
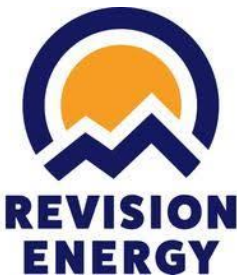




Falmouth Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee (REAC)

“Energy News You Can Use” Volume 7, Issue 7, July 2019 – Falmouth, Maine

- Happy summer and Happy 4th of July! 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 with your thoughts and suggestions.
- Know of any energy or sustainability events not listed in the calendar below? Please reach out to Kimberly and she’ll add them in!

Calendar of Local Green Events–July 2019

Event	Date/Time/Location	Description
<p>The Chewonki Foundation of Wiscasset announces upcoming area family-friendly natural history presentations in “The Natural World Comes Alive with a Visit from Chewonki,” traveling natural history programs. Call ahead and check with the host organization to ensure there is space. Many venues have limited seating and may take reservations.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>		<p style="text-align: center;">Traveling natural history programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ July 3, from 4 to 5 p.m.: Animal Adaptations, Harrison Village Library. ❖ July 11, from 6 to 7 p.m.: Owls of Maine, Treat Memorial Library, Livermore Falls. ❖ July 12, from 1 to 2 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Predators, Greater Lovell Land Trust. ❖ July 12, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.: Starlab, Curtis Memorial Library, Wayne. ❖ July 19, from 2 to 3 p.m.: Mammals of Maine, Topsham Public Library ❖ July 19, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.: Starlab, Wilton Free Public Library. ❖ July 25, from 1 to 2 p.m.: Owls of Maine, Weld Free Public Library. ❖ July 31, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.: Scales & Tails, Paris Parks & Rec <p>For the entire summer series, and for more information, visit their website here.</p>
<p>One Climate Future: Climate Action in Portland & South Portland</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>	<p>July 10 5:30-7:00pm ReVision Energy 758 Westbrook St., South Portland</p>	<p>Portland and South Portland are creating a joint climate action and adaptation plan and want your input! Join City representatives and ReVision Energy for a short presentation followed by a discussion on how climate change will affect our cities and what we can do about it – city-wide and as individuals. There will be pizza and drinks starting at 5:30pm, followed by the presentation and discussion at 6pm. This event is free and open to the public but please RSVP at this link, as space is limited. ReVision also has a Lunch and Learn on July 12 in South Portland—for more information on that event, follow this link.</p>

<p>Epic Rooftop Summer Social</p> 	<p>July 24 5:00-7:00pm 27 Pear St., Portland</p>	<p>Join E2Tech members and guests for a summer networking reception hosted by Burns & McDonnell on their roof. Five stories above Portland, near the Custom House, there will be music, a selection of local beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages, light appetizers and lots of networking! For more information, and to register, click here.</p>
<p>Environmental Trivia Night</p> 	<p>July 27 7:00-9:00pm Raymond Village Community Church 27 Main St., Raymond</p>	<p>Join the AmeriCorps and the Maine Partnership for Environmental Stewardship team for some trivia featuring Mother Earth! This event is free to attend, some food and drink will be provided, but feel free to bring some of your own. Organizers ask that you bring a team of 6, or plan to join a table that evening. RSVP to Heather Craig at hcraig@sjcme.edu.</p>

Energy News

Bills to Energize Renewable-Power Development in Maine Go to Governor—Clean energy supporters are celebrating the passage of two bills that serve as foundations to advance renewable power in Maine. The first, L.D. 1494, will update Maine’s Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), a policy that requires increased production of electricity from indigenous sources such as wind, solar, biomass and hydro. The RPS bill aims to double the percentage of renewable power sold in the state to 80 percent by 2030, and 100 percent by 2050. The Senate approved the measure unanimously, the House by a 93-48 margin. The second bill, L.D. 1711, will expand a range of solar electric projects, most notably by increasing an arbitrary cap on the number of customers who can receive power from a community solar farm from nine to 200. It was approved with a 32-2 vote in the Senate and 93-52 in the House. [Read more at this link](#).

In Other News...

First-in-the-Nation Bill Bans Toxic Chemicals from Food Packaging—The Maine Legislature unanimously passed a first-in-the-nation bill banning two toxic industrial chemicals from food packaging. A response to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s (FDA) failure to sufficiently regulate health-harming chemicals in food packaging, LD 1433, the Safe Food Packaging Act, will protect Maine children and families by banning all phthalates (THAL-eights) and PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance) in food packaging, with the goal of reducing human exposure and environmental contamination. [Read more here](#).

