

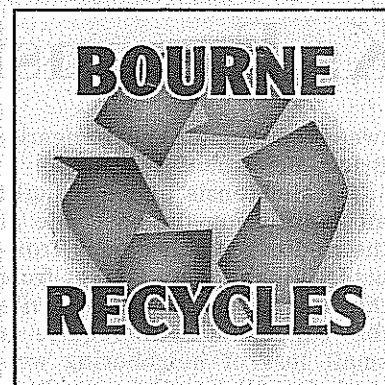
Join The Recycling Effort

By THE RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Avid recyclers, who are worried about the environment and advocates of reduce, reuse, recycle, are encouraged to join the town's appointed recycling committee. The group meets once a month at the ISWM Department offices off Route 28 except in the summer; the work involves a minimal time commitment.

Some of its past activities were helping host Earth Day open houses at the landfill, advertising activities such as composter workshops, hazardous waste days, sale of composters and rain barrels, meeting with other recycling groups, and touring the SEMASS waste-to-energy facility in Rochester. The group also arranged for ISWM staff to speak to the Aptuxet Garden Club and other organizations. It has responded to requests from selectmen, ISWM, and the schools for help in spreading the recycling message and hopes to work with the energy advisory committee. Additionally committee member Betty Steudel writes the BOURNE RECYCLES articles for The Bourne Enterprise which are posted on the ISWM website at www.townofbourne.com.

Meredith Chase, chairman, has been on the committee for many years. She chairs the meetings, prepares an agenda, writes an annual report, and sends minutes to town hall. Heather DiPaolo who is also on the Bourne School



Committee and the library board, works in the elementary schools through the afterschool Kiwanis-sponsored K-Kids club, using materials from a state-sponsored program called The Green Team. At times, she was joined by staff from ISWM and DEP. She has also arranged for tours of the ISWM facility and made presentations on recycling to grades 1 through 4 with Jimmy Boyle (former head

of recycling at the landfill) who has made presentations to the 3rd graders for years.

In April, the recycling committee will celebrate its 25th anniversary during Earth Day. During its early years (1989 and the early 1990s), the committee played an active hands-on role as the town began its collection efforts. It had a large cadre of part-time volunteers who helped distribute information flyers and containers door-to-door. They also would participate in newspaper drives. Eventually a curbside program was established with the DPW and later ISWM was formed to run the current residential recycling center, where more than 30 different items are accepted. There is always a need to promote recycling, reuse of materials at the swap shop and other initiatives to divert materials from the landfill as markets continue to evolve as with textiles and e-waste.

The committee is always looking for new members to help support the efforts of ISWM and DPW. Those interested in volunteering should come to one of the committee's meetings or contact the selectmen for an appointment.

10/3/13