

Andover Green Advisory Board (AGAB)

AGAB Mission

The mission of “Andover Green” Advisory Board (AGAB) is to provide support and advice, which contribute to practical environmental solutions to various town boards and town departments in Andover. Through outreach, technical assistance, research and advocacy, the Greening Andover Board will promote increased use of renewable energy and resources, reduction of solid waste, conservation of energy and natural resources, prevention of pollution and improvement of personal and community health.

The Advisory Board will accomplish this mission in a twofold way:

- to provide ongoing expertise to appointed town boards, committees and departments on matters of sustainability; and
- second, to facilitate communication, education, collaboration and outreach among the various sectors, organizations, departments, community groups and institutions that have an interest in Andover’s Sustainability.

AGAB Committee

- Greg Sebasky, Chairman of the Board
- Paul Materazzo
- Melanie Cutler
- Anil Navkal
- Iric Rex
- Brian Salazar
- Don Michelinie
- Girish Rao

AGAB Objectives

- Sustainable Building and Land Use
 - Standards for Green Construction
 - Zoning Ordinance for Sustainable Development
 - Promote Use of Open Space
- Expand Renewable Energy Options
- Reduce Solid Waste
- Local, Sustainable Food Options
- Green Schools
- Formalize Metrics to measure cost savings and sustainability
- Public Outreach and Education
- Assist with Green “branding” for town

WHAT ARE THE KEY OBJECTIVES FOR THE AGAB THAT SUPPORT BUILDING A SUSTAINABILITY FOCUS FOR THE TOWN OF ANDOVER?

Public outreach & education
To educate residential & commercial sectors on better practices
PR/education (through other town activist groups) on environmental issues (ex. SMART, LWV, AST, Recycling Comm)
Educate Andover residents on "green" options for daily living
Incorporate sustainability into education using the town of Andover as an example
Public education- public & town leaders
Advisory board as an umbrella for the volunteer "sub" groups- i.e. recycling committee (education, point of contact)
Website clearinghouse for all things green in Andover
Adopt the role of an intellectual think tank for environmentally sustainable practices for all aspects of town life- building, recycling, landscape/land-use, health, education
Explore renewable energy options- education, schools, homes, town
Renewable energy (S,M,L)
To increase use of renewable energy in public, government, commercial & residential sectors
Long term- generate electricity locally (water power?)
To ensure water conservation is at its best- education plus
Medium term- help write/review zoning regs for small/medium scale wind power

Promote economic growth due to green branding of Andover
"Brand" Andover as green town
Make Andover a model community for sustainable growth
Have Andover seen as a town on the cutting edge with eco-responsible practices
Sustainable transportation options
Short term- encourage better use of school buses (fewer parent drop-offs)
"Zip-car" service to in-town residents
Medium-term- improve public transportation to Boston
Public transport options to transportation hub

Reducing solid waste
To reduce waste across residential & commercial sectors- starting with increasing recycling efforts
Reducing solid waste tonnage another 20%

Promoting local, sustainable food options
Start local food production, farmer's market
Establish community gardens

Make Andover schools greener- begin with one demonstration school
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Develop accepted metrics for measurement of cost savings and sustainability performance
Promote sustainability in all areas of town business (accounting, building projects, planning, zoning etc)
Benchmark Andover's green performance against other leading towns
Field visits to "green" communities to increase knowledge of green practices
Lead development of town standards with the state
Liaise with various town departments to save cost while incorporating environmentally sustainable practices
Save the town money through energy conservation, water conservation, trash reduction, grants?
Look for ways to save town money while implementing environmentally & monetarily sustainable practices. Build measurable standards.
To develop/enhance existing financial models to validate the strength & importance of sustainable changes- it's all about the data

Sustainable Building and Land Use in Andover

Write or enforce tighter standards (beyond building code) for green construction
Sustainability standards- "Andover Eco Specs"
Update building construction waste requirements (dumpster companies, non-profit recyclers etc)
Short term- introduce more rigorous energy-use standards for construction in town
To lead MA towns in green building- let's aim to have the highest # of LEED buildings
Short term-write dark-sky ordinance regulations
Zero energy homes demonstration projects

Promoting use of open space
Medium term- eliminate invasive species encroachment in public/AVIS properties

Change zoning ordinance to influence development to be more sustainable
Long term- change land-use patterns, more cluster development, more mixed-use
Participation in large scale land use projects (I-93, town yard etc)
Sustainable office park at new I-93 interchange
Develop town bylaws, overlay zones & codes that promote sustainable development

Town Dept	Planning	Plant & Facilities	DPW	Schools
Department Manager	Paul Materazzo	Edwin Ataide	Christopher Cronin	Dr. Marylyn McGrath
Department Contact				
Supporting Committee/ Boards	Tri-Town Interchange Task Force		Recycling Committee	School Committee
AGAB Sub-Team	Brian Salazar Iric Rex	Anil Navkal Don Michelinie Chad Stern Girish Rao	Greg Sebasky	Melanie Cutler
AGAB Objectives	Sustainable Building & Land Use	Renewable Energy Options, Cost-Savings, Metrics	Solid Waste	Green Schools