

NH Network Plastics Working Group Notes (PWG) #83

Sunday, August 24, 6 pm

Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, September 21, 6 pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87209928697>

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 872 0992 8697

[Plastics Working Group Slide Deck Link \(all may add resources\)](#)

[Ten Towns Toolkit website Link](#)


[2025 Facilitator Schedule](#)

[Action Tracking Spreadsheet](#)

[2024-26 PWG Priorities Table](#)

[NH Network Bills Resource](#)

[2026 Legislative Tracking Spreadsheet](#)

 Ten Towns Ten Actions Promotion Pieces

Attending

(KEEP THIS LIST INTACT AND EDIT EACH MEETING - USUALLY SIMILAR ATTENDEES SHOW UP EACH TIME)

NOTE: Names in **bold** were in attendance.

Mary Armstrong, Kristine Baber, Mark Berry, **Patsy Beffa-Negrini**, **Cindy Heath**, Kathy Manfre, Janet Perkins-Howland, **Ann Podlipny**, **Susan Richman**, Rep Peter Schmidt, **Carol Sullivan**, Cynthia Walter, Nancy Ladd, Christina Dubin, **Kayla Stoll** (Surfrider), and **Jack Hurely**

1. Land Acknowledgment, Norms, Leader in Every Chair, Welcome New Attendees, Recruitment

- [2025 Facilitator Schedule](#)

2. Upcoming Events/Education (this doc is editable - please add your events!)

- See the [Beyond Plastics Calendar](#) page for information about upcoming events & success stories

3. Discussion/Presentations/Updates

- Education Team (**Patsy Beffa-Negrini**)
 - Conscious Cafeteria Coaching Initiative
 - **ACTION:** Request ConVal presentation from Cynthia Walter
 - Working on web page for TTTA website with Google Form to promote reusables in schools
 - Promotion plan - do a pilot in a few towns
 - Develop a campaign - UV (Cindy), Chester (Ann), Seacoast (Cindy W), Bedford (Kayla), Lakes Region (Carol)
 - Try plastic free week each semester (Ann does this)
 - CW is developing a packet
 - [Upstream Report on Conscious Cafeterias](#)
 - [AHIMSA in schools](#) - reusables initiative website
 - **ACTIONS:** CH to call AHIMSA for permission to use CC terminology & CW
 - SR will contact Joel Huberman at RiverMeade
 - Ann's strategy for Plastic Free schools week; had a dedicated principal who cared; Oyster River educates the students through activities & curriculum
 - Consider collaborating with PTAs as well as principals

- [Resources](#)
 - [Ten Towns Resources on School Reuse](#)
 - [Reuse in Schools — Upstream](#)
 - [Plastic Free Lunch Day 2025](#)
 - [Estimated Savings Calculator](#)
- **Collective Action Updates - Susan Richman**
 - [Resource Directory of SUP Bag Ban Files](#) [Ten Towns SUP Bag Ban Resources](#)
 - PWG 'No Bag Please' Campaign [Link to Working Doc](#)
 - Link to printable petition: bit.ly/paperNOplasticBAGS (useful for tabling, church or community groups, tabling outside your favorite grocery - with manager's OK)
 - Link to petition on-line: bit.ly/noPLASTICbags (sign it yourself, share link with others)
 - [Link to SUP bag ban map](#); [Link to meeting notes](#) with DES/Rep. Ebel
 - **What You Can Do:**
 - Speak with the retailers you come in contact with; what do they recommend as a good way to go about this? What would be less helpful?
 - Keep the petition going; we've paused at 4450 - can we make it to 5000 or 10,000?
 - Give presentations (Rotary, Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce, church groups, knitting clubs, libraries, local environmental/conservation groups); we have ppt you can use or mix & match
 - **ACTION:** Decide where bill should best fit into a statute; also need to consider carbon footprint of paper bags
 - **ACTION:** Peter Schmidt will contact ALDI management about their corporate wide no plastic bag policy
 - **ACTION:** Consider starting a bag share program with a local retailer, laundry service, co-op.
 - **Models:**
 - [Mountain Equipment Coop](#) (Canada)
 - [Online bag tutorial & step by step bag share program instructions](#)
 - [Bag Share Project](#) (Massachusetts)
 - [MorsBags](#) (award-winning NP in the UK)
 - Article - [The Rise of Reusable Bag Share Programs](#)
 - [Blooming Foods Co-Op Consumer incentives List](#)
 - [Adams, MA Bag Share Program](#) (made bags for every resident)
 - [Beyond the Bag Consortium](#) Pilot Program
 - [Closed Loop Partners article](#) about Beyond the Bag pilot in 150 Denver stores
 - [Beyond the Bag](#) graphics, signs templates
- **Environmental Justice & Lead Issues (Ann Podlipny)**
 - Will report back on funding for water clean ups
 - [Golden Connections Club](#) - kids learning from seniors; summer camp idea (Ann)
 - Sustainable living, reusables, less consumption
- **Federal Legislation (Carol Sullivan & Ann Podlipny)**
 - **Resources**
 - [Full Report](#) - Mobilizing Federal Action on Plastic Pollution
 - [Fact Sheet](#) - Biden-Harris Administration Releases New Strategy to Tackle Plastic Pollution, Takes Action to Reduce Single-Use Plastics in Federal Operations
 - [Beyond Plastics](#) - Working to End Single Use Plastic Pollution
 - [Kayla Stoll TED Talk](#)

