# Sailors for the Sea Clean Regatta Platinum Level Sustainability Report



## The Northeast Harbor Fleet 2022 Season

06/27/2022

Prepared by: Gordon Beck Green Team Co-Chair gordonmbeck@gmail.com

Green Team Members include: Gordon Beck - Co-Chair, Barbara Meyers - Co-Chair, Wells Bacon - Secretary; Fran Charles, Pancho Cole, Bill Dowling, Stacey Gummey, Sophia Hack, Auria Mauras, Sam Pelletier, Bettina Richards, John Roberts, Jr., Sydney Roberts Rockefeller, Alison Schafer, Kelsea Squires, Nick Steenberg, Mia Thompson

## Introduction

The Northeast Harbor Fleet organized a Green Team in 2017, with the goal of certifying the 2017 International One Design Championships as a Clean Regatta. Guided by Sailors for the Sea's Clean Regattas Best Practices, the Green Team was successful in attaining Gold Level certification for five straight full seasons. Sustainability became embedded in the Fleet's ethos.

Our work has demonstrated our comprehensive commitment to the environment and to a clean ocean. Published policies provide guidelines for our members, guests, racing crews and staff and are thoroughly promoted. For 2022 we updated our policies to emphasize our "pack it in / pack it out" approach to waste and continued our transition to paperless event – and operations -- management.

The majority of the Best Practices in this Sustainability Report have been in place for five years – they have become the norm for the Northeast Harbor Fleet every season. What we feel raises our work to the Platinum Level for 2022 includes efforts to improve on those "normal" best practices, organization and execution of two successful cleanup efforts, the move to a comprehensive online member interface which includes full paperless event management, and our initiatives with Shrink Wrap Recycling.

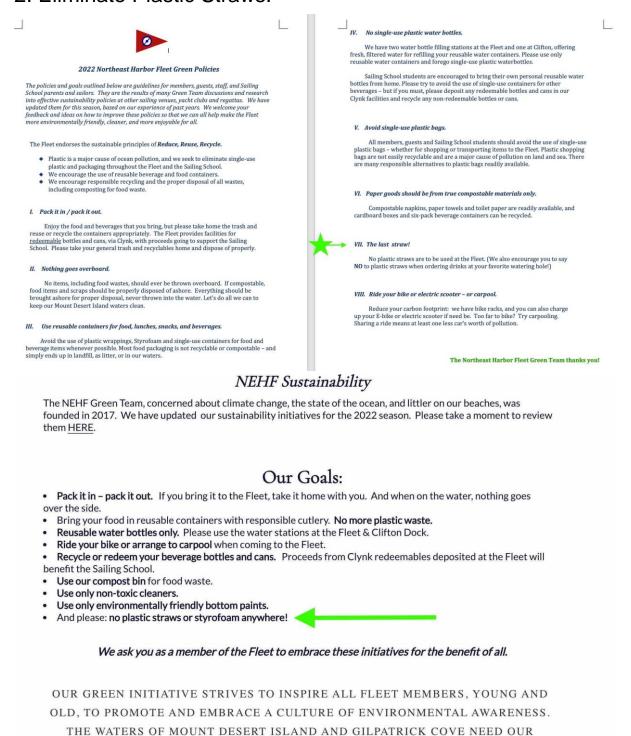
## 1. Eliminate Single-Use Water Bottles and Provide Water Refill Stations:





We have successfully eliminated single-use water bottles from the Northeast Harbor Fleet. In 2017, the Fleet installed two water filling stations at our Gilpatrick Cove campus and one at our Clifton Dock facility. "No single-use plastic water bottles" continues to be our official policy and has been embraced by members, guests and Sailing School students. The campus filling station counters show over 6,000 plastic bottles have been avoided through use of these stations. The Clifton Dock station does not have a bottle counter but is well-used by Fleet members and boaters visiting Northeast Harbor. We also offer reusable Fleet-logoed water bottles for sale on Team One Newport.

## 2. Eliminate Plastic Straws:



Plastic straws were eliminated from the Fleet starting in 2017 and have been banned as part of our official policy since then. No photos available!

PROTECTION.

# 3. Serve Food with Plastic-Free Dinnerware:









The Fleet has not used plastic dinnerware for functions since 2017. We purchased commercial-grade ceramic plates, glasses, and metal flatware and installed a commercial dishwasher so that all of our events involving food are completely plastic-free. We rent additional dinnerware, glasses, etc., as needed for larger events. No more SOLO Cups for after-racing get togethers!

