



Preserving Our Past
by Protecting Our Future

Join Us for the Green Homes Tour!



The greenhouse gas inventory in Marblehead's recently-released [Net Zero Roadmap draft](#) shows that our community should focus emissions-reduction efforts on the sectors from which the majority of our emissions come: transportation and buildings – specifically *residential* buildings. To reach our 2040 net zero goal, our community needs to work towards six core transitions, says the Roadmap, the first

of which is “make our homes and buildings super-efficient.”

Making existing buildings energy efficient and constructing new buildings to high efficiency standards will reduce emissions, and energy bills.

But what are the steps to improving your home’s energy efficiency?

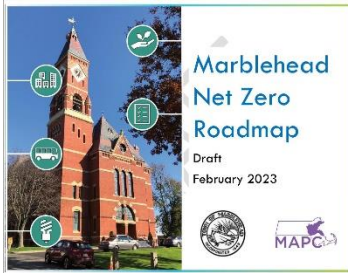
To find out, please join Sustainable Marblehead’s first annual Green Homes Tour on April 8 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. You can visit 11 upgraded homes, see energy efficient technologies in action and talk to the homeowners who installed them.

The [virtual tour book](#) will remain as a reference on our website following the tour. And please feel free to explore the [Take Action in Your Home](#) and [Green Homes and Buildings working group](#) pages for more information.

In addition, Mark Adams, Chair of our Green Homes and Buildings group, has written a series of blog posts that show homeowners the [stairway to Net Zero housing](#). Net Zero houses produce more energy than they consume. Most homes, regardless of their age, can be upgraded to become Net Zero. But even taking just a few of the steps described in the blog will enable homeowners to reduce their carbon output as well as save on their monthly utility bills.

[Green Homes Tour Registration, Property List and Map](#)

Net Zero Virtual Open House



For more than a year, the Town of Marblehead has been working with Metropolitan Area Planning Council on a Net Zero Plan. This project builds on the [Marblehead Climate Vision](#).

The Green Marblehead Committee, comprised of municipal staff, members of Sustainable Marblehead and staff from the Marblehead Municipal Light Department, has drafted recommendations to advance goals and strategies that Marblehead can take to progress toward carbon neutrality.

You may explore the recommendations and share your thoughts on them through the town's [virtual open house](#).

After exploring the site, please share any comments you have with Town Planner Rebecca Cutting at RebeccaC@Marblehead.org.

[Virtual Open House](#)

Shrink Wrap Recycling Returns to Marblehead this Spring



RECYCLE IT!

- Keep shrink wrap **CLEAN** and **DRY**
- **REMOVE** all wood, zippers, rope, tape, etc.
- **BUNDLE &** tie with excess wrap for storage

Did you know that every year, US boat owners generate about 92 million pounds of shrink wrap? The vast majority of this plastic material ends up in our landfills and contributes to the plastic pollutants in our ocean.

We can make a difference by considering other options for covering our boats, or recycling or reusing existing shrink wrap.

What you can do:

Recycle – If your boat is currently shrink-wrapped, you can bring used shrink wrap to the Marblehead Transfer Station to a specified container, no town permit

required. The container is onsite all year long. Please remove all ties, zippers, rope and tape before depositing in the container. The container is located at the entrance to the Transfer Station immediately to the right. Recycled wrap is made into new shrink wrap and/or other products through the recycling vendor serving Marblehead. Ask your boatyard if they currently use shrink wrap recycling.

Reuse – Consider reusing your shrink wrap next year, it will be good for your wallet and the planet. For tips on reusing your shrink wrap, check out this [video](#).

Buy a canvas cover – And, for next year, consider buying a canvas cover for your boat. Did you know that switching to a reusable cover for a 24-foot yacht could save you nearly \$2,000 over the cover's ten-year lifespan? Boat US has this [Boat Cover Buying Guide](#).

Spread the word to your fellow boat owners and Marblehead residents. Together we can reduce waste and make boating kinder to our planet!

by James Ashton, Harbor Group

*Image courtesy of Clean Ocean Access.

