



## June 2021 Newsletter

*Preserving Our Past by Protecting Our Future*

### Marblehead Ocean Week, June 5-12



Sustainable Marblehead is launching its first Marblehead Ocean Week on Saturday, June 5, in recognition of World Ocean Day on June 8. As we anticipate summer in Marblehead, and all of the activities that the beach and surrounding waters offer, it is a perfect time to celebrate the ocean and highlight the issues affecting our local waters.

We all love the ocean, but we know it is under threat from pollutants like dog waste, trash, lawn chemicals and microplastics which are ingested by sea animals and can enter the human food chain. Because of this, we are losing marine habitats and the sea animals that live in them and degrading the beauty of our local environment.

Led by our Harbor Working Group and with the active participation of our other working groups, we have created a week-long schedule of events and activities. The events are free, and we invite all Marbleheaders to participate. Please print out a [passport](#) for the week and stop by and visit us each day for conversation, information and to share our commitment of working together to protect our beautiful harbor and ocean. **After you obtain a stamp at each location, email us a picture of your stamped passport and we will thank you for your participation with a free tee shirt!**

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## Microplastic Madness

Most of us know that harmful plastics are filling our landfills and oceans but the term “microplastics” is relatively new to the general public. These small pieces of plastic, which are less than 5 mm in size, can harm marine organisms when they are ingested and have been linked to harmful effects in humans. Scientists have discovered microplastics across the globe and in every setting—in deep oceans, fish, salt, drinking water, and even in rain over mountains and cities.

Sustainable Marblehead is offering several opportunities to learn more about this urgent issue during Marblehead Ocean Week:

- **From June 4 -10, we invite you to watch the award-winning film “[Microplastic Madness](#)”** (one of our member’s kids, ages 6, 8 and 11, all enjoyed this film). This family-friendly documentary’s urgent message is delivered by inspirational youth from Brooklyn who took real climate action at their school and in their local government. Sign up [here](#) and we’ll email you the link.
- **On June 10 at 7pm, please join us for an informative and collaborative conversation around the “Microplastics Madness” documentary**, as well as a greater conversation about microplastics—what we can do as kids, parents, teachers and citizens of the planet. We will have a diverse panel ready to explore this topic and answer your questions. Please register [here](#).
- **On June 10 from 3:30 – 4:30pm at Riverhead Beach**, kids in 4th–8th grade are invited to a workshop to learn more about microplastics and conduct some interesting experiments to see what we might find. Limited to 21 participants. Sign up [here](#).
- For more information about our microplastics awareness activities, [click here](#). We hope you and your families will join us to learn more about microplastics and how to take action to protect our harbor and shared ocean.



## Marblehead's New EV Chargers

Marblehead's new public EV chargers are up and running! There are four chargers on Roundhouse Road, next to Warwick Place and four chargers in the Marry Alley Municipal building parking lot on Widger Road. Thank you Marblehead Municipal Light Department for offering our residents additional ways to charge their electric vehicles.

## Beach Cleanups

Our beach conservation team gathers on Tuesdays throughout the year to keep our beaches clean. They welcome new volunteers of all ages! [Email](#) us if you would like to learn more or add your name to their volunteer list. And please join us for our beach cleanups during [Marblehead Ocean Week](#). Let's commit to carry in/carry out as we enjoy our beaches and work together to keep them clean!

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## Sustainable Marblehead Book Drive



Sustainable Marblehead's Education Group is organizing a community Book Swap as a way to help recycle and share books. **Join us on June 19** from 10am- noon at locations across Marblehead.

Sustainable Marblehead members and others will be hosting tables in front of their homes or businesses with gently used youth and adult books. We are looking for additional host volunteers. If you would like to host a table on your street, at the end of your driveway, or at your business, please sign up [here](#)! Community members are encouraged to walk or bike to each location to share their own books, or pick up some new ones. An interactive map with locations will be available closer to the event.

According to EcoGuide, in 2008 alone, the publishing industry harvested nearly 125 million trees. Additionally, our landfills are composed of about 26% paper. By reusing or donating books, you can make a big impact in protecting the environment!

The leftover books will be donated to [Discover Books](#) to be sold, recycled or donated to non-profits such as schools.

Your summer reads await! We hope you'll join us this June 19!

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## Upcoming Event



## Permaculture in Action: Engaging Young Minds in Ecological Landscape Design

Resented by Colleen Parenteau, Tower School science teacher certified in Permaculture Design, and 6th grade Tower School students

This spring, guided by their science teacher Colleen Parenteau, Tower School 6th graders developed landscape design projects to improve outdoor spaces on campus. Colleen and her students are excited to share their experience and new skills with you!

**Join Us Online via Zoom:**  
**Monday, June 21, 4:30-5:30 p.m.**

[Register Here](#)

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### Did You Know?

Roughly a garbage truck's worth of plastic waste gets dumped into our oceans every minute.

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### What Can You Do?

Reduce your use of plastics wherever possible. Ask businesses that you support, large and small, to provide alternatives to single-use plastics. As consumers, we can make our voices heard and lead by example.

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## Support

Sustainable Marblehead is a community organization working to reduce waste and achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2040. Our work is important, and we can't do it alone. Please join us by donating today.

Donate Today



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