

## NH Network Plastics Working Group Notes (PWG) #76

Sunday, Sunday, December 1, 6 pm

**Next Regular Meeting: Sunday, January 26, 6 pm**

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

Meeting ID 872 0992 8697

+19292056099, 87209928697# US (New York)

[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](#)

[Legislator 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**, **Sarah Boudreau**, **Dennis Brown (Falmouth ME Plastic Red. Initiative)**, Rep. Tony Caplan, Carolyn Choate, Clark Corson/Carol Foss (Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies), Paul Del Friari, Alice DonnaSelva, Christina Dubin, **Rep. Sherry Dutzy**, Rep. Karen Ebel, Rep. Nick Germana, **Cindy Heath**, Nancy Lightbody, Peggy Longley, Reb MacKenzie, **Kathy Manfre**, **Bruce Norlund**, Rep. Lucius Parshall, **Ann Podlipny**, Susan Posluszny, **Susan Richman**, **Rep Peter Schmidt**, Susan Smith, **Carol Sullivan**, Darla Thyng, Cynthia Walter, Marge Shepardson, Pat Ianni, David Wasielewski, Janet Metcalf, **Nancy Ladd**, **Bruce Norlund**

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

- [2025 Facilitator Schedule](#)
- **Unwrap the Future III** - [Link to Planning Doc](#) - Working Date: Monday, Feb. 10, 2025
  - Recruiting volunteers to help design the event - contact Cindy [cheath58@gmail.com](mailto:cheath58@gmail.com)
    - Focus on solutions
    - Plastic recycling is volatile as an industry, so reuse has become our gold standard
    - Eliminate SUP production is one goal
    - Imagine the world we want to live in
    - [https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/27/climate/plastic-industry-internal-documents.html?utm\\_source=substack&utm\\_medium=email](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/27/climate/plastic-industry-internal-documents.html?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email) **Plastic Industry Exposed - NYT Investigation**: Internal documents reveal how the plastic industry has misled the public about recycling and the environmental impacts of their products. This New York Times investigation highlights the urgent need for action on single-use plastics. from **BYO - US Reduces from BYO - US Reduces Newsletter** <[usreduces@substack.com](mailto:usreduces@substack.com)>
    - Invited [Advocating for the Environment](#) by Susan Inches (Maine)

■ Confirmed - ED of Upstream

## 2. Upcoming Events/Education

- Dec. 5 - 4 pm Legislative Research Group
- Dec. 4 - Legislative Organization Day
- Dec 9 - Aftermath of Fast Fashion (rescheduled) - NH Network Event, Monday 6:00 PM
- Dec 10 - Unwrap the Future Planning Meeting, 7 PM via ZOOM
- DES Climate Plan [December 11, 2024](#) from 9 to 11:30 am, in person at the NHDES offices in Concord
- DES Climate Plan [December 10, 2024](#) from 5 to 6:30 pm, Virtual (via Zoom)
- ???? - Senate filing deadline
- Jan 18 - Peterborough Tabling at Town House, 10-2
- Jan 25 - Harrisville Tabling at Mill Room, 10-2

For more information on the DES Climate Plan, please visit the updated [NHDES CPRG website](#) which:

Webinars to Watch on Plastics Recycling, EPR, and More: [Northeast Recycling Council](#)

Falmouth, ME Plastics Reduction Initiative Forum <https://play.champds.com/falmouthme/event/3077>

(BOOK) [Advocating for the Environment](#) by Susan Inches (Maine)

