






## Falmouth Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee (REAC)

“Energy News You Can Use” Volume 6, Issue 6, June 2018 – Falmouth, Maine

- The days are getting warmer and longer—Summer is right around the corner! How do you gear up for living sustainably in the Summer season?
- Any ideas how Falmouth can be more sustainable? Use less energy? Generate less waste? We’d love to hear your ideas! Contact your Energy and Sustainability Coordinator, Kimberly Darling at [kdarling@falmouthme.org](mailto:kdarling@falmouthme.org) with your thoughts and suggestions.

## Calendar of Local Green Events—June 2018

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date/Time/Location</b>	<b>Description</b>
<p><b>Competitive Energy Services Energy Seminar</b></p> 	<p>June 7 1:00-5:30pm University of Southern Maine 314 Forest Avenue Glickman Library, 7<sup>th</sup> floor</p>	<p>Competitive Energy Services (CES) will be holding their annual summit on June 7. This is your chance to connect with CES energy advisors, and have your questions answered about market conditions, efficiency strategies, changing legislation and regulations, sustainable trends, and all things energy. Register now for free! <a href="#">Follow this link</a> for more event information.</p>
<p><b>Passive High School Built for Cold, Coastal Climate</b></p> 	<p>June 15 12:30-5:00pm Maine Coast Waldorf School 57 Desert Rd., Freeport</p>	<p>This event will be hosted by BRIBURN, the architecture firm behind the project. Speakers will share the complexities they navigated while designing this small high school. The resulting project ultimately exceeded the stringent requirements for energy performance, within the confines of a tight budget and a tight construction schedule, while also honoring the special design considerations inherent to Waldorf schools. For more information, <a href="#">click here</a>.</p>
<p><b>Build Maine Annual Conference</b></p> 	<p>June 14-15 Lewiston Public Library 200 Lisbon St., Lewiston</p>	<p>What if we could find ways to build economically stronger, more successful towns and cities in Maine through strategic, high impact investments? Build Maine returns to Lewiston with a day-long program of dynamic, nationally renowned speakers. Looking to go deeper into the innovative tools for doing more with less? June 14 will be designated for technical, hands-on 201-Level Workshops. <a href="#">Click here for more information</a>.</p>

<p><b>Turn and Face the Strange: Economic Impacts of Climate Change</b></p> 	<p>June 21 7:30am-10:30am Maple Hill Farm Inn &amp; Conference Center 11 Inn Rd., Hallowell</p>	<p>What impacts will climate change have on Maine's businesses and overall economy? What adaptations and innovations are stemming from these changes? Join E2Tech for a discussion of the economic impacts of climate change on iconic Maine activities and industries. <a href="#">Follow this link</a> for more event information.</p>
<p><b>Portland's Sustainability Series: Emerald Ash Borer and Browntail Moths</b></p> 	<p>June 27 5:30-7:30pm Portland Public Library Rines Auditorium 5 Monument Sq., Portland</p>	<p>The Portland Sustainability Series presents a diversity of speakers to share different aspects of the work moving Maine to greater endurance and sustainability. On June 27, they will host Colleen Teerling from the Maine Forest Service who will talk about the current threats posed by these insects, what the state is doing about it, and what can be done on our own to help win the battle.</p>

## Energy News

**Offshore Wind Energy at a Turning Point in Maine**—Years of research and small-scale testing are coming to a halt, as the Maine Aqua Ventus project faces a key vote with utility regulators over its power contract. At stake is a test of two-full sized floating wind turbines, set on patented concrete platforms. Blades over 500 feet in diameter would spin 395 feet above the sea off Monhegan Island, from the towers made with fiberglass composites technology pioneered at the University of Southern Maine. [Follow this link](#) to read more on this decade long effort.