- **Legislative Action & Outreach Research Team - [BILL UPDATES BELOW](#)**
 - [2025 Leg Tracking by County & LSR Tracking](#) (Strategies Included)
 - [2025 Legislative Resource Working Doc](#)
 - [Legislator Tracking Spreadsheet With Bill Numbers](#) [Legislative Research Group Tracking Sheet](#)
 - Check the [NH Network bill tracker](#)

4. Updates from Ten Towns, Ten Actions Leaders & Attendees

Ann - Chester: Co-farming in Bedford with Kayla, focused on lead poisoning mitigation; Merrimack River clean up Nashua - Manchester (Rocky); wrote article for NH Bulletin, close to securing \$125,000 for the clean up efforts - HS Students, volunteer groups, businesses involved; plastic bags showing up in collections; attended Board of Alderman meeting to advocate for PFAS reduction at the water treatment plant

Susan - Durham: Unclear about a bill submission on plastic bag ban; unsure about R sponsor; Peggy & Susan spoke with the Hannaford Sustainability Coordinator (Samantha Pease); has experience with ending SUP at another store, and offered to connect us with others; bans going well in VT & ME; 1,400 signatures online, close to 5,000 total; talks scheduled in NH; maybe propose a PFAS bill instead? Joined BJs and they are promoting 'less toxicity with glass containers'

Cindy - Cornish: Plastic Free July event successful; Mesh Bag Mamas moving along, Lebanon co-op has eliminated SUP in bulk section

Patsy - Nelson: Harrisville foam collection on August 15; Mary has a great coalition to help her, including with transportation

Carol - Center Harbor: Library collaboration on Plastic Free July, and has expanded to offer a Button Up workshop (September); planning to gather a group of people to spread out the work; working with the schools in the Lakes Region area; exploring plastic free legislation to communicate with reps/senators

Jack - Claremont: working with Bag Ban group; petition up on FB & website of NH Wildlife Coalition and other groups; on Claremont CC & NH Assoc. CC

Kayla - Surfrider - Bedford: Researching for plastic bag ban group, beach clean ups, passionate about plastic pollution; env. science student online at SNHU; working at UNH in eco-hydrology dept.; [TED Talk](#)

5. PWG Priorities Action Plan

- [LINK TO SURVEY RESULTS](#)
- [SUMMARY](#)
- [2024-26 PWG Action Steps](#)
- [Link to Discussion on Sept 8 - PWG Meeting #70](#)
- **ACTION: Ask an environmental legislator to host an environmental caucus and invite our list of environmental legislators** - wait until after election for this to invite those who have been elected
- **ACTION: Susan to contact Nick Germana, Karen Ebel for advice on environmental caucus - may have a weekly phone call with Peter Bixby (family friend)**

6. Open Space Topics

- Free Staters Influence on Our Work
 - Read the Privateers by Josh Cowen; The Last Bake Sale Andru Volinsky
 - Follow Gary Reyneau articles
 - Follow In Depth NH
 - Facilitation Training Resource - [Interaction Institute for Social Change](#)

7. Resources:

- [Usefull](#) (large scale recycling/waste at arenas/universities)
- [Citizens' Climate Lobby Website Correction](#) - Percentage of Climate Change Caused by Plastics

- [Climate Action Tracker](#)

8. Future Agenda Items

Recycling Discussion - NRRRA is focused on recycling; how do we navigate the discussion about revenues and the business of recycling? What is the current state of plastics recycling? Do most towns realize revenues from recycling? [Companies like this](#) are out there making plastic bricks.

