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I don't know why, but I kind of love this hedgehog. I first saw him on Facebook and I couldn't resist sharing him with you. Imagine him cheering for you to **join the new, expanded [curbside composting pilot](#)**, support the adoption of a **[local net zero carbon emissions goal](#)**, or attend one of **[Natick's Environmental Programs](#)** at the Community Senior Center this fall. **Details on how to sign up for curbside composting are below.**

That cute little guy is also cheering for a lot of other great initiatives underway, including:

- The appointment of Alfredo Vargas, Carey Buttfeld, David Mogolov and Robert Barnacle to the Natick Sustainability Committee
- Plans for a 500+ kilowatt **[solar photovoltaic system](#)**, including solar parking canopies, at the new Kennedy Middle School.
- The development of a Low Impact Development zoning bylaw that will seek to ensure the maintenance of natural drainage flow paths, the minimization of land clearance, building clustering, and impervious surface reduction in new and redevelopment.
- A new behavior-based energy reduction program – the Power Patrol! – that Natick Public Schools is launching this fall through ASAP.
- A variety of climate resiliency projects, including a new grant application to install a stormwater tree box filter in front of the Morse Institute Library.

The hedgehog also wants to thank May Arthur for organizing a [National Drive Electric event](#) in September. Nearly 20 electric cars of all kinds were displayed at the Wegman's garage and it was great to see so many people interested in going electric! You can check out a video of the event [here](#).

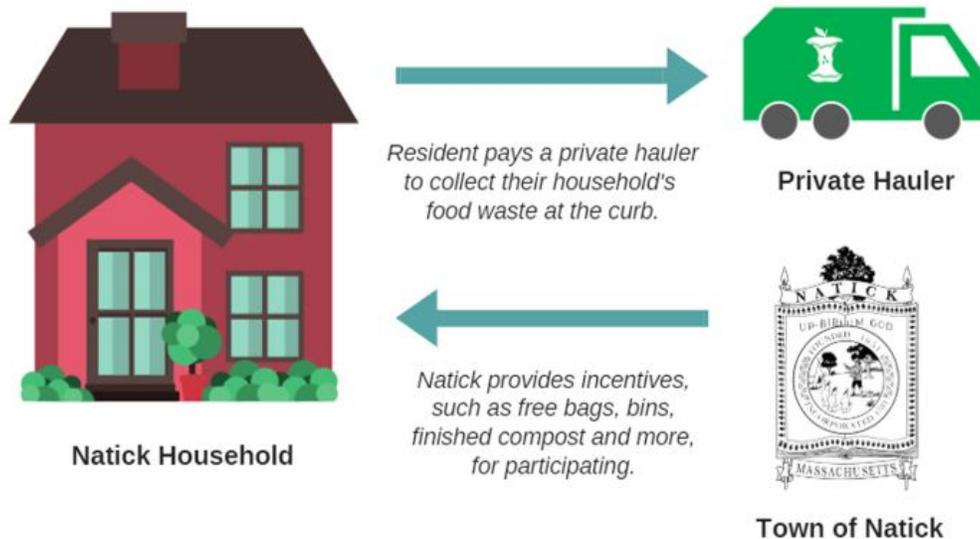
Thanks for supporting sustainability in Natick and for tolerating emails about hedgehogs. ;)

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Compost Pilot 2.0 is ready for you

Did you miss out on the opportunity to participate in Natick's original curbside composting pilot? Never fear! Now's your chance to join! The Town is expanding its initial two-year curbside composting pilot to provide all residents the opportunity to participate by launching a new program that provides households with incentives to compost at the curb, in their backyard and at new community drop off centers.

Curbside Composting

Residents now have the opportunity to contract with a private hauler to collect their compost on a weekly basis. While the Town of Natick cannot recommend a private hauler, **Natick Neighbors Compost**, a newly formed citizens group, researched a variety of haulers and is recommending residents contract with [Black Earth Compost](#). To learn about Natick

website: <https://sites.google.com/view/natick-neighbors-compost/home>. They were also [featured in today's paper!](#)

To encourage residents to participate and help reduce municipal solid waste, **the Town of Natick will provide a starter kit (curbside bin and kitchen container) to any household that is new to curbside composting and will distribute 180 compostable bags (a year's supply) to the first 500 households** that present proof of purchase to Jillian Wilson Martin, Natick's Sustainability Coordinator. **If you contract with Black Earth, no action is needed on your part as the company has agreed to provide the Town with a list of contracted addresses.** If you sign up with another company, please email your receipt to jwmartin@natickma.org and the Town will deliver the bags to your address. **All bags will be delivered in October 2018. Starter kits will be available for distribution at the Farmer's Market on October 20 and 27. They are not available at the DPW for pick up.**



Drop Off and Backyard Options

The Town also plans to launch a compost drop-off pilot later this year with approximately 100 residents at four locations. The sites will use metal "bear proof" enclosures, be collected twice a week and be accessible by key. Members will be asked to pay a small annual participation fee. Additional detail will be available in mid-October.

Beginning November 1, the DPW will discount backyard compost containers by an additional \$18 per bin. It will also work with local experts to offer "how to" classes.



Net Zero Town Meeting Resolution

[Renewable Natick](#), a volunteer group working to set a community-wide net zero carbon emissions goal, is nearing the home stretch of their plans to bring a [non-binding resolution](#) to Fall Town Meeting. On Thursday, October 18 at 7:30pm at Natick High School, they expect Paul Joseph, President of the MetroWest Chamber of Commerce and former Chair of the Natick Board of Selectmen, to bring the motion for their resolution to the floor for a vote.

They are looking for residents to join them and demonstrate your support for the resolution by wearing a green shirt and packing the auditorium. Check out their website at <http://renewablenatick.org/> to learn more.

Can't make October 18? They are also looking for residents to sign an online petition showing their support: <http://renewablenatick.org/i-support-renewable-natick/>.



Environmental Programs @ the CSC

Here are a few of the environmental programs happening at the Natick Community-Senior Center this fall. We hope to see you there!

Renewable Natick Event

Tuesday, October 9, 2pm, free

www.renewablenatick.org

A Farmer's Tour of the October Harvest

Wednesday, October 10, 2pm, free

Natick Community Organic Farm Administrator Trish Wesley Umbrell

Going Solar for Your Home- How to Get It, Price It, Reap Benefits!

Tuesday, October 16, 2-3:30pm, free

Join Craig Forman, a board member of Green Newton and chairperson of Newton Goes Solar who has taught Going Solar at Newton Community Ed and at Cambridge Center for Adult Ed. He will talk about his experiences with his own solar electric installation.

How Do I Recycle This...?

Tuesday, October 23, 2-3:30pm, free

Learn about Natick's Center for Hard to Recycle Items, curbside composting program and other recycling programs.

Getting to Know Electric Vehicles

All Electric Vehicles & Plug-In Hybrids

Learn more about [Drive Green discounts here](#)



Earth Day needs you too!

The Natick Earth Day Planning Committee has a great new team of volunteers, but we could use a few more.

Are you interested in joining a new crew focused on making Earth Day a zero-waste event that educates, inspires, and connects neighbors to local opportunities take action for our community and the earth? Please consider joining this important and fun group of people working to celebrate and share the importance of sustainability each year. Please email jwmartin@natickma.org for more information.



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