## 3. Discussion/Presentations/Updates

- Education Group Update (Patsy Beffa-Negrini)
  - Email invite out to the group, will wait until January to see what the LRG is doing
- Legislative Research Group Update (Sherry Dutzy)
  - [2025 Leg Tracking by Cty & LSR Tracking](#)
    - Open to all to add environmentally friendly reps/senators and their contact information and areas of expertise
    - All are encouraged to educate their Reps. on plastics issues
    - Clark is working on getting a meeting with the Governor in December
    - 150 new reps and should be contacted by constituents to see where they stand on the environment
    - Suggest outreach to Rotaries, Chambers
    - Legislation should bring \$ into the state and get business (BIA, nhbsr?) to support our work
      - Best way to achieve support by Rs
      - LSR 2025-0655 recognizes the fundamental right to have clean air, clean water, and a healthy environment.
    - Need volunteers to reach out to their legislators
    - Where to put our influence?
  - NH Climate Corps Report Due November 1 (Carol Sullivan)
  - Update from Nora Bosworth (Kristine Baber)
    - Nick Germana sponsoring a bill for the right to clean air, water & environment
    - Unlikely to achieve a lot in this legislative session - recommends against bag ban and container deposit bill given the legislative climate

- Suggests trying to advance a bill to develop a microplastics testing & reduction strategy or similar
  - RI has been working on this but failed because DES could implement without US EPA approved testing methodology for microplastics
- Safer States has a model bill on microplastic reduction in water, soil & the environment
  - Safer States microplastics' page: <https://www.saferstates.org/microplastics/>
  - **ACTION: Kristine will outreach to Sen. David Watters who has been active in water protection legislation**
  - **ACTION: Mark will research Green Mt. Conservation mp testing efforts**
  - A movement exists to eliminate microplastics in consumer products
  - Different issue than SUP waste contaminating the ocean
- **Environmental Justice & Lead Issues (Ann Podlipny)**
- **Collective Action Update - SUP Reduction Actions (Susan Richman)**
  - PWG SUP Transition Campaign - [Link to Working Doc](#)
  - Letter & talking points drafted for Hannaford's Managers in NH and maybe others
  - Do we speak with the NH Grocers Association to have a more global approach?
    - Business Industry Association & NH Businesses for Social Responsibility
    - Consensus to wait on the letter campaign until we have more info from Aldi's
    - **ACTION: Susan will contact Dover Aldi's Manager to learn more about their national policy on eliminating SUP bags**
  - Campaign effort to partner with grocery stores to reward people for using reusable bags
  - [Aldi doesn't use plastic bags](#) (article)
    - Walmart has stopped providing single-use plastic bags in New York, Connecticut, and some parts of Colorado. The company now offers reusable shopping bags for customers who do not have their own bags.
    - Stop & Shop planned to eliminate single-use plastic bags at Northeast stores and is already charging customers for paper bags, CBS NEWS said.
    - Wegmans eliminated plastic bags and shifted customers to reusable bags in 2022.
  - Whole Foods & many co-ops take 5 cents off your bill if you use your own bags
  - Timeline, letter for store mgr, talking points, store sign-up sheet
    - [Hannaford's Store List](#)
    - [Maine Plastic Bag Ban](#)
    - [US Plastic Pact](#) (changing packaging at the corporate level)
    - Useful links:
      - [Science on emissions from Center for International Environmental Law \(CIEL\) - Look at pp. 89-98](#)
      - [Beyond Plastics talking points](#)
      - [Global Plastics Treaty](#)
- **Which bills should PWG focus on? (running list of possibles in [Legislative Tracking Sheet](#))**
  - Consider an educational component & action component to bills

