**Matinicus Island Recycling and Trash Information 2023**

During your stay on Matinicus, it is important that you sort your waste into three categories:

\*RECYCLABLES: this means most containers (empty, rinsed if necessary,) clean paper, metal junk, electronics, and deposit beverage containers purchased in Maine. We do take appliances.

\*TRASH: means any non-recyclable household items that will not rot, smell, or make a mess.

This includes all plastic bags and stretch wraps, all styrofoam, and beach cleanup trash.

ABSOLUTELY NO FOOD (or diapers, used cat litter, used toilet paper, etc.) in the trash!

\*FOOD waste and other stinky stuff, liquids, toxins, medical sharps. We DO NOT take these at the sheds. Food scraps may be composted or sent to the seagulls. You should take used diapers or anything similar with you when you leave the island. Homeowners should keep toxic chemicals at home until the next Household Hazardous Waste collection (June 20-22, 2023).

Call Eva Murray at 366-3695 with questions about disposal of anything on Matinicus Island.

Trash/recycling is trucked off Matinicus only every 2-4 weeks, so your trash must be safely storable in warm weather. That is why you MUST EMPTY all food containers before bringing them to our program. It is IMPORTANT that we not attract rats, maggots, etc. to our sheds.

We must be strict about having NO FOOD WASTE IN THE TRASH!

Please help by disposing of food scraps another way.

The “trash workers” are all volunteers and are your neighbors. Don’t be a jerk about this!

The island RECYCLING FACILITY is the group of sheds between the Post Office and the Library.

These are staffed with volunteers every Saturday at 10:00 am except in storms.

In July and August, sheds will also be open and staffed one or two other days of the week (please look for signs for specific hours. The summer schedule may change from year to year). We also can often meet you by appointment if your schedule requires.

Please DO NOT just drop off your trash beside the sheds. If you need to bring stuff at a different time, please contact a volunteer for an appointment or instructions. We’re glad to help!

It is NOT a good idea to have a garbage fire or burn barrel on Matinicus, regardless of what you remember from the old days. This is because of the high risk and extreme danger of uncontrolled fire. We will no longer help supply barrels for backyard burning, and strongly discourage anybody from disposing of their household trash by burning.

Contact Fire Chief Gary Peabody if you have questions. You will need a permit to burn brush.

Call Eva Murray, 366-3695, with any questions about trash, junk, or recycling.