



SAVE

Newsletter

Saugus Action Volunteers for the Environment, Inc.

www.SaugusSAVE.org and www.Saugus.com and www.saugus.org/SAVE/

Volume 36, No. 3

March 2009

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Ann Devlin

I recently was reminded that it takes very little effort to make a difference. I saw that CFL bulbs were being thrown in the trash by the electric company representative who was hired to service the chain of stores that I work for. I spoke to the representative and was told that it was his company's policy to trash the smaller bulbs, and that only the larger ones had to be handled as hazardous material. He said that he might be trashing about 1000 bulbs a week. I brought this issue to my manager's attention and he wasn't sure about the policy, so I sent an email to the home office. The result is that there definitely is a policy NOT to trash those smaller bulbs, and my company will now be working with the electric company to ensure that the representatives carry out the policy throughout the chain. Thinking of all those bulbs not entering the waste stream makes my small effort well worth the time it took to pursue the issue.

As a reminder - it is great to save money and energy with the CFL bulbs, but PLEASE be aware that they MUST be disposed of either by bringing them (any amount) to your local Home Depot or to Hazardous Waste Day. The bulbs should be stored and transported in zip bags to prevent mercury exposure in case they should break. If a bulb breaks in your home, DO NOT VACUUM. Open a window to air the room and damp mop the spill.



Reminder: If anyone would like to submit a candidate for a future
SAVE Environmental Excellence Award,
please submit information to:
SAVE P. O. Box 908, Saugus, MA 01906



MassDEP SOLID WASTE MASTER PLAN WORKGROUPS AND MEETINGS

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) has scheduled a series of workgroup meetings to support and inform MassDEP's development of a new Solid Waste Master Plan for Massachusetts. Seven separate workgroups have been established, each of which will meet as a follow-up to the six more general meetings MassDEP held around the state in December and January (these meetings were referred to in the SAVE President's Message in the last newsletter). Several workgroup meetings have already been held to date.

The remaining workgroup meeting dates and times are as follows:

Meeting # 1 – Reducing Waste Generation

This workgroup will delve into various ways of reducing waste, including appropriate roles for manufacturers, retailers, government entities, and consumers.

The workgroup will also research what has worked well in other jurisdictions.

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: John Fischer, john.fischer@state.ma.us

Meeting # 2 – Education

This workgroup will explore effective ways of getting the “reduce/reuse/recycle” message out to the general public, businesses, schools, and other key groups in ways that lead to increased participation in waste reduction and recycling efforts.

Thursday, March 26, 2009 at 9:00 am to Noon at the Saltonstall Building,
100 Cambridge Street, 2nd floor, Conference Room C, Boston.

Please RSVP: Marc Fournier, marc.fournier@state.ma.us

Meeting #3 – Municipal Capacity Building / Regionalization

This workgroup will explore ways to replicate and further expand local capacity for waste reduction through regionalization, increased efficiency, technical assistance, etc.

Thursday, March 26, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: Gretchen Brewer, gretchen.brewer@state.ma.us

Meeting # 4 – Waste Bans / Business Recycling

This workgroup will evaluate current waste ban compliance efforts, explore ways to use waste bans to further recycling goals, and identify strategies to increase business recycling.

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: Janine Delaney, janine.delaney@state.ma.us

Meeting # 5 – Building Markets / State Procurement

This workgroup will investigate ways to strengthen and develop markets for recyclable materials, including how the Commonwealth can use its purchasing power to contribute to the demand for products that are easier to reuse/recycle and generate less “end of life” waste.

Monday, March 30, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: Gretchen Brewer, gretchen.brewer@state.ma.us

Meeting # 6 – Eliminating Barriers to Siting Waste Diversion Facilities

This workshop will focus on how siting issues may be a barrier to increasing in-state waste diversion capacity (including facilities that many stakeholders agree are positive, such as composting), and will identify potential solutions for overcoming these barriers.

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: Marc Fournier, marc.fournier@state.ma.us

Meeting # 7 – Performance and Viability of Technologies for Residual Waste

This workgroup will strive to reach a common understanding regarding the performance data for various technologies (e.g., anaerobic digestion, gasification, pyrolysis, etc.) and attempt to resolve conflicting claims made by various stakeholders about the performance and viability of these technologies. The workshop will also compare newer technologies with existing technologies (e.g., existing waste-to-energy facilities, landfills).

