



TOWN OF FALMOUTH RESOLUTION

For the Town of Falmouth to Join the Earth Day 2020 Network and to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Earth Day, and Maine's Bicentennial through a Calendar of Events in Late April-Late May 2020

- WHEREAS,** Falmouth has strived to reduce its carbon footprint through the implementation of the 2010 Green Ribbon Commission Report and the recent adoption of the 2018 Energy and Sustainability Plan; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Town has invested in energy efficiency, alternative energy, and transportation including building LEED certified buildings (Police Dept. in 2009 and Elementary School in 2011); upgrading interior lighting in municipal buildings and municipally-owned streetlights to LEDs; continuing to explore the feasibility of siting a 1-2MW solar array on the Woods Road capped landfill; continuing to explore and adopt alternative transportation, including the purchase of electric vehicles and charging stations, and an expansion of the bicycle and pedestrian network; and,
- WHEREAS,** Falmouth leads the region in responsible and sustainable solid waste disposal, with some of the highest recycling rates, through offering compost drop off collections at the Transfer Station and Community Park, striving for “zero waste” community events, and continuing to develop policies and ordinances that discourage single-use items; and,
- WHEREAS,** the Town continues to demonstrate its commitment to environmental biodiversity through open space acquisition of green spaces; has implemented a successful program to eradicate terrestrial invasive plant species over the last ten years, which has been a model to other communities; works to protect its fresh and marine waters and watersheds; celebrates the importance of trees through Arbor Day and Tree City USA recognition; has approved aquaculture of mussels off Clapboard Island; will launch a robust education and outreach campaign, “*Living Lawns*,” to educate residents on the importance of proper, environmentally sound lawn care practices, while also requiring lawn care companies to report their annual use of pesticides and fertilizers; and,
- WHEREAS,** growing out of the first Earth Day in 1970, Earth Day Network is the world’s largest recruiter to the environmental movement, working with more than 75,000 partners in over 190 countries to drive positive action for our planet. The Earth Day Network’s mission is to diversify, educate and activate the environmental movement worldwide to drive meaningful action across the following issues: climate action, science and education, people and communities, conservation and restoration, and plastic and pollution; and,
- WHEREAS,** on November 13, 2019, the Falmouth Town Council adopted a resolution that Falmouth will join communities throughout the state to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the State of Maine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH ASSEMBLED THIS 13TH DAY OF JANUARY 2020, THAT:

- A. the Town of Falmouth will join the Earth Day 2020 Network; and
- B. the Town Council delegates the ad-hoc Earth Day 2020 working group to develop and execute a calendar of events which will celebrate Earth Day’s 50th Anniversary on April 22, 2020, and Maine’s Bicentennial celebration, while honoring past efforts and committing the Town to valuing, conserving, and protecting its natural resources through continued collaboration with appropriate stakeholders.

Attest: _____ Date: _____
Ellen Planer, Town Clerk

*The Earth Day 2020 working group is comprised of town staff and the town’s Conservation Commission and the Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee, as well as the Maine Audubon.