

Why Recycle Oyster Shell?

- ♻️ Nantucket's natural oyster community has significantly declined due to poor water quality, possible overharvesting, and decline in suitable substrate (oyster shell)
- ♻️ Individual oysters filter around 30 gallons of water a day which helps to improve water quality
- ♻️ Recycled oyster shells can be used to restore oyster reefs which provide habitat for many different marine species
- ♻️ Oysters are a valuable food source for the local economy
- ♻️ Local restaurants and raw bars will provide most of the necessary shell to build oyster reef habitats

How Can You Help?

- ♻️ Visit restaurants that participate in the oyster shell recycling program
- ♻️ Buy local oysters whenever possible
- ♻️ Educate friends and family about the importance of oyster shell recycling
- ♻️ If you are hosting an event where oysters are served, don't throw them away. Drop them at one of the public drop off locations or ask us to provide you with a container for recycling
- ♻️ Contact the Natural Resources Department to find out about volunteer opportunities for the oyster shell recycling program and shellfish restoration

Special thanks to the
Nantucket Shellfish Association
for supporting this program

For more information on Nantucket's oyster shell recycling program, please contact:

Leah Cabral
Town of Nantucket
Natural Resources Department
Assistant Biologist
508-228-7230
lcabral@nantucket-ma.gov