



SUSTAINABLE MARBLEHEAD

Preserving Our Past by Protecting Our Future

NEWS

February 2021 Newsletter

A New Chapter for Climate Policy

Every new White House administration demonstrates its priorities by its choice of cabinet and staff hires and with the agenda it puts forth for its first 100 days. In addition to the urgent health and economic crises President Biden is tackling, he has demonstrated his commitment to addressing the climate crisis. He has assembled an historically large team of climate change experts in the White House to focus on global warming, and he has installed policy experts at the State Department, the National Security Council, the Treasury Department, and the Transportation Department. In his first hours in office, President Biden rejoined the Paris

Climate Agreement and canceled the Keystone XL pipeline permit. Last week he signed a series of executive actions that included commitments to reserving 30 percent of federal land and water for conservation purposes, making climate policy central to national security decisions and building out a network of electric-car charging stations.

Unfortunately, in Massachusetts, Governor Baker vetoed the climate bill that was presented to him at the end of a more than two-year legislative session (the session was extended because of the pandemic). The bill was passed with veto-proof margins, but lawmakers were unable to override his veto because they sent the bill to the Governor's desk on the very last day of the legislative session. One of the governor's points of disagreement was the bill's requirement that the state reduce carbon emissions by 50% below 1990 levels by 2030. Governor Baker's plan calls for a 45% reduction by the end of the decade, and he is concerned about the projected costs of the five percent difference. The legislature plans to resubmit the bill, and we are hopeful that it will be signed into groundbreaking law in the very near future.

Sustainable Marblehead applauds the efforts being made at the federal and state level to prioritize the urgent issue of greenhouse gas emissions contributing to global warming. We remain committed to working with Marblehead residents, businesses and town officials to achieve our goal of carbon neutrality by 2040, because we know that change can and must begin at the local level. At the same time, we urge all concerned citizens to make your voices heard. Our elected officials at the local, state and federal levels need to know that their work to address the growing climate crisis

is valued and supported by their constituents. Let's work together to encourage and support meaningful policy change.

Ecobricks—A Great Way to Recycle Plastic Bags

Have you been wondering what to do with all the plastic bags and other thin plastic you've been collecting now that grocery stores aren't taking them because of the pandemic?

Sustainable Marblehead's Conservation Working Group has been collecting clean plastic film (bags and wrappings) and repurposing them into ecobricks (<https://www.ecobricks.org/>).

Packing five ounces of plastic into a 16-ounce plastic bottle creates an ecobrick, which can then be used in a variety of building projects. To date, we have created 104 bricks! To learn more, please email us through our website at www.sustainablemarblehead.org.

A simple way to get started is to request a "kit"—five ounces of plastic, a 16-ounce bottle and basic instructions. You do the stuffing and capping!



Upcoming Webinars-- Save the Dates and Join Us!



Join us Online

A Furious Sky:

The Five-Hundred Year History of America's Hurricanes



With *A Furious Sky*, Marblehead's best-selling author, Eric Jay Dolin, has created a vivid, sprawling account of our encounters with hurricanes, from the nameless storms that threatened Columbus's New World voyages to the destruction wrought in Puerto Rico by Hurricane Maria. Join us for a discussion on hurricanes and our changing climate.

Presented by:

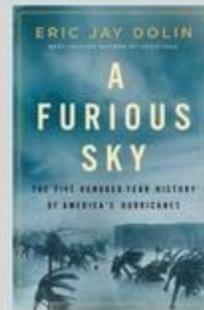
Eric Jay Dolin

Award-winning Author & Marblehead Resident

Wednesday, February 17

7:00- 8:00 pm

To register: <https://tinyurl.com/smdolin>



The Washington Post—One of 50 Notable works of Nonfiction for 2020

Library Journal—One of the Best Science & Technology Books of 2020

Kirkus Reviews—One of the top 100 nonfiction books of 2020

Booklist—10 Top Sci-Tech Books of 2020

Amazon.com—One of the Best Science Books of 2020

Find us at sustainablemarblehead.org and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Join us Online

Designing Biodiversity

Local Strategies for Pollinator Habitat Creation
and Connectivity



On residential and conservation properties, farms, parks, roadsides, schools, new developments, solar projects and cemeteries, functionally diverse native pollinator habitat can serve as a building block for linking intact natural areas across a fragmented landscape.

Learn what to plant, where to focus on first, when to mow, and how to measure results.

Presented by:

Evan Abramson, M.S.E.D.

Founder and Principal, Landscape Interactions

Tuesday, March 16

4:30 - 5:30 pm



To register: <https://tinyurl.com/smbiodiversity>

Find us at sustainablemarblehead.org and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Join us Online

Ask Chip: Your Gardening Questions Answered in Two Sessions

Pesticides 101: Why you can no longer wait to provide a safer and healthier landscape from both an environmental and human health perspective.

Monday, March 8

4:30 - 5:30 pm

To register: <https://tinyurl.com/smpesticides>



Green Lawncare: Learn how to move turf and landscapes from conventional management practices to a natural approach.