## 4. Use or Provide Reusable Bags:

#### v. No single-use plastic water bottles.

We have two water bottle filling stations at the Fleet and one at Clifton, offering fresh, filtered water for refilling your reusable water containers. Please use only reusable water containers and forego single-use plastic waterbottles.

Sailing School students are encouraged to bring their own personal reusable waterbottles from home. Please try to avoid the use of single-use containers for other beverages – but if you must, please deposit any redeemable bottles and cans in our Clynk facilities and recycle any non-redeemable bottles or cans.

#### v. Avoid single-use plastic bags.

All members, guests and Sailing School students should avoid the use of single-useplastic bags – whether for shopping or transporting items to the Fleet. Plastic shopping bags are not easily recyclable and are a major cause of pollution on land and sea. There are many responsible alternatives to plastic bags readily available.



Our staff use only reusable bags for grocery shopping and through our Green Policies we encourage members and guests to avoid single-use plastic bags. We also suggest using reusable containers for food and beverages when racing, cruising, or picnicking, and most people now bring their own reusable bags for their supplies. Tote bags with the Fleet logo have been given out as awards to reinforce the policy.

## 5. Award Practical Items or Use a Perpetual or Upcycled Trophy:









Over the past couple of years, the Fleet has transitioned from traditional "keeper" trophies for our summer race series to practical items such as wood cutting boards, reusable coffee mugs, water bottles and reusable tote bags. In 2022, we emphasized perpetual trophies for our major racing series and cut back significantly on take-home awards. We used our remaining inventory of drinking glasses for weekly race awards. We also eliminated the weekly paper Sailing School Awards in favor of pin-on ribbons.

## 6. Publicize Your Sustainability Efforts:

#### RESOURCES

Recycling
The Town of Mount Desert: Recycling has gotten easier! The recycling containers: one for cardboard, and one for everything else, co-mingled.

- Corrugated cardboard, like Amazon boxes, flattened shipping boxes, etc. (but no plastic-coated cardboard like milk cartons, coffee cups, etc.) go in the cardboard container.

Take all of your recyclables to the recycling center located at the highway garage at 307 Sargeant Drive and follow the directions on the signs.

For more information, check out this poster: <a href="https://casella.com/sites/default/files/Recycle-Better/POSTER-ZeroSort-IncludingNotAccepted-BlueBin-8.5x11">https://casella.com/sites/default/files/Recycle-Better/POSTER-ZeroSort-IncludingNotAccepted-BlueBin-8.5x11</a> v08.pdf

Bar Harbor: The Bar Harbor recycling center is at 9 White Spruce Road (next to the Transfer Station) and offers the same services as in prior years. For detailed information, use this link: https://www.barhorbormaine.com/147/Scilld-Waste-Recycling-Ubussion

Southwest Harbor & Tremont: The EMR Recycling facility is at 47 Long Pond Road (the Southwest Harbor dump) and information & hours are here: <a href="https://acadiadisposal.org/emr-inc-eastern-maine-recycling-inc/">https://acadiadisposal.org/emr-inc-eastern-maine-recycling-inc/</a>

The Fleet has set up a Clynk account to support the Sailing School. Deposit your empty bottles and cans in the collection bins at the Fleet house, or at Clifton Dock, and the Green Team will handle the rest. Every empty is a contribution to the Sailing School. Only empty beverage bottles and cans go in the bins!

You can set up your own Clynk account for use at home at any Hannaford supermarkets. Clynk kiosks allow you to print out bag labels for your account, and you buy the Clynk hags to be filled with your empties. When the bag is full, you drop it off at the Clynk collection center at Hannaford and your account is credited. For full information, click here: <a href="https://www.clynk.com/">https://www.clynk.com/</a>.



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Club Learn Race Results Calendar Sustainability Power Gallery

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Member Login



Highlights from the 2022 NEHF Green Team

Baker Island Clean Up:



#### From the Sustainability page of the Fleet website:

We have achieved GOLD LEVEL certification from <u>Sailors For The Sea</u> five years in a row!

2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021



Check out Sailors for the Sea Green Boating Guide HERE







Underwater Cleanup tomorrow at 10 am at the Northeast Harbor Fleet! We still need VOLUNTEERS to help the divers and help with debris removal. 48 South Shore Road, NEH. For questions call/text (207) 479-3483 (DIVE) or email ed@divered.com.