**Ratepayers' Group Planning Class-Action Lawsuit Against CMP**—Two Maine-based attorneys have retained a New York firm to take the lead, on behalf of utility customers who believe they were overcharged. The planned suit has been hinted at for weeks. It's the latest development in ongoing efforts to learn why some CMP customers received—and continue to receive—bills that seem of scale with the amount of power they've used. [Read more here.](#)

**Maine Businesses get USA Money to Install Solar**—Representative Chellie Pingree says the money will help the businesses assuage high energy expenses with renewable sources. The funds will go to Blue Bell Farm and Six River Farm in Bowdoinham, Autowerkes Maine in Freeport, and Vanir Properties in Cumberland.

## In Other News...

**Maine Advocates Look to Protect Dark Skies, Promote Tourism**—Advocates in Maine are looking to make it known that the state contains the largest area free of light pollution in the eastern half of the United States to draw more tourism. Read more, [here.](#)

**Contaminated Recycling Costs Increase in Old Orchard Beach (and ALL ecomaine member communities)**—ecomaine CEO Kevin Roche said in a recent press release that current recycling market conditions are global in nature, and are collapsing due to the decline in newspaper production, a severe restriction on allowable contamination percentages by importers—particularly China—and high levels of contamination in the recycling stream.

**The Falmouth Long Range Planning Advisory Committee (LPAC) is requesting YOUR OPINION on the [draft Open Space Plan, dated May 31, 2018](#).** This plan is a proposed update to the 2006 Greening of Falmouth plan.

### **Purpose**

The new draft plan proposes to guide the Town's efforts on protecting open space in Falmouth by setting a vision, articulating goals for conservation, and outlining what needed to be done to achieve those goals.

### **Scope**

The scope of this plan is limited to open spaces containing ecological resources, farmland, woodland, waterfront areas, and park lands that contain hiking trails or trail potential. Outdoor athletic facilities, playgrounds, cemeteries, and parks without trails or trail opportunities are not addressed in this plan. The committee's work and past documents can be viewed at the [open space plan webpage](#).

### **How can you be heard?**

- Feedback on the draft plan is being taken via <https://www.falmouthme.org/home/news/public-feedback-requested-on-draft-open-space-plan> through Tuesday, June 26, 2018.
- A Public Forum will be held on Wednesday, June 27, 2018 at 6:00 PM in Falmouth Town Hall, 271 Falmouth Road.
- Please also feel free to send any comments to Theo Holtwijk, [tholtwijk@falmouthme.org](mailto:tholtwijk@falmouthme.org).

## *Green Consumer Tips & How-To's*

### *Improper recycling will start costing ratepayers money!*

If you're unsure if it can or cannot be recycled...

- Visit [www.ecomaine.org](http://www.ecomaine.org)
- Download the RECYLOPEDIA ([Instructions here](#)) or search for it in the App Store. We have small handouts with instructions for the app in the Clerks area at Town Hall also.
- Grab a Do/Don't recycling list at the June 12<sup>th</sup> election. They are also at Town Hall, Public Works, the Transfer Station, and Community Programs at Mason-Motz.
- Get the kids involved! The **Wicked Smaht Recycler** game can be found [at this site](#), and you might learn a few new things if you play, too!

## *Did you know.....*

...the Town of Falmouth pays \$70.50 per ton for municipal solid waste to be processed at ecomaine's waste to energy facility, and that costs for recycling tonnages has always been free?

...that this free ride for recycling is coming to an end?

