

Proclamation for Reduction of Single-Use Plastic during July 2022 - Center Harbor, NH

The Town of Center Harbor has passed a resolution asking its residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce the use and distribution of single-use plastics during the month of July 2022. In doing so, it is joining with the international effort which started in 2011 in Australia to reduce pollution and the health risks related to disposable plastic.

Center Harbor has for many years been devoted to protecting its natural resources (lakes, wetlands, clean air, water, land and wildlife), all of which contribute to the quality of life in Center Harbor and protect the welfare of its residents.

- A chapter of the Town's Master Plan is devoted to Natural Resources.
- The Conservation Commission's goal is to identify, preserve, and protect these natural resources.
- The Energy Committee seeks to improve energy efficiency in our buildings, reduce the use of fossil fuels and the emission of green house gases and to encourage our residents to do the same.

Single-use plastics are goods that are made primarily from fossil fuel-based chemicals (petrochemicals) and are meant to be disposed of right after use. They cause significant pollution, pose health risks, and enter our surface and groundwater supplies as microplastic to contaminate drinking water and food chains. They include items such as plastic bottles, cups and lids, straws, plates, cutlery, shopping and produce bags, plastic and styrofoam containers for take-away and storage of food.

Center Harbor residents and businesses have access to many cost-effective alternatives to single-use plastic, including cloth bags, paper cups and plates, reusable water bottles, silicone storage bags, and compostable containers.

We ask you to join us in this effort to control the proliferation of single-use plastics in our beautiful Town and region during July and we hope you will continue to avoid single-use plastics going forward.