

Dear Neighbor and Cape Elizabeth Condo Resident,

My name is John Kane and I am the Chairperson of the Cape Elizabeth Recycling Committee. One of the goals of our committee is to increase recycling in Cape Elizabeth. I am writing to residents of condominiums to ensure you are aware of the places, opportunities and items you can recycle in our town.

You probably pay a private contractor for your trash pickup. But, did you know that the cost of throwing a recyclable item in the trash is at least two times as expensive as recycling that item? Contractors pay roughly \$90.00 per ton of trash but the fee to handle recyclables in our town is approximately \$40.00 per ton.

The town of Cape Elizabeth is a charter member of **EcoMaine**- a facility that provides “**single stream**” recycling. That means that you can combine your **metal** cans (think soup, tomato sauce, baked beans, canned fruit or vegetables and pet food), your **paper goods** (think junk mail, newspapers, catalogs, milk or juice containers, pizza boxes, cereal boxes,), your **plastics** (think laundry containers, kitty litter containers, take out food containers), your **glass** (think jars of sauce, oil, jam or jelly, peanut butter) **all into one container**, and then into the “**Silver Bullets**” in town. Your **large cardboard** (think Amazon boxes, USPS boxes, corrugated pieces) are also recycled but placed separately.

Where are the Silver Bullets?

There are two **behind Cape Elizabeth Town Hall** that you can access any time or any day. Just drive up your car, unload your recyclables, including cardboard into the separate container, and be on your way.

At the **Recycling Center (Dennison Drive off Spurwink Ave)**, there are two locations with silver bullets. Besides the area preceding the trash compactor, two containers are located adjacent to the retaining wall and they offer top loading access.

The center is open:

Monday, 10am – 7pm, Wednesday, 8am – 5pm, Friday, 8am – 5pm, Saturday, 8am to 5pm.

If you currently do not have a **green residential permit**, please see an attendant about securing the free permit for future trips. Bring proof of seasonal or year round residency- vehicle registration, or utility bill, tax bill or rental agreement.

The Swap Shop and Bottle Redemption Building

While at the Recycling Center, **check out our Swap Shop**. Bring in your unwanted, usable household items. You are welcome to take **anything** from the

Shop home with you. Have a child visiting? Look for puzzles, games, or books. Need a picture frame or vase? Set of patio chairs? You never know what you will find on any given day.

The **Bottle Redemption Center** is next door to the Swap Shop. Bring over your **redeemable** cans or bottles and each month a different non-profit, town organization will benefit from the proceeds. You will help the cause while helping the environment.

Please keep and use the enclosed brochure as a handy guide to recycling in Cape Elizabeth and for our contact information. If you have further questions, comments or feedback, please feel free to email me or any member of the committee. Our meetings are open to the public and held the first Thursday of each month. We welcome public input! Please also check the town's recycling pages on the website www.capeelizabeth.com.

To those who already recycle, **thank you!** For those who were thinking about starting, but didn't know how, we hope this letter will help you. **We welcome you to the world of recycling!** Once you start, you will always feel good knowing you are saving money and helping the environment.

Sincerely,

John Kane