What’s in Your Recycling Bin? Interns Will Grade the Contents this Summer in Four Communities—Residents in Falmouth, Scarborough, South Portland, and Windham will see colored tags on their curbside recycling bins in an effort to reduce contamination that is costing towns money. For the full story, [follow this link](#), and keep reading to learn more about Falmouth’s duo!

Meet Falmouth's Summer Sustainability Interns!

Margot Chirayath

Margot graduated from Edward Little High School in Auburn in 2017 and now is pursuing a degree in Environmental Studies at Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. When Margot isn't working on environmental projects, you can find her swimming, running, and biking all over Southern Maine for fun, but also for competition; unless she is somewhere traveling abroad.



Lexi Anderson

Lexi graduated from Falmouth High School in 2014. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology in 2018 from Yale University. Now, she is continuing her education at the University of Maine School of Law, with a concentration on Environmental Law. When Lexi isn't studying, she is being active outdoors. She also enjoys archery, tennis, piano, and vegan cooking.



Green Consumer Tips & How-To's

Six tips for a Red, White and GREEN Fourth of July:

1. **Ditch the single-use plates, cups and cutlery and use reusables!** — If you use paper towels, please compost them (they are NOT recyclable).
2. **Buy local; or, harvest your own garden**—I'm cutting my spring mix and spinach almost daily!

3. **Grill Green**—with more than 60 million barbecues lighting up this Fourth of July, choosing the right grill matters. Propane produces close to half the emissions of generic charcoal; but there a lot of sustainability-produced charcoal briquettes out there!
4. **Invest in some solar lights**—this will help cut back your power bill if you like spending evenings outdoors. I know I do!
5. **Green fireworks**—there are now companies making perchlorate-free fireworks and eco-friendly floating lanterns. The colorful lanterns not only light up at night but are also made from biodegradable and environmentally safe materials.
6. **Keep recycling!** Make sure you're putting in the time to properly recycle and compost. Regardless of how many people you're entertaining, it can be done!



Check out Efficiency Maine's Energy and Money Saving Tips at [this link](#) and while you're there, make sure you look at the rebate programs for the new fiscal year.

Did you know...

...that the Yarmouth Clam Festival separates all the festival's waste at waste stations, allowing them to properly separate trash from recycling and compost? The waste stations they have are the model Falmouth uses at our large events and allows us to generate very little trash! Here is an article from 2018 highlighting the success of their efforts: ['Trash\(less\) Dogs' Clean up at Yarmouth Clam Festival](#).

...there is a company now, 4Ocean, whose sole purpose is to clean up litter in the ocean? 4Ocean is a global company that actively removes trash from the ocean and coastlines, helps create sustainable economies around the world, and inspires individuals to work together for a cleaner ocean. Global cleanup operations are funded entirely through the sale of their products (mostly bracelets), where every item purchased funds the removal of one pound of trash from the ocean. By creating jobs, utilizing the latest technology, and raising awareness about the impact of plastic and trash in the ocean, the company is building the first economy for ocean plastic and creating a cleaner, more sustainable future for the ocean. The co-founders even made Forbes 30 Under 30 List in 2019. Visit their website [4Ocean](#) to read more about this incredible business.

REAC'S Mission: The Town of Falmouth Energy and Recycling Advisory Committee advises the Falmouth Town Council on matters relating to the town's solid waste recycling program, energy efficiency and other related matters deemed appropriate by the Council. Duties shall include but not be limited to the following: (1) Endeavor to save local taxpayer dollars through increased energy-efficiency of municipal facilities and operations; (2) Prioritize the ad hoc Falmouth Green Ribbon Committee's 2010 recommendations that the Council wants to pursue; (3) Educate Falmouth residents and businesses about energy-efficient, waste-reducing, clean energy opportunities and choices; (4) Enhance and promote the town's recycling program; (5) Promote the use of clean, renewable energy sources in Falmouth's public and private facilities through education and outreach; (6) Work with surrounding communities on potential regional energy efficiency and clean energy strategies; (7) Monitor new developments and options in the fields of energy and waste management as technologies evolve and change; educate the public and advise the Council on same; (8) Research and report policies to accomplish the above goals and/or other related goals deemed appropriate by the Town Council.