David Wasielewski - asked about a possible future presentation from a company that is exploring processing of leachate from landfills through a closed loop system to destroy toxics.

Cynthia will talk with him to get more details and possibly this presentation should first go to groups focused on waste processing and landfills.

[Microplastics Legislation Worksheet](#)

- Presentation to NH Legislative Committee on the environment
- Road map tour of NH legislative website
- Connect with Businesses for Social Responsibility
- EPR Toolkit & Solid Waste Event - EPR: "Breaking It Down" [Link to Working Slide Deck](#) - Cindy
- [Article by Ann Podlipny](#)

Below this Line: Resources in General (not agenda items)

9. Legislative - Past

- Bag Ban introduced by Laurel Stavis (Lebanon)
- Enabling Legislation introduced by Marge Shepardson (Marlborough)

10. Legislative - Future

- Toxics in Food Packaging - [Link to Working Document](#)
 - Should be a separate bill from container deposit law - who will champion this? NHHCA?
 - Contact Wendy Murphy & Karen Ebel to co-write and sponsor; Bill Palmer will be involved
 - Strategizing on Future Legislation with Gretchen Salter
- Microplastics in Water - [Link to Working Document](#)

11. Resources

- NHLA Sustainability Book List
 - NH Library Association's Sustainability Committee has created a spreadsheet of titles and resources (not just climate change). Send additional titles to Nancy Ladd? Linked at the bottom of their web page:
<https://www.nhlibrarians.org/Pages/Index/226518/sustainability-home-page>
- Food Security
 - NH Food Hub Network
<https://www.newhampshirenetwork.org/resources/agriculture-food-and-public-health#h.w9g0yko055hg>
 - Messaging about Policy
<https://www.10towns.org/actions/policy-actions/testify-about-plastic-pollution>
- Film - The Politics of Beauty - about Stewart Udall
- Reuse Resources

- [Upstream Article: Reuse vs. Single Use: Economics](#)
 - [Brief on “anchor venues” and “wash hubs.”](#)
- [Foodware To Go](#)
- [Reusable Packaging Association](#)
- [Reuse Seattle](#), [Reusables](#), [Zero Waste USA](#)
- [As You Sow](#) - environmental investing group; puts pressure on companies for issues like plastic reduction and use to influence shareholders; try to harness shareholder power to change companies
- **350 NH**
- **[Fossil Fuel Investments](#) Webinar**
 - 99% of Americans are forced to invest in fossil fuels in their retirement plans.
 - Almost 20% of investments in fossil fuels come from retirement savings.
 - If you took 12 companies including Adobe, Amazon, Apple, Google, Intuit, Meta, Microsoft, Netflix, Oracle, etc: the employees have lost \$5.1 billion due to their companies investing in fossil fuels.
 - If you took \$10,000 and invested in fossil fuels 10 years ago, guess how much money you'd have today? \$10,004.
 - If you took the \$10,000 and invested in the S&P 500 minus the fossil fuels, you'd have \$34,851!
 - Google has invested \$1.7 billion in fossil fuels through their retirement savings. If they hadn't done that it would be like taking 700,000 cars off the road.
 - An explanation of why fossil fuel companies are desperate to turn to plastics.

