

# PROJECT LAUNDRY LIST

## Organize a Hanging Out Party

### Our success depends on you.

As a nation and as an organization, we need your involvement to ensure that the Land of the Free continues to prosper. Bring the Project Laundry List message to your community. Invite friends to come hang out and talk about laundry. You will find what you need in this handbook.

*The New York Times* “Room for Debate” blog post “Re-Thinking Laundry” received more comments than any prior post. People love to talk about laundry. We see laundry as an unimposing gateway to dozens of other topics.

### What is a Hanging Out Party?

Most house parties are about the food (potluck, dessert, wine & cheese), politics and politicians (e.g., Howard Dean, Ron Paul, tea, coffee), discussing issues (health care, government waste), buying stuff (from candles to sex toys to Tupperware). *Our parties are just about getting friends and neighbors together to talk.* We believe that all good things will flow from this act alone.

“What happens if I throw a Hanging Out Party and people come, but nobody talks? Or worse, no one listens. Or people only talk about what they saw on television, or the clever things they said yesterday, or how oppressive the system is, or, you get the idea. Just inviting a group of people over to talk about what they're thinking and obsessing about lately does not in itself insure a successful meeting.” If these are some of your fears, we encourage you to read Eric Utne's *The Salon-Keepers Companion*, available at <http://www.utne.com/print-article.aspx?id=8908>.

Free information is also available from Everyday Democracy, 111 Founders Plaza, Suite 1403, East Hartford, CT 06108; 860.928.2616 | Fax 860.928.3713; [info@everyday-democracy.org](mailto:info@everyday-democracy.org). Visit their website at <http://www.everyday-democracy.org>.

### Working with Co-Sponsors & Budgeting

While you may choose to do an event as an individual, you may want to consider doing it with an organization, such as a town energy committee, church group, or other nonprofit organization.

You can keep the expenses of an event to a minimum. We suggest offering food and/or drinks as an enticement, even if you host a potluck or a BYOB. Most advertising and news media work can be done on the Internet. The purchase or rental of a space, audio-visual equipment, and supplies should be considered as you plan.



Raising the bar of personal responsibility in Newburyport, MA.