



Ten Towns, Ten Actions Toolkit



NRRA Annual Conference, May 18, 2022

www.10towns.org

nhplasticwaste@gmail.com



Land Acknowledgement



This presentation is taking place on [N'dakinna](#), which is the traditional [ancestral homeland](#) of the Abenaki, Pennacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land, waterways, and the people who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations.”

Source: Indigenous NH Collaborative Collective

Many individuals and communities are taking action all over New Hampshire.

What if ...

we brought all their energy together?

What if...

we could find ten towns and ten actions
that had already been taken and shared
how they did it?



Why?



While efforts being made by towns and cities are innovative and educational, they are not a substitute for comprehensive, evidence-based laws and policies that protect public health, the environment, the economy, and our children's future in New Hampshire.

Plastics Make Climate Change Worse

The production and incineration of plastic will produce more than 850 million metric tons of greenhouse gases.





The Lifecycle of Plastics



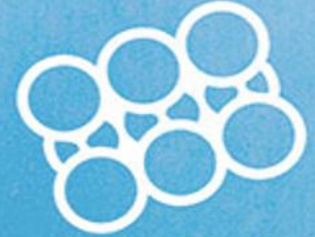
Plastic bag
20 years



Coffee cup
30 years



Plastic straw
200 years



6-pack plastic rings
400 years



Plastic water bottle
450 years



Coffee pod
500 years



Plastic cup
450 years



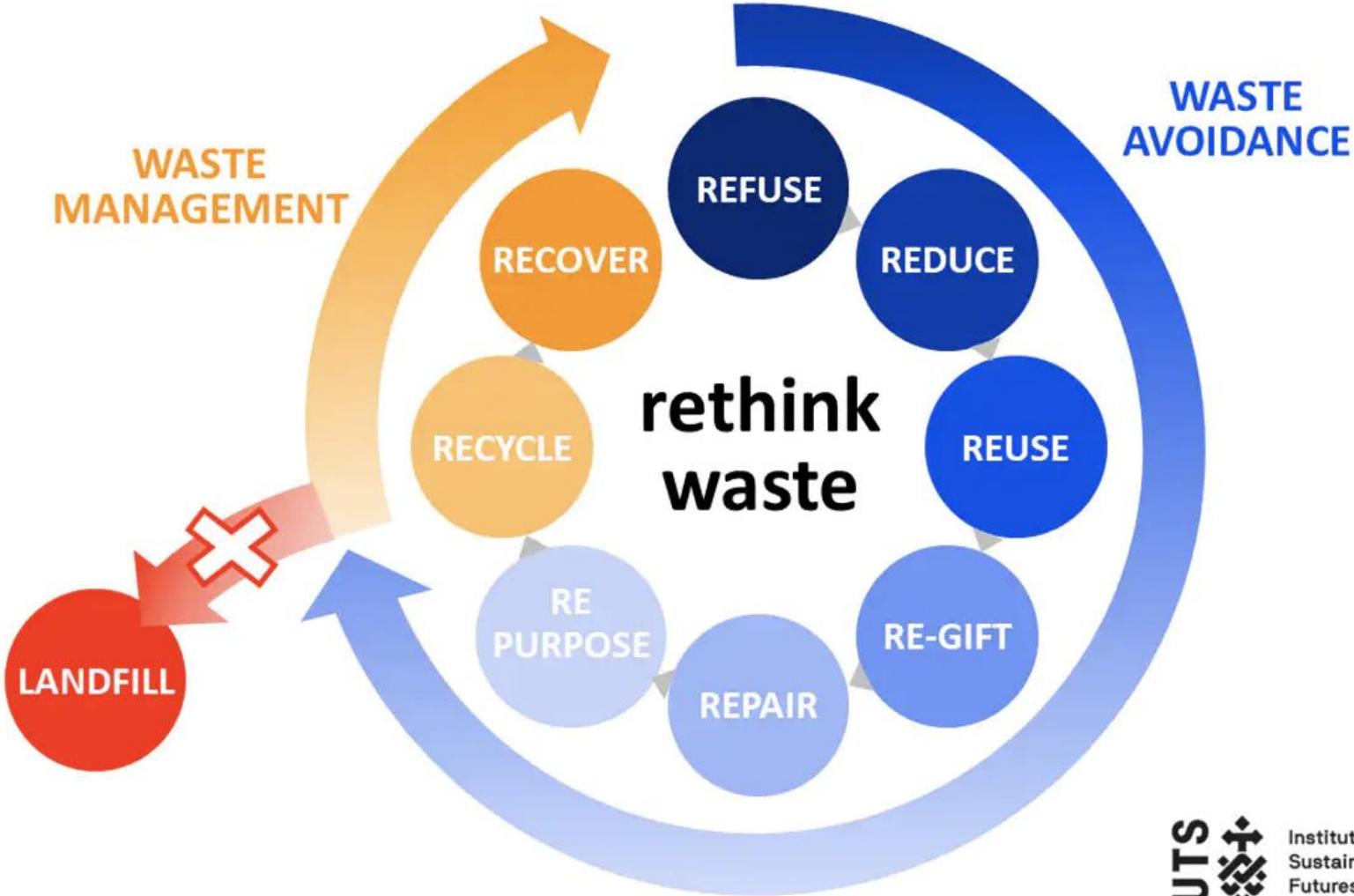
Disposable diaper
500 years



Plastic toothbrush
500 years

An **Extended** Waste Hierarchy

RETHINK PLASTIC WASTE!



Effective change requires:

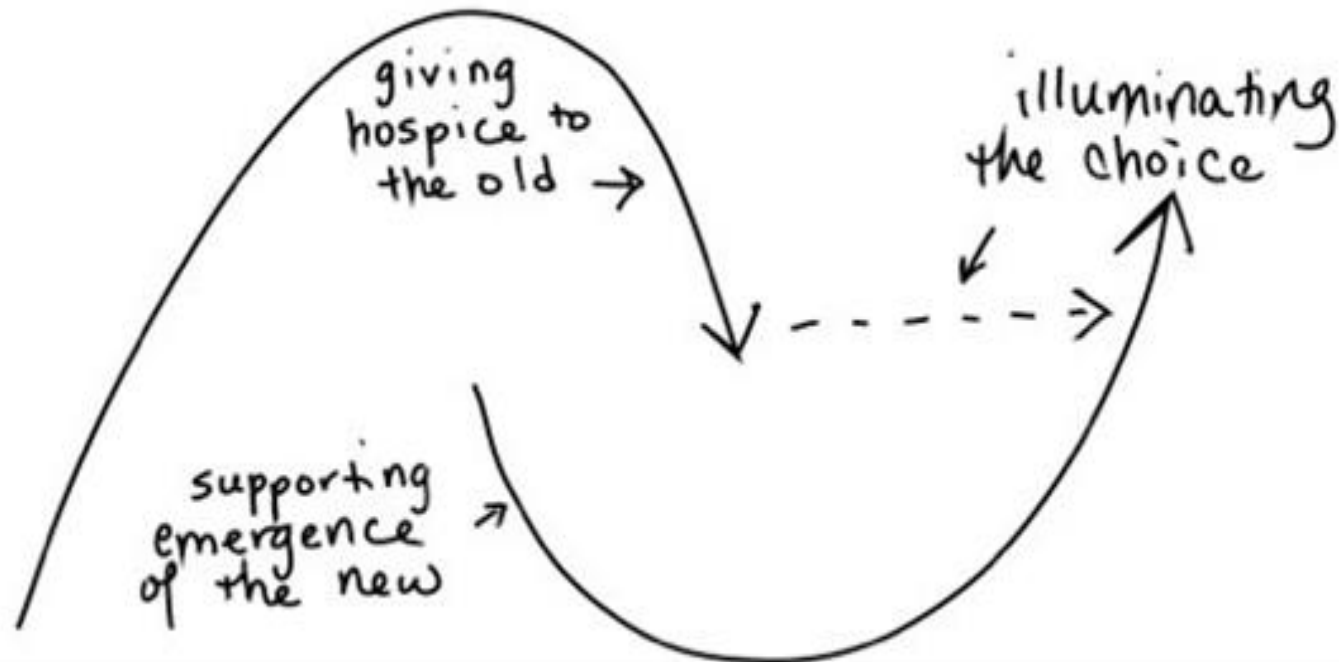
- creativity
- systems thinking
- connection with others
- bold, thoughtful action



Source: Donella Meadows Institute



Where are you choosing to participate?



