



# Gloucester Daily Times

## Free event to showcase green products for businesses in face of plastics bans

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Cape Ann restaurant owners and retailers are invited to an free event Thursday evening that will introduce green products and practices as area businesses ready for the upcoming single-use plastic bag and other environmentally driven bans in Gloucester and Rockport.

Cape Ann Brewery, 11 Rogers St. in Gloucester, is hosting Plastics-Free Gloucester with the Gloucester Clean City Commission and the nonprofit Seaside Sustainability from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

On Jan. 1, single-use plastic bags and polystyrene will be banned in Gloucester.

On March 1, single-use plastic bags, polystyrene, disposable plastic water bottles, plastic cutlery, plastic straws and stirrers, and balloons will be banned in Rockport.

Ainsley Smith of the Gloucester Clean City Commission and Bill Loiacano of Seaside Sustainability will lead the event. Gloucester City Councilor Ken Hecht will address the gathering. Representatives from Cape Ann Brewery, Eco Products, Black Earth, Canadian Keyes Fibre, Vegware, and others will discuss best practices. Alternative, eco-friendly product samples will be available.

Seaside Sustainability is a charitable nonprofit corporation dedicated to protecting Cape Ann waters by engaging the public as environmental stewards through hands-on involvement and education. More information about the organization is available by visiting [www.seasidesustainability.org](http://www.seasidesustainability.org)

The Gloucester Clean City Commission consists of seven members and two alternates appointed by the mayor and approved by the City Council. It serves to protect the beauty of the city through volunteer efforts and working with the mayor's office and city departments.