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon at the MassDEP Boston office,
1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Please RSVP: John Fischer, john.fischer@state.ma.us



SAUGUS COMPOSTING SITE TO OPEN APRIL 18, 2009

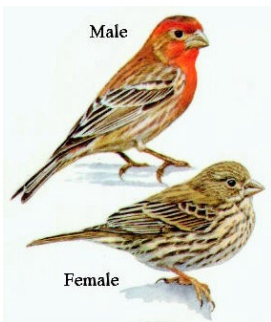
Open Saturdays from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

The Saugus composting site at the DPW 515 Main Street location will open on Saturday, April 18, 2009. Hours of operation are 8:00 am to 2:00 pm each Saturday. The site not only accepts composting materials such as leaves, grass cuttings, etc., but is also set up with containers to accept recycling materials and a drop-off site for TVs and computers.

FYI, for those looking for a way to recycle/reuse magnetic media such as audio and video tapes, there is a “GotBooks” container in the Main Street church parking lot (located across from Sachem Signs) that accepts CDs, DVDs, as well as books.

**The Saugus Board of Health is sponsoring
a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
on Saturday May 16, 2009.**

Residents must pre-register by calling Inspectional Services at (781) 231- 4115.



BIRD SIGHTINGS FROM GOLDEN HILLS

November 15, 2008 – March 1, 2009

By F. Peter Duffy

An adult Baltimore Oriole continued to visit my suet feeder until early January. Also, an adult female Yellowbellied Sapsucker stayed around until mid-February. These were two unusual birds for this time of year. Seven Pine Siskins showed up the day after Christmas and stayed until mid-February. I haven't had Siskins for 10 years or so. Brown Creeper made an appearance in December after being absent for two or three years.

Other sightings from this period include: Fox Sparrow, Lincoln's Sparrow, Tree Sparrow and Song Sparrow. Several Redwing Blackbirds put in a one-day visit on December 22nd.

An adult female Coopers Hawk has been checking the menu at the feeders all winter, along with an occasional Sharp Shinned Hawk. I haven't seen them catch anything yet.

Everyday birds here include the Hairy Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, White-throated Sparrow, American Robin, Dark-eyed Junco, Northern Cardinal, Goldfinch, House Finch, Mourning Dove, Tufted Titmouse, Blue Jay, Mockingbird, and my favorite, the Blackcapped Chickadee, our state bird.

A Bald Eagle and a Short-Eared Owl were reported from Saugus a month or so ago on The Voice of Audubon (781-259-8805).

Any questions or sightings, please call me at (781) 662-6143, anytime. Good birding!



EARTH HOUR 2009 **SATURDAY MARCH 28, 2009** **8:30 to 9:30 pm**

Earth Hour began in Sydney in 2007, when 2.2 million homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. In 2008 the message had grown into a global sustainability movement, with 50 million people switching off their lights. Global landmarks such as the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, Rome's Colosseum, the Sydney Opera House and the Coca Cola billboard in Times Square all stood in darkness.

In 2009, Earth Hour is being taken to the next level, with the goal of 1 billion people switching off their lights as part of a global call to action for every individual, every business, and every community. A call to stand up and take control over the future of our planet.

We hope you will join others around the world and switch off your lights
Saturday, March 28, 2009 between 8:30 and 9:30 pm



**SPRING CLEANUP AT THE SAUGUS TREE FARM –
A GREAT WAY TO CELEBRATE EARTH DAY!**

Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
{Rain Date: Sunday, April 26, 2009 same hours}

**What a great way to celebrate Earth Day (April 22nd) this year!
Join us at the Saugus Tree Farm
where the Saugus Tree Committee is holding its annual spring cleanup.**

The Saugus Tree Farm is located off Jasper Street in Saugus Center. Everyone who is interested in getting their hands dirty while constructively ensuring the growth and development of our homegrown trees is invited to pitch in. In addition, this is a great project for students looking to complete a community service project as a graduation requirement.

With a little tender loving care, the trees the Committee is growing to plant around Town will make a difference in the air we breathe and in the beautification of Saugus. Come join us down on the farm for a couple of hours of fresh air and community participation. Everyone is welcome to join the volunteers of the Saugus Tree Committee to make the town tree farm a success. Light refreshments and drinks will be provided.

Volunteers are encouraged to wear work clothes, and bring some work gloves, a hat, boots (as it may be muddy), and sunscreen/bug spray. If you have trowels, shovels, or hoes, please bring them along.

For further information, call Tim Hawkes (781) 233-6428 or Margery Hunter (781) 233-0349
The rain date for this event is Sunday, April 26, 2009 same hours.

