

Co-sponsored by the Hastings Conservation Commission and with the support of James V. Harmon Community Center

**TRANSITION HASTINGS WORKING GROUP PRESENTS**

# HASTINGS REPAIR CAFÉ

**SATURDAY, April 13<sup>th</sup> 11:00AM–3:00PM**

James V. Harmon Community Center  
44 Main Street Hastings-on-Hudson, NY

*Volunteer Run • Free • All Welcome*

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Repair Experts + Fixers + Restorers + Menders**

*clothing/textiles • electrical appliances • bicycles • furniture/wooden objects • mechanical*

**Greeters + Organizers + Prep + Clean Up**

*donations of tools, repair products, sewing supplies, sundries welcomed*

### **What is a Repair Café?**

A place where you bring your broken goods and work with volunteers to fix them for free.

There will be tools and materials to make repairs on clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, appliances, toys, et cetera, depending on that days and locations volunteers. More details will be announced prior to event. If we cannot repair the item we will refer you to local professionals.

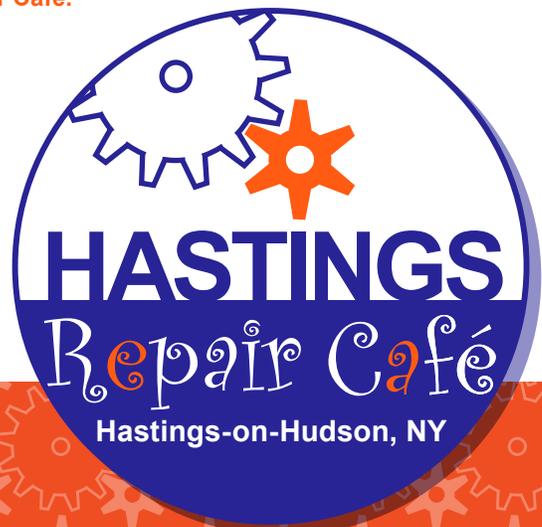
The Repair Café was initiated by Martine Postma in the Netherlands. Since 2011, the Repair Café Foundation, a non-profit organization, has provided professional support to local groups around the world wishing to start their own Repair Café.

**TO VOLUNTEER, DONATE OR ANY QUESTIONS:**

**HastingsRepairCafe@gmail.com**

**more information on Hudson Valley Repair Cafes:**

**[www.repaircafehv.org](http://www.repaircafehv.org)**



*Toss it?  
No way!*



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## What is a Repair Café?

Repair Cafés are free meeting places and they're all about repairing things (together). In the place where a Repair Café is located, you'll find tools and materials to help you make any repairs you need. On clothes, furniture, electrical appliances, bicycles, crockery, appliances, toys, et cetera. You'll also find expert volunteers, with repair skills in all kinds of fields. Visitors bring their broken items from home. In the Repair Café, they start making their repairs, together with the specialists. It's an ongoing learning process.

Repair Café Foundation aims to a) reintroducing the art of repairing to the modern, local communities; b) retaining and spreading repair knowledge and skills; c) to promote social cohesion by bringing together neighbors from very different backgrounds and motives in a setting of inspiring and accessible meetings.

## Why a Repair Café?

We throw away vast amounts of stuff. Even things with almost nothing wrong, and which could get a new lease on life after a simple repair. The trouble is, lots of people have forgotten that they can repair things themselves or they no longer know how. Knowing how to make repairs is a skill quickly lost. Society doesn't always show much appreciation for the people who still have this practical knowledge, and against their will they are often left standing on the sidelines. Their skills are never used, or hardly ever.

The Repair Café changes all that! People who might otherwise be sidelined are getting involved again. Valuable practical knowledge is getting passed on. Things are being used for longer and don't have to be thrown away. This reduces the volume of raw materials and energy needed to make new products. It cuts CO2 emissions, for example, because manufacturing new products and recycling old ones causes CO2 to be released.

## The repairs at the Repair Café are free. Isn't that unfair competition for professional repairers like seamstresses and bicycle repair shops?

The people visiting the Repair Cafés at the moment are not customers of professional repairers. They are people who are now tossing out their broken bedside lamp, blender, chair or coat because getting it repaired is more expensive than buying a new one. By helping people in the Repair Café in return for a voluntary contribution we avoid them having to buy a new one. In that sense, we are not competing with professional repairers but rather with the manufacturer who wants you to throw away your old stuff and buy new ones.

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No way!*



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