Two Loops Theory of Change

Ten Towns, Ten Actions Campaign Principles

A Leader in Every Chair

(The Circle Way, Linnea & Baldwin)

- *Everyone has a role to play and skills to contribute.*
- *We need all hands-on deck for this one.*

Don't think you're a leader? Then maybe you are
...a catalyst, convener, champion, citizen, spark plug, pioneer, guide, technical assistant, resource, steward, coach, mentor, advocate, ally, activist...



Toolkit Framework



Policy Actions:

First Steps

Actions to take with town or city government officials.



Engagement Actions: ⇄

First Steps

Actions to take to engage with individuals, families, and groups in your community.



Infrastructure Actions:

First Steps

Actions to take to change existing systems.



Choose a Partner

Partners for Taking Action:



Return to [Start Here](#)

[Policy Actions](#)

[Engagement Actions](#)

[Infrastructure Actions](#)



[Local Government
Officials](#)

Policy actions you can take in partnership with municipal leaders and committees.



[Solid Waste Managers](#)

Engagement or infrastructure actions you can initiate at your town transfer station or recycling center.



[Librarians](#)

Collaborate with your local library and librarians to engage your community.

Join Us! Ten Towns, Ten Actions Resource Leaders are Here to Help!



Bonnie Christie
Hopkinton



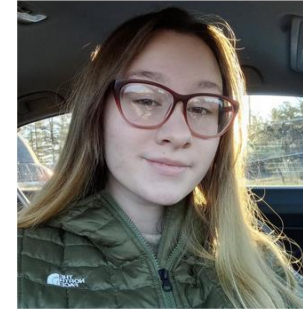
Bruce Berk
Pittsfield



Christina Dubin
Portsmouth



Jon Swan
Dalton



Lilac Snowden-Hallowell
Somersworth



Mary Armstrong
Harrisville



Cindy Heath
Cornish Flat



Cynthia Walter
Dover



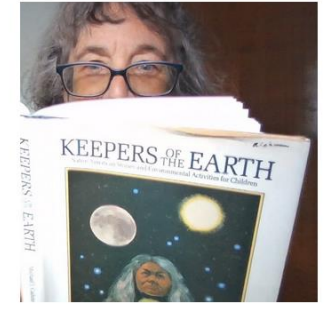
Kristine Baber
Dover



Nancy Dowey
Bristol



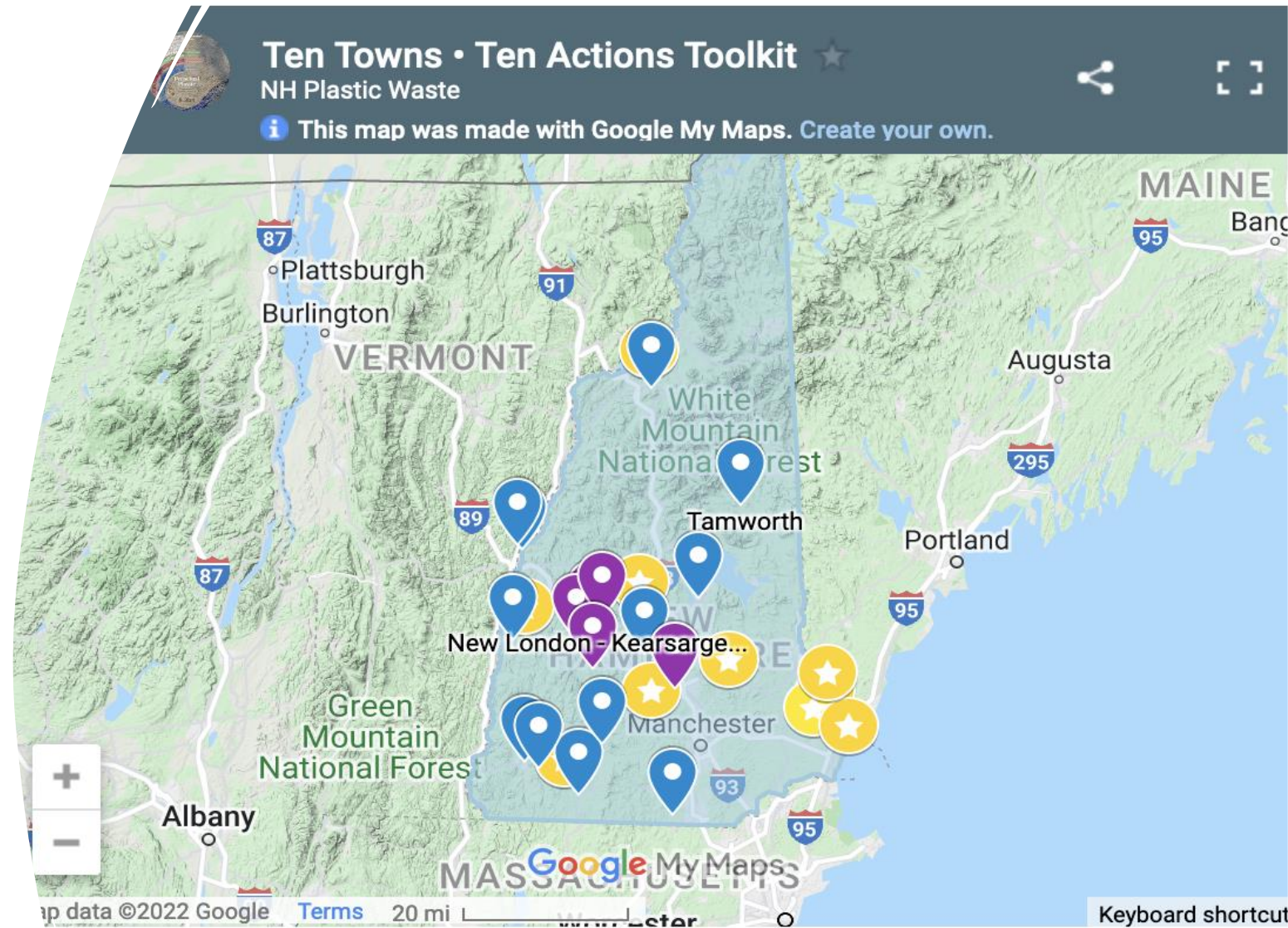
Patsy Beffa-Negrini
Nelson



Susan Richman
Durham

From 10 to 26 Towns in Three Months

- Claremont, Marlborough, Webster, Bethlehem
- Norwich, VT
- New London, Bradford, Newbury, Andover, Wilmot
- Hollis, Keene, Laconia, Hanover
- Tamworth, Bennington



= Original Ten Towns Member

Success Stories

Bristol – Sustainability
Fair

Kearsage Climate
Action – Ten Towns
Sub Committee, Film
Recycling, Town Depts.

