

Warrant Article #15

BYLAW AMENDMENT / PROHIBITION OF FAIR-TRADE RESTRICTIONS - FUR PRODUCTS SALES

**Elizabeth Dray
TMM Precinct 10
Fur Free Arlington**



What is fur?

“Any animal skin or part thereof with hair, fleece, or fur fibers attached thereto, either in its raw or processed state.”

MA Legislature

What this bylaw does and does not prohibit

Does prohibit the sale /trade /distribution of:

- Finished fur products from animals raised in fur farms or trapped and killed only for their pelts (ie. foxes, coyotes, racoon dogs, chinchillas, rabbits and mink)
- Applies to in person retail stores only

Does not prohibit the sale of:

- Leather of any kind
- Cowhide or sheepskin with hair fibers still attached
- Used fur sold privately or second hand,
- Fur used for Native American tribal purposes
- Fur used for religious purposes
- Taxidermy

No impact on Arlington's businesses

The following retail stores do not sell fur products:

Helena's, Arlington Centered, Henry Bear's Park,
Otaku Gift Shop, YES!

Buzzy's Bazaar would not be impacted as it is a resale store.

"As an Arlington business owner, I'm in complete support of Article 15. I am proud to be part of a town that prioritizes humane treatment of animals and reducing the negative environmental impact we have on our community."

Ceilidh Yurenka, Owner of YES!

Why Arlington?

We have a consistent voting record that demonstrates our commitment to animal welfare issues.

1996

MA Ban on Leghold Traps Initiative

Prohibited the use of leghold traps, snares and the use of dogs and bait in hunting bear or bobcats.

2010

MA Greyhound Protection Act

Gradually eliminated commercial dog racing by 2010.

2016

The MA Minimum Size Requirements for Farm Animal Containment

Prohibited the sale of products from animals without space to stand, extend their limbs or turn around.

2022

Arlington Bylaw Amendment
Phase out of Certain Toxic Rodenticides on Public/Private Property...

Bylaw/ Resolution Establishing an Integrated Pest Management Policy for Town Land...

Prohibited the use of some rodenticides on town properties, including SGARs, to protect predators such as eagles & owls.

Content warning:

The next slide contains images
of animal cruelty

Animal Cruelty: Trapping and fur farming



Dogs, cats and wildlife can suffer injuries from traps

Leghold traps crush bone, muscle fiber, tendons & connective tissue, often resulting in amputation and death.

Arlington, MA, 2023



Salisbury MA, 2012



We have a consistent voting record that demonstrates our commitment to environmental and climate issues.

2017

Regulation of Plastic Bags

Banned, after a reasonable phase-in period, the distribution of single-use plastic bags provided at checkout.

2022

Single Use Plastic Water Bottle Regulation

Prohibit the sale of single use plastic water bottles.

2022

Specialized Stretch Energy Code

New construction to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in MA by 2050.

2023

Artificial Turf Study Committee

Review and report on artificial turf: its health, safety, and environmental impacts ...

Fur farming is an environmental hazard

Uses toxic, carcinogenic chemicals and heavy metals like chromium and formaldehyde.