Our Fleet website, emails and social media posts promoted our updated Green Team policies and activities at the beginning of the 2022 season. Throughout the summer, at a variety of events and in membership-wide emails, we reminded members, guests, and Sailing School students of our green programs. For activities such as the 2022 Baker Island cleanup and Gilpatrick Cove underwater cleanup (see details below) we posted photos and extended our social media reach through third party posts. A full section of the Fleet website is devoted to sustainability and serves both to promote our initiatives and green events and to provide resources for member engagement. Examples include an explanation of the Clynk redeemable program (especially useful for out-of-state members) and information on the recycling facilities on Mount Desert Island. We are also proud to highlight our five straight years of Gold Certification by Sailors for the Sea. A link to our full website is here: https://nehfleet.org/

## 7. Involve Local Organizations:





### Keepers of Baker Island

P.O. Box 26, Northeast Harbor, ME 04662



#### Home

Book: Events & Revisions

Shop for KOBI benefit

The work we do

Share YOUR Baker stories!

History of Baker Island

Bibliographical Sources

Partner with KOBI

Ways to Help

Leave No Trace

Who we are

Gallery and Guest Book

## What's your Baker story?

Combined, the KOBI Board has about a century of Baker life. We cherish this unique place, and know all about what we call "Baker Magic"... but we also know we are not alone in our feelings!

With thousands of visitors every year, Baker Island holds a special place in the hearts of many.

We witness the connections daily, as

breathless visitors make their way up the path.

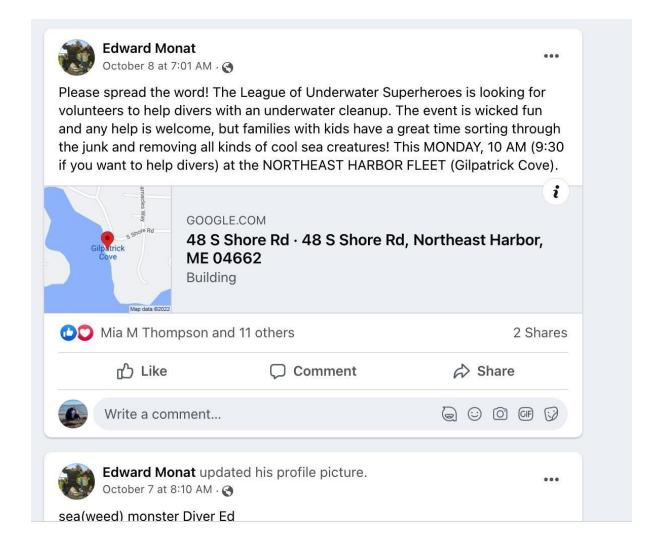
We would love to hear your stories, see your photographs, share your



Acadia Ranger Kirk Lurvey hosting visitors in 2010.

nemail anything you'd like to share...we'll get your permission before posting anything.

Even photos that may seem to hold no value might help us to document changes to the island: the gradual breaking up of the Dancing Rocks; shifts in the flora and fauna; encroachment of the spruce; disintegration (and preservation) of structures.



We have involved the local community through outreach to area boatyards (focusing in 2022 on environmentally friendly bottom paint and linking the yards to the shrink wrap recycling program.) We coordinated with the Keepers of Baker Island for our summer clean-up and enlisted local divers and a cadre of local volunteers (The League of Underwater Superheroes) for our underwater cleanup of the Fleet's cove. We use and publicize the town's recycling policies and facilities, as well as the regional "Clynk" system (a result of the Maine Bottle Bill) for recycling redeemable bottles and cans. As of 9/6/22 we had returned 5,007 containers, with proceeds going to benefit the Sailing School.

# 8. Post Educational and Reusable Signage:









- Plastic is a major cause of ocean pollution. We are eliminating single-use plastic bottles, bags, and packaging at the Fleet and the Sailing School.
- The Fleet provides filtered water filling stations for reusable water bottles.
- The Green Team will recycle your cans and bottles. Please put them the Clynk bins. The money earned goes to support the Sailing School.
- We encourage the use of reusable beverage and food containers, responsible recycling, and the proper disposal of all waste. Take it home, please.

Scan to go to our Sustainability page on the Fleet website:



--- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle ----

Our policies are posted on notice boards at all Fleet entry points, including the parking lot, entrance, and at Clifton Dock. We include QR codes to encourage people to visit our website for more sustainability information. Our Clean Regatta efforts in 2022 were posted online, communicated in-person, and presented on signs.

# 9. Serve Local Food or Source Seafood Sustainably:





Fleet food events are supplied by local caterers with an emphasis on locally grown produce, seafood, and homemade dishes. In 2022 our operations manager made extra efforts to locally source our offerings and to minimize the use of packaged food goods for our events.

