



# Sustainable Practices

Factsheet  
July 29, 2019

## Our Mission

Sustainable Practices is a Barnstable County focused environmental action group. We work across all 15 towns in Barnstable County to facilitate a network to support environmental quality for our residents, visitors and fundamentally, the ecosystem on which we are dependent and of which we are all a part.

The overarching mission of Sustainable Practices is to facilitate a culture of sustainability as defined by reducing the human-made impact to the planet and its ecosystems. The organization seeks to achieve its goal through the promotion of a global environment that supports the value of all life. To this end we specialize in the integration of sustainability into business, non-profit, and government operations, curriculum and stakeholder communications:

## Cape Plastic Bottle Ban

The Cape Plastic Bottle Ban was initiated in 2018 and it is a two-stage regulatory initiative.

In 2019, Sustainable Practices began its Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban campaign and filed 7 Citizen's Petitions and worked with 2 town Recycling Committees in 9 of the 15 towns comprising Barnstable County. The Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban subsequently passed in 5 towns as of the end of 2019 spring town meeting season. The campaign remains on-going and will target all towns which have not adopted the Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban in the fall of 2019. The Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban prohibits town governments from the purchase of single-use plastic bottles and prohibits the sale of beverages in single-use plastic containers on town property.

As the first step in the Cape Plastic Bottle Ban intuitive, the Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban is meant to align town governments with their responsibilities to protect public and environmental welfare and also position the Cape as a cohesive community. We believe in leadership by example and the Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban provides municipal government with a leadership role in promoting environmental stewardship through consumption-focused behavioral change. **We believe that the Cape can be the example for other communities across our nation.**

The second stage of the Cape Plastic Bottle Ban will be the Commercial Water Bottle Ban. This effort will be initiated across all 15 Barnstable County towns simultaneously by Citizen's Petition in the spring of 2020 and will allow towns the opportunity to eliminate plastic water bottles on the Cape. A simultaneous filing will coincide with a mass educational campaign on the need for behavioral change.

As part of our Cape Plastic Bottle Ban efforts, we are also working with municipalities to assist them in providing municipal water access. We have relationships with vendors to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of water refill station and aluminum canned water for situations where non-municipal water may need to be provided (i.e., emergency, public safety)

## Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban

After successful passage of the Municipal Plastic Bottle Ban in five Cape towns this spring: Provincetown, Wellfleet, Harwich, Chatham, and Orleans, Sustainable Practices is preparing for fall 2019! We will be filing and working in the remaining Barnstable County towns: Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Dennis, Eastham, Falmouth, Mashpee, Sandwich, Truro, and Yarmouth. Our initiatives are focused on promoting municipal policy that addresses single-use plastic by eliminating purchase of single-use plastic bottled beverages by towns and prohibiting the sale of beverages in single-use plastic containers on town property. We are actively engaged with towns to promote alternatives to plastic and are primarily focused on behavioral change in favor of reusable containers.

## Funding and Events

In order to promote our efforts, we partner with other organizations to offer assistance with establishing plastic-free events (e.g. Wellfleet Road Race, Hyannis Rotary Quahog Festival, Wellfleet Oysterfest); host fundraising events (e.g. pop-diners); maintain an on-going film series, Sustainable Practices Sustainability Film Series at the Chatham Orpheum Theater; and accept donations.

To learn more about our activities, events and film screenings, please visit our website: [sustainablepracticesltd.org](http://sustainablepracticesltd.org) or like us on Facebook: [@sustainablepracticesltd](https://www.facebook.com/sustainablepracticesltd).

Join us!

Madhavi Venkatesan, Brewster  
Vic Roberts, Brewster  
Erin Hilley, Brewster  
Karla Cabral, Barnstable  
Suzanna Nickerson, Chatham  
Allyson Schmidt, Dennis  
Gary Senecal, Eastham  
Christine Kircun, Falmouth  
Patrick Otton, Harwich  
Bonnie Brydges, Harwich  
Keith Clark, Orleans  
Mary Cote, Sandwich  
Jacob Swenson, Sandwich  
Amanda Murphy, Yarmouth  
Jan Hively, Yarmouth  
Sheila Place, Yarmouth