), cups and plates, as well as the burning of refuse containing plastic.

"Any person who fails to comply with the regulations... shall be liable to an offence and punishable under the National Environmental Act," the president said.

Offenders could be fined 10,000 rupees (\$66) and jailed for up to two years.

© 2017 AFP

Citation: Sri Lanka bans plastic after garbage crisis (2017, September 1) retrieved 26 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2017-09-sri-lanka-plastic-garbage-crisis.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.