

Eastham Recycling Committee Minutes
August 22, 2023, Eastham Library's Eastham Room

In attendance: Gretchen Stiers, Jon Howard, Alicia Couture, Andrew Shearer, Gary Senecal, Molly Chapman, and Lee Bartell

The Recycling Committee now has a Town Email, which can be found at the following link:

<https://www.eastham-ma.gov/611/Recycling-Committee>

E-mails will be sent to the Committee Chair, Gretchen Stiers, and Jon Howard. Gretchen will typically respond to these e-mails and Jon will fill in as needed.

Lee mentioned that there are 40,000,000,000 plastic utensils dumped into landfill annually. Some "compostable" cutlery (bamboo, sugarcane) must be composted in industrial facilities. They will break down in a hot facility but NOT in your backyard.

Windmill Weekend, for is Saturday, Sat. 9th, 10-4pm. The Recycling Committee will be located under the Town Gov. Tent. Members will cover the table as follows:

10am-noon	Noon-2pm	2pm-4pm
Gretchen, Lee.	Gary, Andrew, Molly	Jon, 3pm- Alicia

Gretchen is checking with DPW about having recycling bins next to the trash bins.

Yarmouth is working on getting an anaerobic digester. This project seems to be on hold and Gretchen is trying to get more information from the town about next steps. Eastham's Town Administrator, Jacqui Beebe, has mentioned that the Town would like to explore building an anaerobic digester as part of redesign of the Town Transfer Station and the new sewer system.

Swap Shop - Jon says "it's summer and it's crazy!" He also reported having had a meeting with one of the health inspectors at Town Hall, who provided a copy of a 2021 Town ordinance that restaurants could use down their plastic utensils, and then needed to stop buying those. The Recycling Committee is looking into how to include this ordinance as part of future discussions with restaurants about not using single use plastic utensils.

The Recycling Committee plans to hold forum with restaurants and vendors on doing away with plastic in the winter of 2024. Date to be announced.

Gary reported from the Climate Action Committee (CAC) is having a solar panel event on Sat., Oct. 28 from 10am-1pm at the Library. The CAC would like to find someone to donate coffee and donuts and to have help setting up chairs.

Next Meeting Date: September 19th at the Eastham Library's Eastham Room