

Harwich Citizens Petition – FERTILIZERS – proposed Home Rule Petition

Harwich citizens, Please vote “YES” on this article, town meeting Monday, May 1st 7pm, Community Center.

Article: To see if the citizens of Harwich will vote to petition the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for special legislation, the text of which is set forth, prohibiting the application of fertilizer in the Town of Harwich except for the purposes of commercial agriculture and the residential use of organic fertilizer with low nitrogen and phosphorus for the use in growing fruits and vegetables that is allowable under the USDA National Organic Program organic standards (OMRI listed).

Explanation: Ponds, the seashore, embayments and estuaries are all endangered by human sourced pollution of nitrogen and phosphorous from fertilizers. Harwich has 22 ponds and 11+ miles of coastline which are the life and assets for all residents, property owners, visitors and businesses in Harwich. It is the reason we live here and they need to be protected & cared for.

The number one asset to our economy is our waters. Whether it be the ponds we love to swim in or seashores we gather food from or the aquifer we drink from (on average 25 feet below us), we are surrounded by waters, and it is imperative we strive to protect all bodies of water. If ponds become unusable, seafood unobtainable, then vacationers won't come, thus changing our economy.

It is irrefutable that fertilizers are a significant contributor in harming our water bodies. Fertilizers have a detrimental effect due to overloading of Nitrogen. Once applied fertilizers run off onto neighboring properties and beyond causing more harm than we realize.

The ASK: Join us in protecting our waters and economy and vote at Harwich town meeting in support of the Citizens Petition on the application of fertilizers. This petition is asking the State to give the Town of Harwich the to right to regulate the application of fertilizers. It is our time to act and protect what we love.

Note: Both Nantucket and Orleans voted and passed the same Home Rule Petition in 2022. We are now asking Harwich citizens to vote to help protect water bodies as well. Thank you for caring.

We urge all Harwich citizens who realize the importance of water quality to please visit the Orleans town web site for more information and Q&A: <https://www.town.orleans.ma.us/1109/Fertilizer-Home-Rule-Petition-2022>



Fertilizer Home Rule Petition 2022 |
Orleans, MA
www.town.orleans.ma.us

We all care about the health of our surrounding waters. You can help today by telling your friends and neighbors about this important mission. Please join to help protect our economy by contacting Patrick at: p_otton@yahoo.com or 617.244.2761

Harwich Citizens Petition – BALLOONS – proposed Bylaw

Harwich citizens, Please vote “YES” on this article, town meeting Monday, May 1st 7pm, Community Center.

Article: Prohibit the sale, distribution and use of any type of balloon inflated with any type of lighter-than-air gas within the Town of Harwich.

Explanation: Improper disposal of balloons and restraining attachments often released to float and drift away or not properly disposed are a significant well documented hazard to wildlife and marine life.

Discussion: We have all seen the horrific pictures of wildlife and marine life entangled in or ingesting balloons and their strings or ribbons. Balloons are another detrimental hazard found on and in our woodlands and waterways. This article is copied from existing Orleans and Chatham bylaws. Let’s have the Lower Cape be free of balloons!

The ASK: Please join us in protecting wildlife and marine life and vote “YES” supporting this article in town meeting Monday, May 1st 6pm, Community Center.

We all care about Life: wild & marine. You can help today by telling your friends and neighbors about this important mission. Please join to help protect our environment by contacting:
Patrick at: p_otton@yahoo.com or 617.244.2761

Balloons and strings/ribbons collected on Lower Cape Cod beaches.

