



 [SWAG@sustainablewestonma.org](mailto:SWAG@sustainablewestonma.org)

 Friends of Sustainable Weston

 sustainablewestonactiongroup

 @Weston\_SWAG

### Dear SWAG Supporter,

We are thinking of you all during this challenging time and we hope that you and your loved ones are well. Amidst the stream of daily difficult news, SWAG would like to bring you some positive news on Weston's progress toward a more sustainable and resilient community as well as a few opportunities for you to join the action.

Wishing you good health and strength, **SWAG**

### LATEST NEWS

#### 1) Community Choice Aggregation: An Update on Sourcing Greener Electricity for Weston

At the December 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Town Meeting, Weston residents overwhelmingly approved Article 12, authorizing the Select Board to initiate Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). By purchasing the electricity supply in bulk for all Weston households and small businesses, CCA aims to provide competitive and stable electricity rates, while decreasing greenhouse gas emissions due to a higher-than-required percentage of renewably sourced electricity. Earlier this year, members of the Sustainability Committee, the Town Administration and SWAG, formed a "CCA Team" and met with several energy brokers. Having selected an energy broker, the team is looking forward to the next step: developing an aggregation plan for Weston. We'll keep you posted!

#### 2) SWAG's Latest Campaign: Weston Plant Pollinator Alliance ("WPPA")

SWAG is getting ready to launch its next campaign: the Weston Plant Pollinator Alliance (WPPA). WPPA seeks to restore and protect habitat for native pollinators. Why is this campaign critical? Massachusetts is home to hundreds of native pollinator species, including wild bees, butterflies, moths, wasps, beetles, flies, and hummingbirds. Pollinators are critical to building climate change resilience and sustaining biodiversity, wildlife, and the overall health of natural ecosystems. However, the health and abundance of many native pollinator species are declining due to habitat loss, pesticide use, and lack of plant diversity. The WPPA will collaborate with residents, landowners, neighboring communities, and the Town of Weston to build and expand native plant communities that support a diversity of wild pollinators, especially threatened species.



#### 3) SWAG Launches Its Own Website: [www.Sustainablewestonma.org](http://www.Sustainablewestonma.org)

We are excited to share details of SWAG's website, which provides an overview of SWAG, key initiatives, media coverage and helpful resources. We are working on a mobile-friendly version which will be available later this year. As this is a work in progress, please send us any feedback on the [current site!](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIONS: JOIN US!

#### Third Annual Town-wide Cleanup: April 11 – April 18, 2020

We invite all interested residents to collaborate on what has become an annual tradition: The Third Annual Town Cleanup! The Cleanup is taking place this week through April 18<sup>th</sup>. The focus this year is to unite friends and neighbors around our common cause while fiercely maintaining physical distancing and following all guidance offered by our town's management on COVID-19. Please join in and share your pictures! For more info, see [here](#).

#### Climate legislation: Send an Email to Our State Representative Alice Peisch

Governor Baker declared in mid-January that he would like MA to aim for net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. By the end of January, the Senate passed a package of three climate bills, which aimed at setting the next generation climate policy. House Speaker DeLeo has shown his support for passing climate legislation but time is running out! You can help by sending a short email to our State Representative [Alice Peisch](#), asking for her support in extending the legislative session in 2020 to allow time for climate bills to be passed.