## Eastham Recycle Committee JUNE 2024





## **REFUSE, RETHINK, REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE**

## REFUSE and REDUCE your use of PLASTIC! We are all drowning in plastic and our world wasn't prepared to get rid of it.

- 100 Billion Plastic bottles are produced every year, while only 35 billion are recycled.
- The U.S. only recycles 9% of all plastics and only 20% of all single use plastic bottles. The rest goes into landfills (76%) where the toxic petroleum-based chemicals that they are made from leach into our groundwater. OR they are incinerated (18%) polluting the air we breathe with those same toxic chemicals.
- 400 BILLION metric tons of plastic are already in our oceans and 8.3 million more tons of plastic are added to the ocean each year.
- Every minute 90,000 more plastic water bottles are purchased in this country. 80% of them will end up in our environment.
- HEALTH EFFECTS: plastic has been linked to disrupting hormonal growth and carcinogens.
- YOU CAN'T RECYCLE DIRTY PLASTIC; WASH FIRST, THEN RECYCLE, SO THEY HAVE THE CHANCE TO BE RECYCLED INTO NEW MATERIAL.
- The Town of Eastham Plastic Bottle sale ban is in effect!

Check out these resources for more information; <u>http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org</u>, <u>www.recyclesmartma.org</u>, and the https://www.eastham-ma.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1624/2022-2023-Transfer-Station-Guide.