- [Policy Messaging Framework Tool from New Futures](#)
- Consider study committee model as a lead up to formal bill submission
  - there's a feeling that sending to study is a way to kill a bill quietly
- Be cautious of providing too much information
- With any bill, need to make sure that monitoring and enforcing can be guaranteed
- Campaign "Plastics are Toxic" - list a suite of bills
- [Polystyrene bill from the state of Washington](#). Sherry thought this might be worth introducing in NH and connecting it with toxins in the containers.
- [Reuse Policy Tracker By Upstream](#)
- **SUP Bag Ban**
  - [Single Use Bag Ban in NH](#)
  - Consider reusable bag project
  - Rep. Christy Bartlett sponsored a bill in 2019, [HB102](#)
  - California starting in 2026: Pay at least 10 cents for a paper bag; use a reusable bag; or hand-carry their purchase at most grocery stores, convenience stores, and others.
  - "single use plastic" bill may be what was being objected to by the disabled, -- Straws, not bags, are often mentioned as needing an exception for need.
  - Great idea about Slingshot or Community Action Works!!
- [Just Zero Model Legislation Toolkit](#)
- **Enabling legislation** instead that allows cities and towns to implement waste reduction actions
  - How do we find out what enabling legislation we have?
  - **ACTION: search enabling legislation at gencourt website**
    - Marge Shepardson submitted this legislation while a state rep.
- **Artificial turf bill** would be better separated from Karen's bill
  - Defend Our Health considering (associated with Safer States)
- **Skip the Stuff Campaign** is something we could put into action with Tony Caplan's help
  - Defend Our Health considering (associated with Safer States)
- **Container Deposit Bill**
  - [National Caucus of Env. Legislators Fact Sheet](#)
  - [NH Needs a Bottle Bill One Pager](#)
  - [CDB Resources Doc](#); [CDB/EPR Advocates & Opponents Slides](#)
- **Certification of Compostable Plastics**
  - Lucius Parshall considering
- **EPR for paint, packaging**
  - Solid Waste Working Group will have this focus
- **Wendy Thomas PFAS bills**
- **Toxics in Food Packaging** [Packaging legislation tracker](#)
  - [Toxics in Food Packaging Resource Doc](#)
    - Ban PVC clear packaging - it's the greatest contaminant and reduces the value of PET plastic (high value, high use) and the ability to be reused
    - Labels on PET bottles are managed to reduce contamination
    - Tie in with lead issues campaign by CLF and Environmental Justice

- There are many additives in most plastics that are hidden based on the claim of being proprietary. Lubricants, antistats, colors, etc...Most plastics could not do what that do without additives
- Help from NH Healthy Climate
- Support from water quality groups
- Mark's idea of listing hazardous materials in food packaging could be very significant in educating the public about the risks. Representatives and Senators will have little choice but to protect the citizens.
- I think the 'sudden' awareness of the dangers of PFAS should be used as a base. 'Who knew?...well industry knew the effects of Halogens (Fluorine Chlorine, Bromine) for decades
- I don't know if most folks remember the problem with brominated flame retardants...which was everywhere - cars, kids clothing...this was 3 years ago...and Fluorine (PFAS base) behaves just like Bromine....or Chlorine.(think PVC) ..and industry and academia has known this forever....
- Low molecular weight materials within all plastics- acting like hormones in the body is a relatively new understanding- even by industry I think, but an equally scary thing that most people are concerned about as they should be.
- Collaborate - there are lots of advocates working on toxicity and health, go beyond plastics
- **350.org HS Curriculum on Climate Change**
- **Federal Legislation**
  - Sustainable Environment Coalition (House organization)
  - Carol & Ann are contacting members of Congress to talk to them about what we can do to help them in their efforts. We are also contacting related organizations (Beyond Plastics, Surfrider, Conservation Law Foundation, etc.) to see what directions they are going. If we all want to help our US Senators and Representatives, there is strength in numbers.
    - Kuster aide suggests waiting until Maggie Goodlander is in office - focus on the new year
  - [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*

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

**Kathy - Peterborough:** The Peterborough Recycling Advisory Committee is partnering with The Peterborough PREP Committee to do some tabling on Sat January 18th in Peterborough and Sat January 25th in Harrisville ...times and locations TBA. Needing current educational info regarding plastics reduction and brochures on any and all organizations around NH.

We are starting a Styrofoam Collection Project beginning Dec 27th at our local recycling center. The plan is to haul our collection to Gilford to be densified. We are working to solidify with the Town of Peterborough Public Works on securing the transportation necessary for the project to be successful.