Contaminates soil and waterways



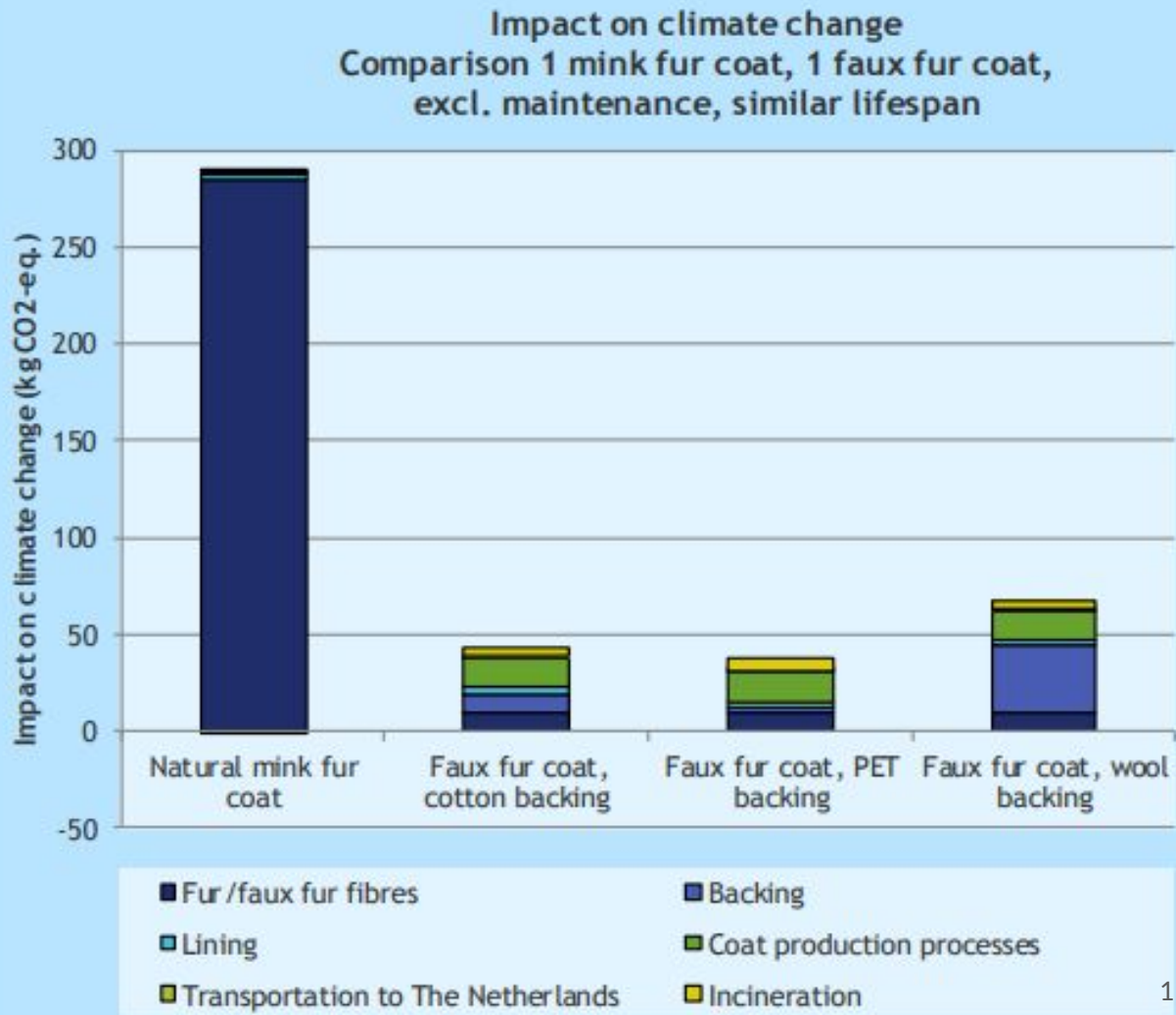
PETA UK

<https://www.peta.org.uk/blog/one-more-reason-to-ditch-fur-the-environment/>

How harmful?

A study conducted by CE Delft compared the environmental impact of many textiles including fur, wool, cotton, polyester, and faux-fur.

Fur was by far the worst for the environment.



Fur Farming is a public health hazard

 National Geographic

Coronavirus is killing the Dutch mink industry

Fur farm animals are typically raised in small wire cages, often with thousands of ... The coronavirus was first detected on two mink farms in the



 The Guardian

A million mink culled in Netherlands and Spain amid Covid-19 fur farming havoc

... mink culled in Netherlands and Spain amid Covid-19 fur farming havoc.



 CNN

Spain orders cull of nearly 100,000 farmed mink after animals test positive for Covid-19

... outbreak at a farm, where the animals are bred for fur, after a number ... mink after seven workers on the farm tested positive for Covid-19 and ...



Supported by MSPCA, Save Arlington Wildlife, the Humane Society of the United States, Animal Defense League, and Fur Free MA, & the Arlington Select Board.

Please vote to join Lexington, Cambridge Wellesley, Weston, Brookline, and Plymouth and commit Arlington to being a town that is free of cruel practices and supports human, environmental and animal health.

