

## **BY PETITION CLEAN WATER RESOLUTION**

**ARTICLE 34.** To determine whether the Town will urge the Board of Health to discontinue the fluoridation of all public water supplies with sodium fluorosilicate or sodium fluoride.

*PETITIONER'S EXPLANATION: This article urges the Board of Health to discontinue fluoridation of town water using a known neurotoxin, now established as an endocrine disruptor, which damages the pineal gland, thyroid gland, and reproductive systems. When fluoridation was approved in 1969, proof of toxicity and the nature of the fluoride were less well understood. Our town water now includes "sodium fluoride," which does not exist in nature and is a waste product of manufacturing collected from smokestack scrubbers contaminated with arsenic, lead, and cadmium. It is purchased from a Chinese company (Solvay Fluorides) in powdered form. In liquid form, this material is correctly labeled "hydrofluorosilicic acid."*

*Based on recent scientific articles from The Lancet, USEPA, the Union of Concerned Scientists, and Harvard, the Board can use the Precautionary Principle to remove these toxic materials.*

## **BY PETITION PLASTIC BAG REDUCTION BYLAW**

**ARTICLE 35.** To determine whether the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws by adding a Bylaw for the reduction of plastic checkout bags, as follows:

### **Section 1. Purpose and Intent**

The production and use of thin-film single-use plastic checkout bags have significant impacts on the environment, including, but not limited to: contributing to the potential death of marine animals through ingestion and entanglement; contributing to pollution of the land environment; creating a burden to solid waste collection and recycling facilities; clogging storm drainage systems; and requiring the use of millions of barrels of crude oil nationally for their manufacture.

The purpose of this bylaw is to eliminate the usage of thin-film single-use plastic bags by all retail and grocery stores in the Town of Concord, on or after January 1, 2015.

### **Section 2. Definitions**

- 2.1 *Checkout bag:* A carryout bag provided by a store to a customer at the point of sale. Checkout bags shall not include bags, whether plastic or not, in which loose produce or products are placed by the consumer to deliver such items to the point of sale or checkout area of the store.
- 2.2 *Grocery Store:* A retail establishment where more than fifty percent (50%) of the gross floor area is devoted to the sale of food products for home preparation and consumption, which typically also offers home care and personal care products.
- 2.3 *Retail Store:* An establishment that offers the sale and display of merchandise within a building.
- 2.4 *Reusable checkout bag:* A bag, with handles, that is specifically designed for multiple use and is made of thick plastic, cloth, fabric or other durable materials.
- 2.5 *Thin-film single-use plastic bags:* Typically with plastic handles, these are bags with a thickness of 2.5 mils or less and are intended for single-use transport of purchased products.

### **Section 3. Use Regulations**

- 3.1 Thin-film single-use plastic bags shall not be distributed, used, or sold for checkout or other purposes at any retail or grocery store within the Town of Concord.
- 3.2 Customers are encouraged to bring their own reusable or biodegradable shopping bags to stores. Retail or grocery stores are strongly encouraged to make reusable checkout bags available for sale to customers at a reasonable price.
- 3.3 Thin-film plastic bags used to contain dry cleaning, newspapers, produce, meat, bulk foods, wet items and other similar merchandise, typically without handles, are still permissible.

**Section 4. Enforcement Process**

Enforcement of this bylaw shall be the responsibility of the Town Manager or his/her designee. The Town Manager shall determine the inspection process to be followed, incorporating the process into other town duties as appropriate. Any retail or grocery store distributing plastic grocery bags in violation of this bylaw shall be subject to a non-criminal disposition fine as specified in Appendix A of the Regulations for Enforcement of Town Bylaws under M.G.L. Chapter 40, §21D and the Bylaw for Non-Criminal Disposition of Violations adopted under Article 47 of the 1984 Town Meeting, as amended. Any such fines shall be paid to the Town of Concord.

And to amend Appendix A of the Non-Criminal Disposition Bylaw by adding the following:

<b>Bylaw</b>	<b>Fine Schedule</b>	<b>Fine Allowed</b>	<b>Enforcement Agency</b>
Plastic Bag Reduction Bylaw	1 <sup>st</sup> offense 2 <sup>nd</sup> offense 3 <sup>rd</sup> & each subsequent offense	Warning \$25.00 \$50.00	Town Manager's Designee

or take any other action relative thereto.

***PETITIONER'S EXPLANATION: This Article furthers Concord's commitment to sustainability by eliminating the use of thin-film plastic checkout bags by retailers.***

***Please note: when the Article is submitted at Town Meeting, the effective date (in Section 1) will be January 1, 2016.***

**AUTHORIZE LONG-TERM LEASE FOR MUNICIPAL BUILDING ROOFTOP AND GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PANELS**

**ARTICLE 36.** To determine whether the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager to enter into long-term leases, licenses, agreements for payment in lieu of taxes and/or other contractual agreements, subject to terms and conditions approved by the Board of Selectmen, for all or portions of the following municipal properties: 22 Monument Street - Town House (parcel 0844), 133/135/141 Keyes Road - Public Works and Planning facilities (parcel 1682), Bedford Street Wastewater Treatment Plant site (parcels 1195,1196,1197,1198,1199, 1200, 1201, 1249, 1249-2), Light Plant Operations Center (parcel 1999-1), Harvey Wheeler Community Center (parcel 2247), Hunt Gym (parcel 0154), Walden St. Police/Fire Station (parcels 0240, 0238-1), and the West Concord Fire Station site (parcel 2456), for the purposes of installing and operating solar energy generating facilities and supplying solar energy, including rooftop, ground-mounted and other solar facilities, and further to authorize the Selectmen and Town Manager to take such action as may be necessary under State law to effectuate said agreements, or take any other action relative thereto.

***It has long been a goal of the Town and the Concord Municipal Light Plant to increase the amount of energy the Town purchases from renewable sources. By contracting with third party solar energy providers to place solar energy generating facilities on municipal land, the Town can support the development of renewable solar power without making the large capital investment required of a major solar energy generating installation. This project will build upon the successful lease of the former Landfill site on Walden Street, which is currently generating about 1.5% of the Town's electric energy needs.***