

**Report to Brunswick Town Council**  
**2023 Accomplishments of Sustainability Committee**

**4/1/2024**

The Sustainability Committee made significant progress on several initiatives in 2023:

1. We worked with the Appointments Committee of the Council to update the enabling ordinance and charge for the Committee. The changes were adopted by the Council.
2. We completed work under a \$50,000 State of Maine organics grant to increase composting of food waste, diverting over 400 tons per year from the waste stream. Several efforts were made to reach out to Brunswick residents to encourage composting:
  - a. Committee members worked with Brunswick TV3 to create a brief video on opportunities for composting and diverting food waste from the solid waste stream. The video is available on the town website and runs periodically on TV3.
  - b. We participated in several public information meetings to spread the word on composting and recycling, including tabling at the Town Picnic on the Mall.
3. We worked with town staff and Efficiency Maine to advocate for adoption of a C-PACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) program in town to provide a low-cost financing mechanism for commercial entities to invest in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. The Council approved the program this February.
4. We advocated for, and actively participated in, the work of the Climate Action Task Force, including a public workshop in September at Coffin School.
5. We worked with town staff and the private sector to explore available funding for EV charging stations in town. Funding was approved for Level II chargers at the town parking lot on Cedar Street and for Level III chargers on Brunswick Landing.
6. Members of the committee worked closely with Window Dressers to build over 250 low-cost energy efficient window inserts for residents, including 20% provided at reduced or no cost to low-income residents.
7. We contributed to representative government in town, when two members ran successfully for the Council in November. Four new members joined the committee in March.

Respectfully submitted by the Brunswick Sustainability Committee:

Tom Rumpf, Chair

Mark Battle, David Conwell, Shelley Raymond, Peggy Siegle, Karen Topp, Abby Westberry, Stephen Wood, Dieuwke Zolas, Jamie Ecker, Council Representative