Directions to the Saugus Tree Farm: Take Jasper Street (off Central Street), then take a right, which is Cross Street (the sign says to Auburn Street). Bear left onto Auburn Street. The walk-through driveway is between 25-27 Auburn Street (which is the Town right-of-way) to the Tree Farm. You may park near 27 Auburn Street (Pioneer Sales Building), then walk down the driveway to the right of the building, over the railroad tracks and follow the dirt road to the Tree Farm. You can also try to drive all the way down, but space is limited.

PLEASE REMEMBER: REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

SAVE

2009 ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP
SAVE will again offer a \$500 scholarship this year to any graduating Saugus resident with plans for continuing education in an environmental field. Interested residents can find information on www.SaugusSAVE.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **SAVE Board Meeting.**
Feel free to stop by the next monthly SAVE Board Meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:30 pm**. The meeting will be held at the Breakheart Reservation Visitors Center in Saugus. All are welcome!
- **Earth Hour 2009.**
SAVE members are encouraged to join in this worldwide movement on **Saturday, March 28, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm**. Please mark your calendar so that you don't forget!
- **Earth Day, April 22.**
SAVE members are encouraged to join other members at the Saugus Tree Farm to celebrate Earth Day. See below for details.
- **Saugus Tree Farm Maintenance Day.**
Join other SAVE members on **Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm** {Rain date of Sunday, April 26, same hours}.
- **SAVE General Meeting with Guest Speaker Chip Osborne.**
Join other SAVE members on **Wednesday, April 29, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm** at the Saugus Senior Center for a fun evening. Chip will speak on "The Living Lawn – A Lawn for Living".
- **SAVE Annual Dinner and Meeting.**
Save the date of **Wednesday, June 17, 2009** for our annual dinner and meeting. More details to follow in the next newsletter. Please mark your calendar so that you don't forget!

- **Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)** workgroups and meetings to support and inform development of a new Solid Waste Master Plan for Massachusetts. SAVE encourages its members to attend one of the following workgroup meetings, to call the MassDEP and share your position on these matters, or to send written comments to MassDEP Commissioner Laurie Burt (MassDEP, One Winter Street, Boston), in particular calling upon the DEP to keep the state-wide moratorium on new or expanded waste incinerators in place.

Prior to the start of each of the following meetings, MassDEP will post a scope for each workgroup describing key issues and questions on their website at <http://www.mass.gov/dep/recycle/priorities/dswmpu01.htm>.

MassDEP will also post meeting handouts on this web page, so that anyone unable to attend a workgroup meeting can review materials and submit comments to the staff person leading the workgroup. Workgroup meeting dates are as follows:

Tuesday, March 24, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Waste Bans / Business Recycling

Please RSVP: Janine Delaney janine.delaney@state.ma.us

Wednesday, March 25, 9 a.m. – noon

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Eliminating Barriers to Siting Waste Diversion Facilities

Please RSVP: Marc Fournier, marc.fournier@state.ma.us

Wednesday, March 25, 2009 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Reducing Waste Generation.

Please RSVP: John Fischer, john.fischer@state.ma.us

Thursday, March 26, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon

at the Saltonstall Building,
100 Cambridge Street, 2nd floor, Conference Room C, Boston.

Education

Please RSVP: Marc Fournier, marc.fournier@state.ma.us

Thursday, March 26, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Municipal Capacity Building / Regionalization

Please RSVP: Gretchen Brewer, gretchen.brewer@state.ma.us

Monday, March 30, 2009 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Building Markets / State Procurement

Please RSVP: Gretchen Brewer, gretchen.brewer@state.ma.us

Tuesday, March 31, 2009 from 9:00 am to Noon

at the MassDEP Boston office, 1 Winter Street, 2nd floor conference room.

Performance and Viability of Technologies for Residual Waste

Please RSVP: John Fischer, john.fischer@state.ma.us

Saugus River Watershed Council
will offer a \$500 scholarship to a
2009 high school graduate from any of the
communities served by the Watershed.
For further information, call (781) 233 - 5046

SAVE THIS DATE: Saturday May 16, 2009

SAVE and the FRIENDS OF BREAKHEART RESERVATION
have joined together to present another

“It’s New To You” SWAP!

to keep usable items out of the waste stream.

The event, to be held at Breakheart
in conjunction with Breakheart’s 75th Anniversary celebration,
is scheduled for
Saturday May 16, 2009 from Noon to 4:00 pm
and is open to one and all.