## 10. Organize a Green Team:



The Fleet established its Green Team in 2017, and by 2022 we had 17 members. This is a robust, active group consisting of Fleet members, Flag Officers, Sailing School instructors and both the general manager and operations manager. In addition to developing our green policies and initiatives for the Fleet, the team pitches in on all major events to help them run sustainably. The Green Team also helps support Sailing School sustainability.

## 11. Ensure Proper Waste Bin Placement and Signage:



2022 Northeast Harbor Fleet Green Policies

The policies and goals outlined below are guidelines for members, guests, staff, and Sailing School parents and sailors. They are the results of many Green Team discussions and research into effective sustainability policies at other sailing venues, yacht clubs and regattas. We have updated them for this season, based on our experience of past years. We welcome your feedback and ideas on how to improve these policies so that we can all help make the Fleet more environmentally friendly, cleaner, and more enjoyable for all.

The Fleet endorses the sustainable principles of *Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*.

- Plastic is a major cause of ocean pollution, and we seek to eliminate single-use plastic and packaging throughout the Fleet and the Sailing School.
- We encourage the use of reusable beverage and food containers.
- We encourage responsible recycling and the proper disposal of all wastes, including composting for food waste.

#### 1. Pack it in / pack it out.



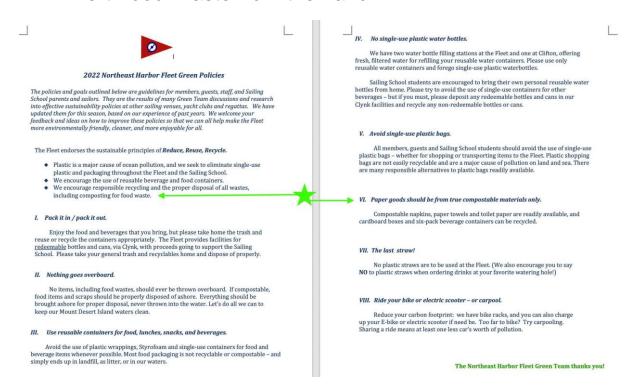
Enjoy the food and beverages that you bring, but please take home the trash and reuse or recycle the containers appropriately. The Fleet provides facilities for <u>redeemable</u> bottles and cans, via Clynk, with proceeds going to support the Sailing School. Please take your general trash and recyclables home and dispose of properly.

#### II. Nothing goes overboard.

No items, including food wastes, should ever be thrown overboard. If compostable, food items and scraps should be properly disposed of ashore. Everything should be brought ashore for proper disposal, never thrown into the water. Let's do all we can to keep our Mount Desert Island waters clean.

As we adopted and emphasized a "pack it in/pack it out" policy for 2022, we eliminated almost all public waste bins and, therefore, their accompanying signage. We do have "hidden" waste bins and a recycling bin for responsible use by staff, Sailing School instructors and after-race hosts in our kitchen area. Going all-in on our waste policy and removing waste bins has encouraged members and guests to take their refuse home for proper disposal and/or recycling. This encourages people to use and carry less, and to improve their sustainability practices at home.

## 12. Divert Food Waste from the Landfill:





In our small galley we use a compost pail and transfer to a large compost tumbler outside; these are used daily by the Sailing School and for all on-campus gatherings.

## 13. Use Paperless Event Management:

[NEH IOD] August is upon us. > Inbox x





Mon, Aug 1, 8:30 PM





Fran Charles <fcharles@mit.edu>

to NEHIOD .

The first day of the August Series had three very tight races in the confines of the Great Harbor and its Western Way. The starts were amazingly close with everyone pushing the envelope looking for every possible advantage in the first twenty seconds of each race. Silver Spray came out swinging and bumped the July Champions of podium for a day with relentless patience and whisper-like shift calling of the breeze. Despite the tide not being full until loater, the ebb was in early in the Western W. and it caused a nice amount of chop to stand up, too. Commodore Mia Thompson had a break away victory again today in Freyja as she did Saturday with Steve Madei Auriga and NedJo in Gosling battling it out to the finish. The sailors had a windward gate rounding and then a sprint to the edges to work downwind against the torrer ebb tide. Our third race got shortened after a windward leg up to Cranberry's Cow Ledge and a long run to Northeast Harbor's flasher. Peter Ill in Silver Spray worked some grade school geometry teacher's favorite statement ' the shortest distance between two points is a straight line'. The Spray simply went down the exact rhumb lin while everyone else zigged and zagged looking for an advantage. The blue boat won by 1/3 of a horse length....

