

**From:** [Nancy Ohringer](#)  
**To:** [Tessa David](#); [Jamie King](#); [Bart Yeager](#)  
**Subject:** Recycling Committee Mtg. 8.8.24 Minutes  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 20, 2024 9:30:56 PM

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## Minutes of Recycling Committee Meeting 8.8.24

In attendance: Tessa, Jamie, Bart and Nancy

\* Discussed the success of the Board of Health meeting on Monday, August 5, questioning Black Earth Compost about excessive odors emanating from their site at the Transfer Station. Andrew Brousseau, owner/director of compost operations, spoke first, prior to any abutters speaking who initiated the complaint. Andrew spoke at length and in great detail about their plans to mitigate the issue by a sequence of manipulating/moving the various piles in well-thought-out and thorough procedures. Andrew shared his hope that the Town of Groton will issue them a long-term contract, enabling Black Earth to do considerably more at their site, i.e. to build additional structures, as needed, and improve the process of collecting food waste and turning it into nutrient-rich compost, offering in return free pick up to all residents. We also discussed the important component of providing tours of their facility, especially for students, bringing them there to witness and promote the process and, in turn, becoming active participants in Black Earth's collection in the cafeterias throughout our school district.

\* Discussion with members about the preference, going forward, of day and time of future meetings.

\* Batteries: Signage needs to be moved into the main barn where they are collected.

\* Projects: Prospective areas of need at the Transfer Station.

\* Grotonfest: Saturday, September 28 What can we focus on at our booth?

\*\* Connection to Sustainability Committee

We should locate ourselves next to each other, i.e. Recycling Committee, Black Earth, and Sustainability Committee.

\*\* We hope to collect food scraps throughout the day. Bart to promote and bring large 48g Black Earth bins/toters.

\*\* Create a write-up in the Groton Herald to educate residents about the importance of collecting food scraps during Grotonfest, which is, by far, the largest community gathering in Groton each year.

\*\* Our Groton Transfer Station is a flagship facility. Our residents do the sorting/segregating which enables the town to receive much more significant revenue as we provide the highest quality "source separation."

\*\* Recycling Committee Raffle Items: Transfer Station yearly stickers, orange bags, kitchen compost bins.

\*\* Black Earth Raffle Items: Raised beds, soil and compost.

Nancy Ohringer 8.20.24