**Cindy - Cornish:** Fat Hat Clothing Factory is piloting Mesh Bag production at scale to sell to local stores

**Susan - Durham:** hoping to expand composting with a pilot program of curbside pickup in just one neighborhood.

**Kristine - Dover:**

**Patsy - Nelson:**

**Mary - Harrisville:** Wrote article for our Community Newsletter. Gave kudos to some organizations for their Zero Waste actions and shared about a possible town Compost site - when they have a chance to create the bins.

**Peter -**

**Mark - Bedford:** Bedford Dems would like a presentation from the PWG (or should they attend our Feb. 10 event?); Healthy Climates have a presentation on plastic and human health; ID problem, pathways to solutions; January 14 working date

**Carol - Center Harbor:**

**Sherry - Nashua:**

**Bruce - Keene:**

**Sarah, Dennis - Falmouth:**

## 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

- **Reuse Bag Initiative** - get bags from conference organizers and redistribute to grocery stores, social service organizations
- [Citizens' Climate Lobby Website Correction](#) - Percentage of Climate Change Caused by Plastics
- **Upstream** initiative for large events to start a reusable cup program; would generate a business to wash the cups and return them to the vendors
  - Manchester arenas; Fisher Cats games are our large venues
    - Usefull (company that can deal with large scale venues and Universities)
      - 99% return rate on reusables
      - <https://www.usefull.us/>
      - NH Businesses for Social Responsibility partnership?
- [Climate Action Tracker](#)

## Future Agenda Items

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

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## 12. Legislative - Past

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

## 13. 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](#)

## 14. Future Agenda Items [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

## 15. 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.

### 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 Geueke; Email: [birgit.geueke@fp-forum.org](mailto:birgit.geueke@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

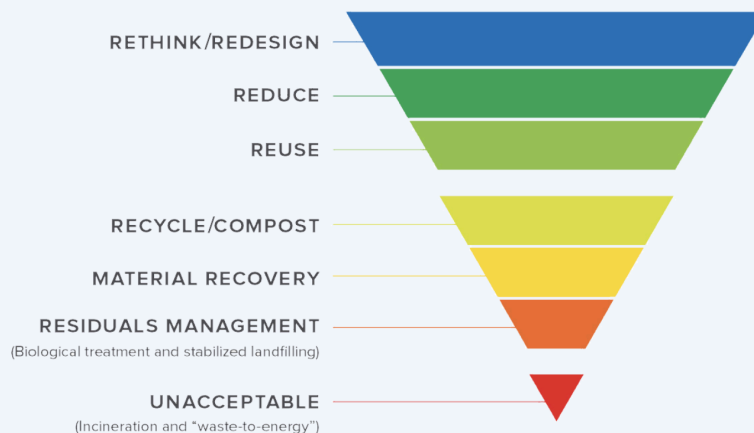




Version 8.0 — Last updated May 19, 2022

## THE ZERO WASTE HIERARCHY 8.0

For detailed version visit [www.zwia.org/zwh](http://www.zwia.org/zwh)



Previous PWG

### Zero Waste Hierarchy of Highest and Best Use 8.0

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 #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](#)  
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[Meeting Notes #51 - October 1, 2023](#)  
[Meeting Notes #52 - October 15, 2023](#)  
[Meeting Notes #53 - October 29, 2023](#)  
[Meeting Notes #54 - November 12, 2023](#)  
[Meeting Notes #55 - December 3, 2023](#)  
[Meeting Notes #56 - January 15, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #57 - January 28, 2024](#)  
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[Meeting Notes #59 - February 25, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #60 - March 10, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #61 - March 24, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #62 - April 7, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #63- April 21, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #64 - May 5, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #65 - May 19, 2024](#)  
[Meeting Notes #66 - June 30, 2024](#)  
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[Meeting Notes #75 - November 17, 2024](#)

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