Scores will be updated as soon as all competitors enter the August Series and include their crew's names as well on the registry. Only 6 of 13 boats which sailed today h completed their registration..... Please do it now.

Many thanks to Maddy Marron, Brint VanAlan and Jason Ingle in the mark boat today and Lee Fox, Campbell Herrington and Charlie Sisson in Shearwater.

Pictures from the last day of the IOD July Series are here.

Pictures from the Hessenbruch Trophy as well as cruising class spectators....

Franny Charles

The Cucchiaro Family Sailing Master at MIT

The Northeast Harbor Fleet Manager

#### From our 2022 Green Team highlights posted on the Fleet website:

#### **Paperless Race Management:**

In 2022, Fleet race management transitioned to paperless notification for all racing classes. All Notices of Race, Sailing Instructions, and other important information for each of the racing classes was posted on the ClubSpot-powered Fleet website, eliminating paper distribution. And all race results were similarly posted online, making them easily accessible by everyone – from anywhere! Fran Charles (with a couple of September surrogates) issued wonderful in-depth descriptions of races via email to the Class listservs shortly after each racing day, with the unique narratives all racers enjoy and links to the updated online standings.

As piloted for this season's IOD North American Championships hosted by the Fleet, QR codes will be displayed in the Fleet House in lieu of paper result sheets next year - an easy-to-use way to instantly access results on your smartphone. If you aren't familiar with QR codes, just point your phone's camera at this:







#### LOOKING FOR CREW? LOOKING TO CREW? ACCESS THE CREW SHEET

#### WANT TO JOIN THE CLASS EMAIL LIST? CONTACT NEHFLEET@GMAIL.COM

All of these documents are available in a printed format at the Fleet House entrance or directly from Shearwater, the RC Signal Boat. Mark Descriptions, Race Area Charts & Emergency Protocols are available laminated.

#### ONE DESIGN NOR

ONE DESIGN SI'S

#### CRUISING CLASS CORRECTED TIME RACES NOR

CRUISING CLASS CORRECTED TIME RACES SI'S

#### RACE MARK CHART

#### MARK DESCRIPTIONS

#### EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS

The Luders owners at Northeast Harbor Fleet, Southwest Harbor Fleet and Seal Harbor Yacht Club have joined to create a flourishing fleet of 41 boats, at least 30 of which are raced regularly. Luders for sale <a href="here">here</a>.
The L16 is sloop-rigged sailboat. L stands for the designer, Alfred E. Luders, and

The L16 is sloop-rigged sailboat.  $\it L$  stands for the designer,Alfred E. Luders, and  $\it sixteen$  is the waterline length of the boat. L16s are twenty-six feet long bow to stern and have a working sail area of 207 square feet. Production wooden L16s were built in the 1950s by Luders Marine. The hulls were

Production wooden L16s were built in the 1950s by Luders Marine. The hulls were hot-molded from five one-eighth inch plys of mahogany. In the sixties and seventies, fiberglass reproductions were built by International Plastics Corporation, then by Midwest Marine and Easterly Yachts. In all, a little more than 300 were produced.



#### HISTORY

In 1930 Fishers Island Yacht Club was searching for a boat for the junior sailors. A. E. Luders, Sr. and Jr.–known as active racers and innovative designers of America's Cup contenders— were chosen to design and build a new one-design class for them. Rather than produce a *chunky little boat* similar to many others used by juniors, they based their design on the beautiful Six Metre. Fifteen L16s were built and raced at Fishers Island until a hurricane decimated the fleet. The surviving boats scattered, but the class grew as more people admired the elegant boats. Priced at \$1950 the boats were affordable, and fleets grew rapidly in Chicacgo, Connecticut, New York, Maine, Louisiana, California and Bermuda. The Northeast Harbor Fleet members bought 37 Luders Class sailboats in 1947/48.