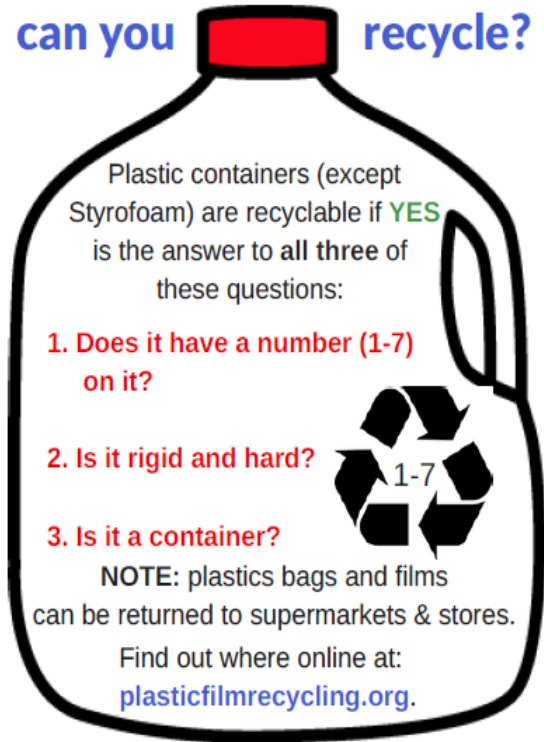
...that acceptable contamination levels for recycling in global markets have historically been upwards of 20-30%, and now are as low as 10%?

...that if Falmouth residents recycle incorrect items, it will start costing rate payers?

...that these potential increased costs for contamination will cost Falmouth residents \$40 for levels of 5%, and \$70.50 for levels greater than 10%?

...that because of this market change, ***it is more important than ever to make sure you're recycling properly?***

## Which plastics can you recycle?



### NO HAZARDOUS WASTE - EVER!



**These items never belong in recycling or household trash:**

- ammunition - anti-freeze - CFL/fluorescent light bulbs - chemicals - electronic waste - fertilizers - bulbs of any kind - fuel (gasoline, diesel, kerosene) - lithium ion batteries - oxygen tanks - paint thinner - pesticides - propane tanks - rechargeable batteries - televisions

### DO Recycle

#### PAPER

- All Clean Cardboard, Paperboard & Pizza Boxes (NO FOOD)
- Newspapers & Inserts
- Magazines
- Mail & Catalogs
- Paper Bags
- Office Paper, Envelopes, window envelopes
- Wrapping Paper
- Phone Books
- Books
- Paper Plates (clean)
- Milk & Juice Cartons
- Drink Boxes & Aseptic Containers
- Shredded Paper (put in clear bags)

#### PLASTIC

- Water Bottles
- Milk Jugs
- Detergent Bottles
- All rigid containers marked with a #1-#7 (except Styrofoam)

#### METAL

- Tin Cans
- Aerosol Cans (empty)
- Aluminum Cans/Foil
- Pots & Pans

#### GLASS (all colors)

All glass Bottles & Jars

**All rigid containers must be EMPTY (not perfectly clean).**



Search more than 700 items: [ecomaine.org/RECYCLOPEDIA](http://ecomaine.org/RECYCLOPEDIA)

### DON'T Recycle

#### NO PLASTIC BAGS!



#### Keep OUT:

**Trash/Garbage**  
**Needles & Sharps**  
**Large metal parts** car, boat, truck, etc.  
**Wood/lumber**  
**Propane, helium or other gas cylinders**  
**Pipes, plastic or metal**  
**Clothing & shoes**  
**PLASTIC BAGS:**

- trash/shopping bags
- frozen vegetable
- pelletags
- bread bags
- newspaper bags
- potato or snack
- sandwich
- animal food bags

#### Plastic wrap or film

#### Bedding & Pillows

#### Garden hoses

#### Batteries:

- alkaline
- button-cell
- rechargeable / lithium ion

Boat shrink-wrap/tarps

Bubble-wrap

Diapers (baby/adult)

Envelopes that are plastic or Tyvek

Food or plants (compost instead)

Kitty Litter

Knives & Blades

Light bulbs (any type; return CFLs to store)

Paper napkins & towels

Styrofoam or polystyrene foam (even if #6)

Toys

Vinyl siding

Wax-coated paper or boxes (poly-coated OK)

Rope, String, Chain

Learn more at: [ecomaine.org](http://ecomaine.org) or 207-773-1738