12. Links & Resources

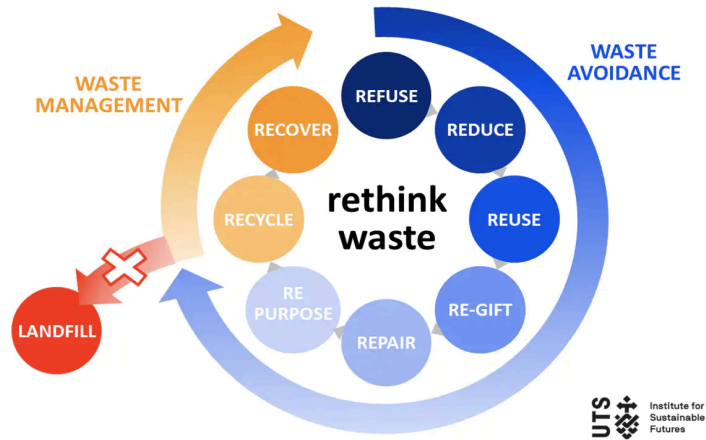
- **Bloomberg [Law Article](#)** - *US Senators Highlight Environmental Justice in Plastics Process*
- [Beyond Plastics Tabling Kit](#)
- **Grist [Article](#)** - *Democrats Unveil Most Comprehensive Bill to Address Plastics Problem*
- [Beyond Recycling Plastic](#) (draft document created by Kristine Baber)
- [Biomimicry Website with Real World Solutions - Ask Nature](#)
- [Link to NH Network Brochure for Copying](#)
- [PPT by Susan Hodges with good material on alternatives to SUP](#)
- [Bloomberg Philanthropies - Beyond Petrochemicals Initiative](#)
- [UN Report on Chemicals in Plastics](#)
- [Recycled and Reused Food Contact Plastic Are Vectors for Toxics](#) (Swedish meta analysis)
 - Corresponding author: Birgit Guecke; Email: birgit.guecke@fp-forum.org
- [Project Drawdown](#) (Paul Hawken)
- [Low Carbon Diet](#) (You Tube - David Gershon)
- [“Thicker Than Water: The Quest for Solutions to the Plastic Crisis”](#) by Erica Cirino

Community Action Works Notes and Future Planning

- [Campaign Planning Principles, Decision-Making Chart, Kick Off Meeting Notes](#)
- [#2 October 17 - Goal Setting & Timeline Notes](#)
- [#3 November 14 - Messaging Workshop Handbook](#)
- [#4 November 14 - Messaging Notes](#)

- [#5 November 28 - Messaging & Slogan](#)
- [#6 January 3 - Communications Work Group Meeting Docs](#)
- [#7 June 5 - Updates and Legislative Planning, Campaign Planning](#) PDF, [Visioning Workshop](#)

An **Extended** Waste Hierarchy

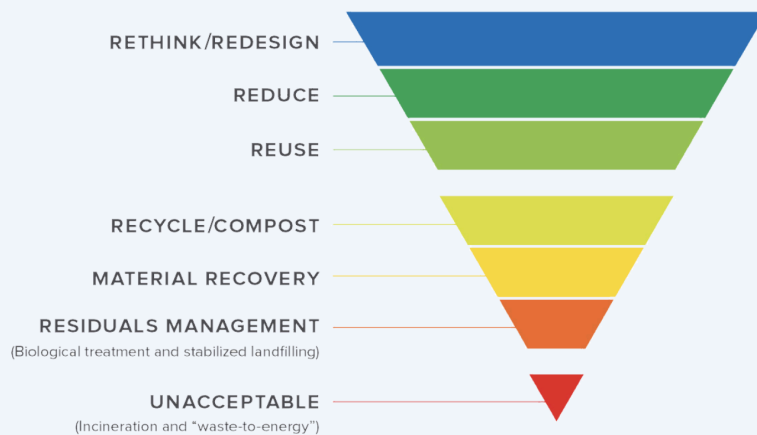


Waste hierarchy. (Image credit: UTS Institute for Sustainable Futures,)

Version 8.0 — Last updated May 19, 2022

THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 8.0

For detailed version visit www.zwia.org/zwj



Zero Waste Hierarchy of Highest and Best Use 8.0

Previous PWG Meeting Notes

[Meeting Notes #1 - August 1, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #2 - August 15, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #3 - August 29, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #4 - September 19, 2021](#)

[Meeting Notes #5 - October 3, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #6 - October 17, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #7 - October 31, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #8 - November 14, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #9 - November 28, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #10 - December 12, 2021](#)
[Meeting Notes #11 - January 9, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #12 - January 23, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #13 - February 6, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #14 - February 20, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #15 - March 13, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #16 - March 27, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #17 - April 10, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #18 - April 24, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #19 - May 8, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #20 - May 22, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #21 - June 5, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #22 - June 19, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #23 - July 19, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #24 - July 31, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #25 - August 14, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #26 - August 28, 2022](#)
[Meeting Notes #27 - September 11, 2022](#)
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[Meeting Notes #34 - January 8, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #35 - January 22, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #36 - February 5, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #37 - February 19, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #38 - March 5, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #39 - March 19, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #40 - April 16, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #41 - April 30, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #42 - May 14, 2023](#)
[Meeting Notes #43 - June 11, 2023](#)

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