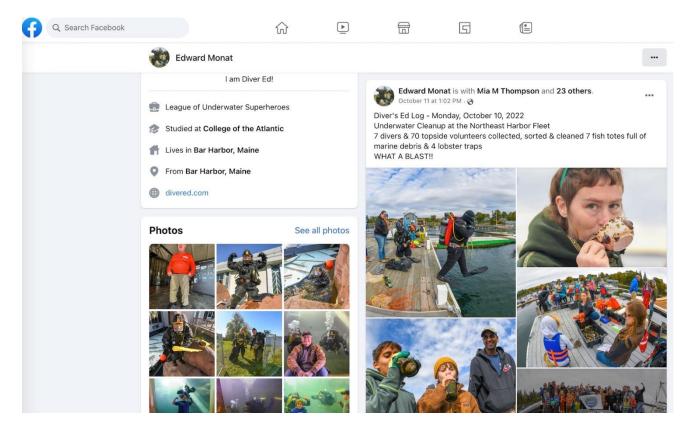
In 2022, we communicated almost exclusively online. NORs, SIs and race results are all posted online through ClubSpot. Narrative descriptions of races are emailed through the respective class listservs.

The ClubSpot online platform allows us to encourage paperless payment, event and Sailing School registration, and a variety of Member functions. We are closer than ever to running the full season without any paper or mailings to membership.

## 14. Host a Beach or Marina Clean-up:















In 2022, we organized both a shore cleanup on one of our outer islands with members and their families and an underwater cleanup of our Gilpatrick Cove mooring field with members, local divers, and community volunteers.

In July, at Baker Island, over 20 reusable demolition and drag bags were filled with plastic, metal and wood trash, and un-reusable Styrofoam lobster buoys. Both unusable and reusable lobster traps were recovered and disposed of properly.

In October, at Gilpatrick Cove, a multitude of old bottles, a couple of cell phones, some sailing gear and even an intact wallet were recovered along with several ghost lobster traps and other assorted trash. The League of Underwater Superheroes, the local volunteer diving group, recovered 468 total items, most of them old bottles and pieces of metal.

## 15. Promote Alternative Transportation:



The Fleet provides bike racks, which are heavily used by Sailing School students and racers. In high season Sailing School days the racks overflow! We promote bike use, carpooling, and encourage electric scooters and e-bikes.

## 16. Increase Awareness of Wildlife and Habitat Protection:





In our area of Maine, frequent harbor seal and porpoise sightings are noted highlights for students in the Sailing School, providing excellent opportunities for our instructors to raise awareness about local sea life. The kelp beds and seaweed along our rocky shore also prompt discussion about ocean habitats.

Throughout our Green Team initiatives, we stress the importance of ocean life and the need to transition to less toxic bottom paints and cleaners.

The Fleet also increased efforts this year to provide and maintain healthy habitats on our grounds for birds, insects, and other creatures. Native plants and naturalized plants are chosen and maintained for windbreaks, bank retention and ornamental plantings. Flowering plants and fruit-bearing trees provide food for insects and animals. Edges are left un-mowed as meadows, supporting pollinators and migrating butterflies.

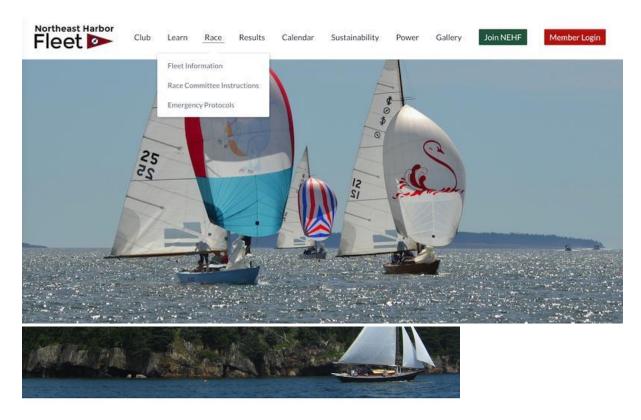
## 17. Offer Vegetarian or Vegan Alternatives:





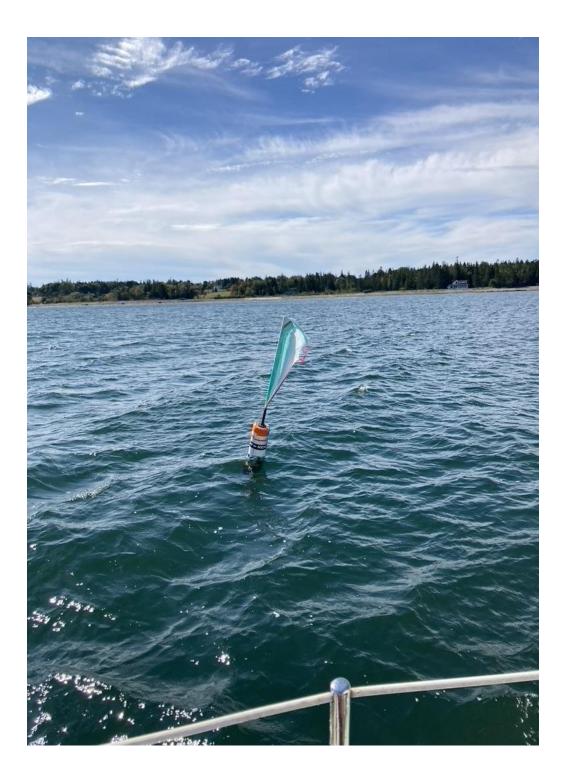
All fleet-hosted events in 2022 offered locally sourced vegetarian dining options. Our frequent post-race get-togethers during the season, hosted by members of the various racing classes, also offer a variety of interesting vegetarian snack options – which the Green Team members (most of them racers themselves) always encourage!

