



**Town of Somers  
Energy and Environment  
Committee**

**May 2026 Newsletter**

**Celebrations for Earth Week 2026!**

The Town of Somers opened its first Repair Café, sponsored by the Somers Energy and Environment Committee with the help of the Somers Library. It signaled the beginning of the 2026 Earth Week Calendar that incorporated hikes by the Heritage Hills Hikers & Walkers and programs in the library on sustainability.

The Repair Café is an international movement which began in The Netherlands in 2009 and has grown exponentially since then. As a community event, it offers people an opportunity to use their expertise to help others while keeping essentially good home items in good repair and out of the landfills. The Hudson Valley has over 75 of Repair Cafés and Somers is glad to become a part of this sustainability movement.

Although Sunday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of April was a rainy day, people began appearing at the Somers Library at 11:00 a.m. bringing their broken lamps, jewelry and needlework with questions like "Is it true that this repair is free?" or "Can the artisans really repair this very old lamp that belonged to my grandmother?". The Repair Café team members would answer that the artisans really know the work and if something couldn't be fixed that day, they would know where and how to have it done. It was gratifying to know that absolutely everyone left the library with broad smiles trying to offer payment for a good job done!

**Since this inaugural Repair Café was offered without the usual request for donations, each resident who wanted to pay something was turned down, except for one person who wouldn't take "no" for an answer and left a donation anyway! Sufficient, to say, those who came went home with a repaired item and a great thank you for those who gave of their time and expertise!**

**Other programs hosted by the Somers Energy and Environment Committee during Earth Week included: "The Path to Clean Energy in the Hudson Valley" presented by Vassar College's Jeffrey Seidman; "Coyote Co-Existence" presented by Dana Goin of the Wolf Conservation Center; "The Birds of Spring in Somers" webinar led by Anne Swaim of the Saw Mill River Audubon; nature walk led by Tait Johansson of the Bedford Audubon; planting of a redbud on Arbor Day in Bailey Park; and "Earth Day, Every Day: What Can We Do?" presented by the staff at Barton & Loguidice.**

**Special thanks to our friends at the Somers Land Trust for hosting Pace University Mike Rubbo to present his "Return of the Fisher Study."**

**The Somers Energy and Environment Committee looks forward to continued success for Earth Week 2027!**

### **Don't Forget That...**

The Town of Somers has a Food Recycling Program at the Somers Highway Department seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

[6318e98c329dd23e3e614342\\_FoodScrapRecycling.pdf](#)

### **Join the Somers Energy and Environment Committee**

Volunteers are needed to make our Town more energy efficient and sustainable in the 21st Century. If you have a particular interest in energy efficiency at home or work, efficient transportation, use of renewable energy technology, recycling and waste management, sustainable food, composting, green building and land use please join us and help us assess as well as communicate these, important quality of life issues for our Town, families and most of all children! The Committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please contact the Committee Secretary Denise Schirmer at [dschirmer@somersny.gov](mailto:dschirmer@somersny.gov) for further information.