Monday, April 12

4:30 - 5:30 pm

To register: <https://tinyurl.com/smlandscapes>



Presented by:

Chip Osborne

*President, Osborne Organics & Chairman,
Marblehead Recreation and Parks Commission*

Chip has 20 years experience in creating safe, sustainable and healthy athletic fields and landscapes through natural turf management and 45 years experience as a professional horticulturist. As a wholesale and retail nurseryman, he had first-hand experience with the pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides routinely used in landscape and horticultural industry. After years of research and hands-on investigation, he has become a leading expert on growing sustainable, natural turf and landscapes.

Find us at sustainablemarblehead.org and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

To register for Pesticides 101: <http://tinyurl.com/smpesticides>

To register for Green Lawncare: <http://tinyurl.com/smlandscapes>

Bike Marblehead Has a New Logo!

Our look may have changed, but our commitment to promoting safe biking for recreation and transportation has not. We hope to resume our community rides this summer!



Marblehead Community Boating Center

Sustainable Marblehead's James Ashton, SPUR Founder and Executive Director Jocelyn and a growing team of dedicated volunteers are working to revitalize Parker's Boatyard through the creation of a new nonprofit organization, the [Marblehead Community Boating Center](#). Their vision is to provide enhanced public access to Marblehead Harbor for small sail, motor and paddle vessels. They are asking for community input to assess public need and interest.

Please consider giving 5-10 minutes of your time before Thursday, February 4 to take this brief survey: <https://mhdboating.questionpro.com>

Thank you!

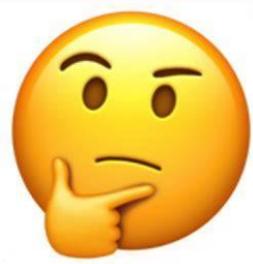


Complete a No-Cost Virtual Home Energy Assessment

A home energy assessment can reduce your carbon footprint while helping you save in monthly energy costs. HomeWorks Energy (a Mass Save partner) has over a decade of experience in the eco-friendly ways you can save energy in your home—such as insulation and air sealing. To qualify for a No-Cost Virtual Home Energy Assessment through HomeWorks Energy, **Marblehead residents must heat their home with National Grid gas.** Sustainable Marblehead

will receive a small donation from HomeWorks Energy for every energy assessment that is performed through our partnership. Click here to schedule your no-cost assessment

today: <https://www.homeworksenergy.com/neighbors/sustainablemarblehead>.



Did You Know?

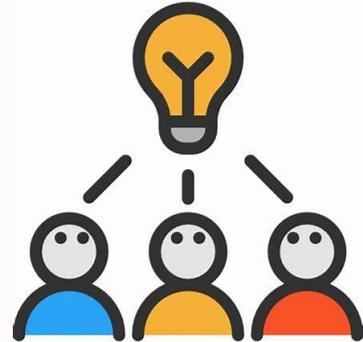
Marblehead Municipal Light Department's Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program offers financial aid to residents who need assistance with the costs of heating their homes.

Visit <https://marbleheadelectric.com>
to learn more about the program.

What Can You Do? Make a tax-
deductible donation to help your neighbors
in need by sending a check payable
to NSCAP-Marblehead-NHN to:

**North Shore Community Action
Programs**

**Attn: Community Outreach (COR)
119R Foster Street, Building 13
Peabody, MA 01960**





Preserving Our Past by Protecting Our Future



Please Support Sustainable Marblehead!

Become a 2021 Contributing Member

From extreme weather events to rising sea levels, the past year has once again demonstrated the importance of local action to combat the climate crisis.

YOUR SUPPORT WILL HELP US:

Work with town officials and residents to meet our goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2040.

Support local businesses and residents in their efforts to reduce plastic waste and consumption and increase composting and recycling.

Partner with local schools and youth organizations to offer programs that teach our children about the environment and engage them in sustainability activities and programs.

Educate the community about urgent issues impacting the future health and resiliency of our harbor, coastline, and oceans.

Promote low and no-carbon transportation and eliminate car and truck idling.

Work with town officials and individual residents to plant and maintain more trees, which absorb carbon and protect our environment.

Promote bicycling education, make our streets safer and support the Rail Trail, and promote a vibrant bicycling community.

Support state climate legislation and engage residents in legislative advocacy.

We are a community organization dedicated to protecting the environment and addressing the global climate crisis on a local level. Our work is necessary and important, but we can't do it alone. Please join us!

Please support our work with an individual or family membership donation in the following amounts:
\$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 \$other

To become a member and learn more about our impact, click here!
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!





Please forward this newsletter to a friend! Thank You



We LOVE our volunteers! And we want to hear from you. Please stay in touch! Find us at SustainableMarblehead.org and on Facebook and Instagram.

Mailing address:

Sustainable Marblehead
P.O. Box 1320, Marblehead MA 01945

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Copyright © Sustainable Marblehead. All rights reserved.

This email was sent to lbyarmoff@gmail.com
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Sustainable Marblehead · P.O. Box 1320 · Marblehead, MA 01945 · USA