Claremont –
Film Screening,
Microplastic Madness

Durham –
Recycle Right
Campaign

Dover –
Reusables Campaign

Hopkinton –
Dimitri's Pizza to
Replace Styrofoam
Cups & Bowls

New England College -
Plastics Info Flier and
Toolkit Metrics

Lebanon –
Foam Collections, LHS
Students for
Sustainability

Center Harbor,
Laconia, Harrisville,
Cornish –
Plastic Film Collections

Portsmouth –
Styrofoam & Single
Use Plastic Bag Ban

Harrisville –
Ten Towns Ten Actions
Committee & Panel
Discussion

Collective actions for
Earth Day & Plastic
Free July



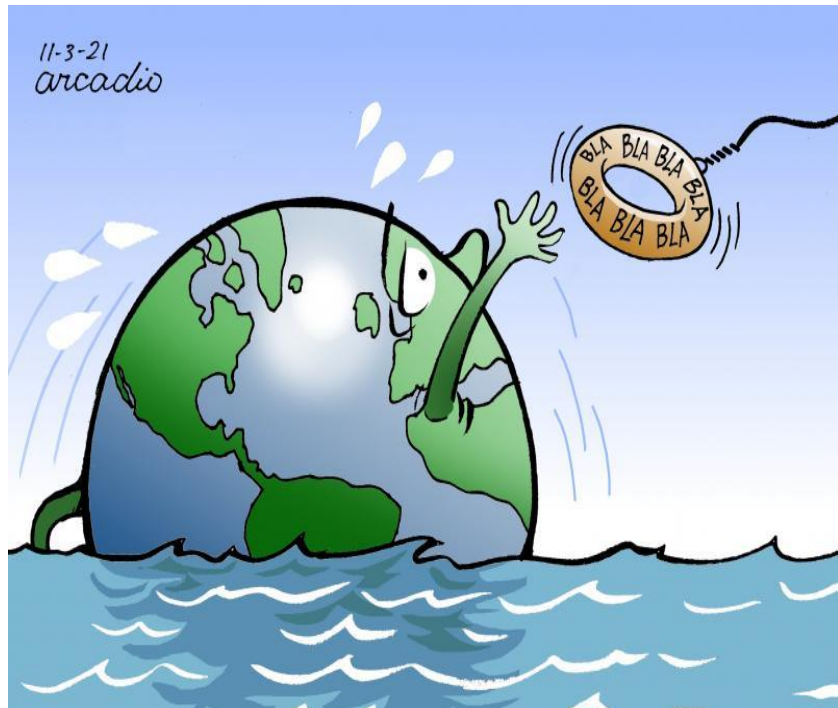
The World of Environmental
Activism is Complex!

Once You Know...

What Do You Do?

Who is Keeping Track?

**Finally! Climate Action
Guidance All in One
Place!**



DRAWDOWN
THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE
PLAN EVER PROPOSED TO
REVERSE GLOBAL WARMING
EDITED BY PAUL HAWKEN

Ten Local Actions

1. Reusable Bag Campaign
2. Foam & Plant Pot Collections
3. Students for Sustainability
4. Environmental Book Club
5. Green Tips
6. Ask for Co-Op Deli Paper
7. Plastic Waste Reduction Month
8. Microplastic Madness Screening
9. Newspaper Plastic Wrap
10. Subaru Snack Packaging

Assume Everyone Wants to be a Partner!

Climate Justice & Environmental Justice

Training Opportunity from We Act:
Environmental Health and Justice Leadership

Whose voice is missing?

- Youth
- People of Color
- Indigenous Peoples
- Low Income Populations

The data is clear – industrial pollution negatively impacts health; plastic manufacturing facilities are proliferating in low-income communities around the world.



A New Generation & Our New Teachers

Upper Valley faith groups get traction with climate change as a critical issue



Source: Valley News

PHS students convince Portsmouth to start plastics ban

By Ian Lenahan news@seacoastonline.com

Published 1:03 p.m. ET Dec. 22, 2020

[View Comments](#)



A Portsmouth ban on polystyrene foam (known as Styrofoam) products will take effect for the first nine months. Deb Cram/Seacoastonline

Upper Valley students address climate change with little fanfare



PORTSMOUTH — Teenagers spoke out and adults listened. The City Council reversed course Monday night, deciding to enact bans against single-use disposables Dec. 31 after previously being on track to delay the new rules for two

Source: Valley News

Hope

Begin With A Vision

*Celebrate Loudly &
Often*

*Manage Feelings of
Overwhelm*



About the NH Network - www.newhampshirenetwork.org



Linking citizens statewide to
share information and
implement actions for a
sustainable New Hampshire

-photo by Joseph Kwasnjik

Our mission is to foster clean, cost-effective investments and environmentally responsible policies, laws and regulations, making New Hampshire a leader rather than a laggard in addressing pollution and climate change.