## 18. Use Eco-Smart Race Management Techniques:



# Cruising Class





In 2022, all race management materials were provided (and promoted) online, minimizing and virtually eliminating paper use. The Race Committee made use of permanent government markers and our racing marks, which are moored in place for the full season. The RC avoided use of mark boats whenever possible. During the summer at least four days a week are racing days. Using fewer moving assets lessens fuel use, reduces operations emissions, and reduces impact on sea floor habitat. Use of traditional guns and cannons has been eliminated in favor of horns for racing starts and first place finishes.

## 19. Prevent Toxins from Entering the Water:



Screenshot from NEHF Website, Sustainability page:

#### NEHF Sustainability

The NEHF Green Team, concerned about climate change, the state of the ocean, and littler on our beaches, was founded in 2017. We have updated our sustainability initiatives for the 2022 season. Please take a moment to review them  $\underline{\mathsf{HERE}}.$ 

#### Our Goals:

- Pack it in pack it out. If you bring it to the Fleet, take it home with you. And when on the water, nothing goes over the side.
- Bring your food in reusable containers with responsible cutlery. **No more plastic waste. Reusable water bottles only.** Please use the water stations at the Fleet & Clifton Dock.
- Ride your bike or arrange to carpool when coming to the Fleet.
- $\textbf{Recycle or redeem your beverage bottles and cans.} \ \ \textbf{Proceeds from Clynk redeemables deposited at the Fleet will benefit the Sailing School.} \\$
- Use our compost bin for food waste.
- Use only non-toxic cleaners.
- Use only environmentally friendly bottom paints.
- And please: no plastic straws or styrofoam anywhere!

We ask you as a member of the Fleet to embrace these initiatives for the benefit of all.

OUR GREEN INITIATIVE STRIVES TO INSPIRE ALL FLEET MEMBERS, YOUNG AND OLD, TO PROMOTE AND EMBRACE A CULTURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS. THE WATERS OF MOUNT DESERT ISLAND AND GILPATRICK COVE NEED OUR PROTECTION.

2022 GREEN TEAM

Gordon Beck - Co-Chair Barbara Meyers - Co-Chair Wells Bacon - Secretary

Fran Charles Pancho Cole Bill Dowling Stacey Gummey Sophia Hack Missy Marron Auria Mauras Sam Pelletier Bettina Richards Sydney Roberts Rockefeller Alison Schafer Kelsea Squires Nick Steenberg Mia Thompson

 $Please\ contact\ any\ member\ of\ the\ Green\ Team\ with\ any\ questions\ you\ might\ have.\ Thank\ you!$ 

All Fleet work and coach boats, and nearly all our One Design racing boats (numbering over 50 in total), used copper-free Hydrocoat-Eco bottom paint in 2022. The Green Team researched environmentally friendly bottom paints before embracing Hydrocoat Eco as a suitable paint for our area. We have promoted use of this and similar bottom paints for our powerboat constituency as well. In-water bottom cleaning was strongly discouraged this year, and non-toxic cleaners encouraged. Safe, spill-free fueling is practiced by our staff at Clifton Dock.

## 20. Encourage Green Boating Practices





#### 2022 Northeast Harbor Fleet Green Policies

The policies and goals outlined below are guidelines for members, guests, staff, and Sailing School parents and sailors. They are the results of many Green Team discussions and research into effective sustainability policies at other sailing wenues, yeak clubs and regatates. We have updated them for this season, based on our experience of post years. We welcome your feedback and lakes on how to limprove these policies so that we can all help make the Fleet more environmentally friendly, cleaner, and more enjoyable for all.

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- Plastic is a major cause of ocean pollution, and we seek to eliminate single-use plastic and packaging throughout the Fleet and the Sailing School.

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#### II. Nothing goes overboard.

