



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** The City of Dover strives to be a leader in sustainability and passed a Resolution in April 2019 and Proclamations in July 2021, 2022, and 2023 calling for a city-wide, voluntary reduction of the use and distribution of single-use plastics; and
- WHEREAS:** The City of Dover wishes to conserve resources, minimize waste, reduce greenhouse gas emission and other pollution, and protect the welfare of our residents and wildlife, all of which contribute to the quality of life in Dover; and
- WHEREAS:** Plastic produces significant pollution, poses health risks at all stages from fossil fuel extraction to production to deterioration, and enters our surface and groundwater supplies as microplastic to contaminate drinking water and food chains; and
- WHEREAS:** Substantial amounts of plastic continue to increase in landfills because plastic can take up to 500 years to deteriorate and less than 5% of plastic ever gets recycled in the US; and
- WHEREAS:** Dover residents and businesses have access to many cost-effective alternatives to single-use plastic including cloth bags, paper cups and plates, reusable water bottles, silicone storage bags, and compostable containers; and
- WHEREAS:** The City supports resilience initiatives and shares information regarding how Dover residents and businesses can reduce reliance on single-use plastics; and
- WHEREAS:** Many Dover restaurants and cafes have joined the nationwide, voluntary Skip-the-Stuff initiative to reduce plastic take-out extras of utensils and condiments and two Dover restaurants are participating in Reusable Seacoast, a returnable, reusable, takeout container project; and
- WHEREAS:** It is the intent of the City to reduce the negative impacts of plastic noted above, as well as to join with the international effort to reduce pollution and health risks related to plastic;

NOW, THEREFORE I, ROBERT CARRIER, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND THE ENTIRE DOVER CITY COUNCIL, do hereby proclaim July 2024 as:

PLASTIC POLLUTION REDUCTION MONTH

In the City of Dover, NH and encourage all citizens and businesses to reduce their plastic consumption and waste and to choose more sustainable alternatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Dover to be affixed this **10th Day of July, 2024**

Robert Carrier, Mayor
City of Dover, New Hampshire