NATICK NEIGHBORS COMPOST

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I would like to introduce you to Natick Neighbors Compost, a group of Natick residents who participated in the curbside composting pilot. We came together to see if we could continue the program once the pilot ended and the Town was no longer able to cover the costs. We are very interested in sustainability, and we see curbside composting as positive step to achieve this goal. We contracted with Black Earth Compost to provide weekly compost pick-up curbside on the same day as regular trash pick-up for the Town. The cost is \$99.99/year.

We currently have over 550 Natick residents participating in this program! Our new goal is to reach 1,000 by Natick's Earth Day!

Since an estimated 41% of all trash is compostable, we let our Natick neighbors know that participation in curbside composting will significantly reduce the number of pay-as-you-throw bags they will need to buy, as well as reducing the amount of trash that is incinerated, both important goals. Curbside does offer distinct advantages over backyard composting too, as bones and dairy products can be composted curbside, as well as used pizza boxes, for example! None of these can be added to a backyard compost pile!

We are looking for local elected officials to join and to lead by example. We need you to speak up to encourage all Natick residents to participate in curbside or backyard composting! If you are already participating, thank you! If you haven't yet joined us, please see "how to" in the paragraph below.

How to Sign Up: It really is easy! Go to: <u>https://blackearthcompost.com/residential-pick-up-natick-ma/</u>

Thank you for your leadership and for all you do for the Town of Natick. Once again, please speak up for curbside composting in Natick--to encourage all our neighbors to compost, whether in their own backyards or through curbside composting/Black Earth Compost.

Natick Neighbors Compost Co-chairs Sybil Schlesinger and Karen Mallozzi