- [Learn more about shrink wrap recycling in the Northeast.](#)
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Trees on the Town Warrant

Mark your calendars: Marblehead's 2023 Town Meeting will take place on May 1, 2023, starting at 7:00 pm at the Veterans Middle School Auditorium, 217 Pleasant Street.

With funding tight and the prospect of heated debate on several overrides, this is an important year to study the [Warrant](#) and familiarize yourself with how we will pay for necessary town services.

This will be Jack Attridge's first stint as moderator, following last year's retirement of the late Gary Speiss, who wielded the gavel for the past 16 years.

Among several Warrant articles that touch on sustainability and the environment (on which we'll provide further updates in April), there are two tree-related articles:

- Article 41 seeks to formally place the Tree Department under the Marblehead Department of Public Works.
- Article 42 would permit the town to plant trees on private property “within 20 feet of the public right of way, provided that written permission from the adjoining property owner is obtained first.”

Tree Warden Jon Fobert, who encourages voters to approve both articles, was quoted in the [local press](#) stressing that the town is not forcing trees on anyone. “This would be a totally volunteer program,” he said.



Greening Clubs, Regattas and Boaters

On March 25, Sustainable Marblehead and Sailors for the Sea are organizing a sustainability workshop for all Marblehead area yacht clubs.

Flag leadership, club general managers, club green teams, race committee members and fleet captains are encouraged to attend this practical workshop on sustainable best practices for sailors in Marblehead and Salem Harbors.

Sailors for the Sea Program Manager Emily Conklin will present her organization's programs for Clean Regattas, Clean Clubs and Green Boaters.

The Marblehead Clean Regattas program will be introduced. This is a new harbor-wide initiative to make all

regattas in Marblehead and Salem Harbors Clean Regattas, using role-based best practices.

Breakout sessions will assess where the clubs are now, where they can be by at the end of summer 2023, where they should focus and where they need help.

And we'll announce the 2023 Green Boater Contest – it a friendly competition between the clubs to see who can enroll the greatest number of Green Boaters in 2023.

Participants will learn about marine sustainability best practices locally and globally, meet local and regional practitioners, and leave with practical guides to best practices and simple checklists that clubs, boaters, regattas and fleets can adopt.

Upcoming Events

Ask Chip: Your Gardening Questions Answered in Two Sessions



Pesticides 101: Wednesday March 29 4:30pm

Green Lawncare: Tuesday April 25 4:30pm

Chip Osborne
President of Osborne Organics & past Chairman of Marblehead Recreation and Parks Commission




To register, go to [sustainablemarblehead.org/upcoming events](https://sustainablemarblehead.org/upcoming-events)

Ask Chip Gardening Webinars

Pesticides 101: Wednesday, March 29, 2023, 4:30 pm

Green Lawncare: Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 4:30 pm

Join us online to learn why you can no longer wait to provide a safer and healthier landscape by using no pesticides, and how to move turf and landscapes from conventional management to a natural approach.

To register, click [here](https://sustainablemarblehead.org/upcoming-events).



Green Homes Tour

April 8, 2023, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Click [here](https://sustainablemarblehead.org/upcoming-events) for registration, property list and map.



Did You Know?

Aluminum is a recycling success story. Because of a robust recycling program, about 75% of all the aluminum produced in the U.S. is still in use today, according to the [Aluminum Association](#). Aluminum can be recycled over and over again without any loss of quality.

In Marblehead, in addition to aluminum cans, aluminum foil can be put in the recycling bin. But be sure to follow these steps before tossing it in with your other recyclables.



What Can You Do?

- Clean the foil first (and try to reuse cleaned foil as long as possible). If foil is very dirty with baked-on cheese, lots of greasy oil, or burnt sauces and gravies, however, it's beyond saving and you should throw it away.
- Separate aluminum foil from other parts of packaging.
- Then crumple your clean foil into a ball, to which you can keep adding until it is about two inches in diameter.

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](#)

Special thanks to our Community Champion Sponsors



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