

This column is being initiated and coordinated by the Hingham League of Women Voters, as a public service, to inform the local townspeople of a variety of issues and constructive actions that may be taken to address various environmental concerns.

The following article was contributed by Pat Durkin, Chairman of the Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee.

The Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee would like to thank the League of Women's Voters and the Hingham Journal for creating the "Green Corner" that you are reading. We plan to contribute articles on a monthly basis with the hope of informing people with regard to recycling and waste in Hingham. Over the course of these articles we hope to provide you with suggestions in how you can become more environmentally efficient with your waste.

When the Selectmen met last summer to establish their priorities for the coming year, we were pleased to see increased recycling listed as one of the top ten priorities. We are excited not only by the financial support the town is giving to recycling but also by its willingness to lead by example. Examples of the town's leadership can be seen in the new paper recycling bin from Abitibi coming to Town Hall and blue bottle and can recycling bins coming to locations such as at the Recreation Department.

One of the goals of our committee is to update and make available the current policies and procedures for waste disposal and recycling for Hingham residents. Look to the town's website at www.hingham-ma.com in the next month for a revised look at this up-to-date list. Here you will also find a link to our committee members and a way to contact us via email. We look forward to hearing from you regarding any suggestions and/or issues you may have.

The Long Range Waste Disposal and Recycling Committee would like to invite you to participate in making Hingham more sustainable. We welcome your insights about what would make recycling and efficient waste disposal easier for you. We are looking for residents who are interested in collaborating with us. Let us know your ideas and helpful suggestions.

Our current list of projects include: getting all municipal buildings to recycle paper, cardboard and commingles (bottles and cans); purchasing outdoor recycling bins for the local fields and open spaces; making sure that the MBTA provides the opportunity to recycle on the boat as well as on the train, and having accurate benchmarks so we can measure the success of the endeavors we have described.

2007 is going to be a great year for recycling in Hingham! We will do everything we can to make it as easy as possible for you to recycle. Please take the time to know the rules and procedures and to use the infrastructure that is available to you.

The league welcomes input and information on any issues of "Green Concern" and

invites you to contact us through e-mail at greencorner@hingham.ma.lwvnet.org. For membership information go to www.hingham.ma.lwvnet.org.