No items, including food wastes, should ever be thrown overboard. If compostab food items and scraps should be properly disposed of ashore. Everything should be brought ashore for proper disposal, never thrown into the water. Let's do all we can to keep our Mount Desert Island waters clean.

#### III. Use reusable containers for food, tunches, snacks, and beverages.

Avoid the use of plastic wrappings, Styrofoam and single-use containers for food and beverage items whenever possible. Most food packaging is not recyclable or compostable – and simply ends up in landfill, as litter, or in our waters.

#### IV. No single-use plastic water bottles.

We have two water bottle filling stations at the Fleet and one at Clifton, offering fresh, filtered water for refilling your reusable water containers. Please use only reusable water containers and forego single-use plastic waterbottles.

Sailing School students are encouraged to bring their own personal reusable water bottles from home. Please try to avoid the use of single-use containers for other beverages – but If you must, please deposit any redeemable bottles and cans in our Clynk facilities and recycle any non-redeemable bottles or cans.

#### V. Avoid single-use plastic bags.

All members, guests and Sailing School students should avoid the use of single-use plastic bags – whether for shopping or transporting items to the Fleet. Plastic shopping bags are not easily recyclable and are a major cause of pollution on land and sea. There are many responsible alternatives to plastic bags readily available.

#### VI. Paper goods should be from true compostable materials only.

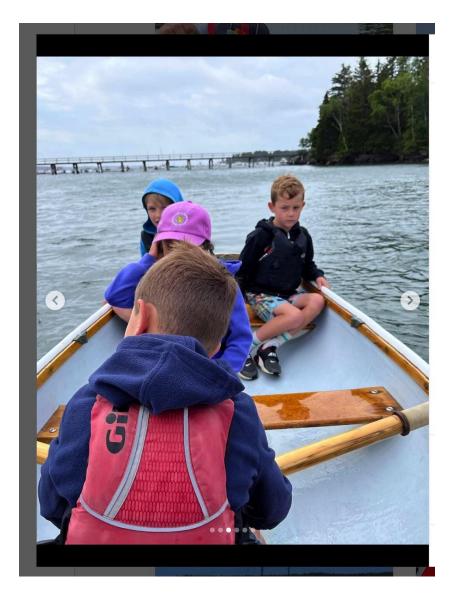
Compostable napkins, paper towels and toilet paper are readily available, and cardboard boxes and six-pack beverage containers can be recycled.

No plastic straws are to be used at the Fleet. (We also encourage you to say **NO** to plastic straws when ordering drinks at your favorite watering hole!)

#### VIII. Ride your bike or electric scooter - or carpool.

Reduce your carbon footprint: we have bike racks, and you can also charge up your E-bike or electric scooter if need be. Too far to bike? Try carpooling. Sharing a ride means at least one less car's worth of pollution.

The Northeast Harbor Fleet Green Team thanks you!



Fleet policy stresses that nothing goes overboard and that keeping our water clean is of paramount importance. This is emphasized in our green policies and reiterated in classes. Sailing School instructors are taught to minimize engine speed when teaching to reduce emissions and fossil-fuel use. Of note is the inclusion in Sailing School of rowing classes for beginners – teaching kids early the joys – and the environmental and health benefits – of learning to row. The Fleet maintains low dinghy floats for members to safely stage row boats. This convenient infrastructure encourages human-powered dinghies as the norm.

## **Bonus Opportunities:**



**Shrink Wrap Recycling Initiative:** This year, the Green Team was able to connect four of our local boatyards to a viable shrink wrap recycling program through Clean Ocean Access, a nonprofit in Middletown, RI. The program is low cost for boatyards and requires minimal extra time and effort. Clean Ocean Access streamlines the process by drop-shipping collection bags and arranging for pickup of full bags. Boatyards can cover the nominal cost of the bags with a small charge to boatowners. Our first-

year pilot effort resulted in 82 filled bags weighing in at 2,460 pounds of collected shrink wrap plastic film that by-passed landfill for a new life via Terracycle. The Northeast Harbor Fleet Green Team is already working to commit more area boatyards to participation for the 2023 season.

**Reusable Winter Covers**: The Fleet created shrink-wrapped wooden frames as winter covers for Sailing School coach boats. The frames are simple to make, lightweight, easy to shrink wrap and easy to install. Because the corners are open underneath, there is no need for plastic vents. These covers are reused over multiple winters, providing an efficient way to protect our work boats for outdoor storage and extend the life of a small amount of shrink wrap. And, of course, at the end of their usable life, the shrink wrap film will be recycled.