Everyone is invited to bring one or more items in usable
and good condition to the SWAP.

[NOTE: please do not bring any items/products to the SWAP
that require special disposal.]

And to complete the (re)cycle,
we’re sure that you’ll find some *It’s New to You* items
to bring home!

*****Just a note: It is not mandatory to take an item if you bring something to donate
to the SWAP, nor is it mandatory to bring an item in order to take an item. *****

For questions or more information,
Please call Ann Devlin (781) 233 - 5717

(See also www.SaugusSAVE.org or www.Saugus.com)



ATTENTION

SAVE GENERAL MEETING

**Wednesday, April 29, 2009
7:00 to 9:00 pm
Saugus Senior Center**

**SAVE will hold a General Meeting at the Saugus Senior Center
on Wednesday evening, April 29, 2009 from 7:00 to 9:00 pm**

Please plan to join us for a fun and informative evening!

Our guest speaker will be Charles E. ("Chip") Osborne. Chip is a professional horticulturist with 35 years experience in the green industry. He has an extensive background in green house production as the former owner and operator of Osborne Florist & Greenhouse in Marblehead, MA. Educated in conventional greenhouse management and after several years following that approach, he converted his greenhouse operation to an organic environment.

In the mid-1990's his extensive horticultural background was broadened to include turfgrass management. He has attended the University of Mass Green School and is a NOFA Accredited Land Care Professional. In 2007 he founded Osborne Organics, a company that provides natural turf consulting services to business, municipal, and institutional clients.

Chip co-founded and is currently the co-chair of the Marblehead Pesticide Awareness Committee and has worked for the past 12 years on pesticide reduction issues. He co-authored the Town of Marblehead's Organic Pest Management Policy that was adopted by the Town of Marblehead Board of Health. It was the first of its kind in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Chip and a colleague, Patricia Beckett, developed Simple Steps Towards Organic Lawn Care, a successful educational program, that has been taught to thousands of people seeking a viable alternative to conventional lawn care. He co-founded and is the co-chair of "The Living Lawn – A Lawn for Living", an organic lawn and garden demonstration project in Marblehead.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH 21 & 22, 2009 (SATURDAY) – MAPLE SUGARING AT BREAKHEART 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Friends of Breakheart are sponsoring a maple sugaring event.
Plan to join them for pancakes and to learn the art of maple sugaring.
Any SAVE member interested in volunteering at this event would be welcome!

MARCH 25, 2009 (WEDNESDAY) – SAVE BOARD MEETING 7:30 pm

at the Breakheart Visitors Center.
All are welcome to join SAVE board members to share your environmental concerns.

MARCH 28, 2009 (SATURDAY) – EARTH HOUR 8:30 to 9:30 pm

Plan to turn the lights out in your home and join this world-wide movement.

APRIL 22, 2009 (WEDNESDAY) – EARTH DAY

Plan to join SAVE members and the Saugus Tree Committee for a Tree Farm Maintenance Day to celebrate Earth Day. {see below for details}

APRIL 25, 2009 (SATURDAY) – SAUGUS TREE FARM MAINTENANCE DAY 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Join other SAVE members, as well as the Saugus Tree Committee, for a spring cleanup at the Saugus Tree Farm. Rain date will be Sunday, April 26, 2009 same hours.

APRIL 29, 2009 (WEDNESDAY) – SAVE GENERAL MEETING 7:00 to 9:00 pm

at the Saugus Senior Center.
Guest speaker, Chip Osborne, is a professional horticulturist and will discuss
"The Living Lawn – A Lawn for Living".

MAY 16, 2009 (SATURDAY) – "IT'S NEW TO YOU" SWAP Noon to 4:00 pm at Breakheart

SPONSORED BY SAVE AND FRIENDS OF BREAKHEART at Breakheart's Visitors Center.
Join SAVE members and help keep usable items out of the waste-stream. You're invited to bring usable items {no special disposal items will be accepted} to the SWAP and find unexpected treasures to take home with you. This event to be held in conjunction with Breakheart's 75th Anniversary celebration.

JUNE 17, 2009 (WEDNESDAY) – SAVE ANNUAL DINNER AND MEETING 6:30 pm

Save this date and plan to join us for a fun and enjoyable evening!
Further details in the next newsletter.

SAVE sends Spring-time wishes to all of its members, families, and friends!

SAUGUS ACTION VOLUNTEERS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Post Office Box 908
Saugus, Massachusetts 01906



THINK GLOBALLY...ACT LOCALLY!