



A Texel-based artist that has for the past six years, created beautiful pieces of art by recycling plastic and wood that has washed up on the beaches of Texel. A former school teacher who felt that she had to do something regarding the disturbing amount of plastics and wood that was dirtying the white beaches of Texel.

*"I do separate the waste myself and I use everything. I cannot remember the last time I bought something new."*

Maria runs a museum in Den Burg to exhibit her art and is a popular destination for tourists and future teachers from the PABO. Maria is inspired by the need for sustainability as well as the need to satiate her creative instincts. She is a model sustainable citizen that segregates her waste, reduces the waste that she generates and inspires many "fans" to help her in her endeavour to collect and transform waste into art.

*"When I expose my work somewhere else, I am aware of the people who see it and go to think in a new way about waste and can enjoy it. I have the feeling I reach not enough people. I see myself as an artist and not someone to tell people about waste. I am also talking about waste as an artist, but the main thing is being an artist."*

Maria suggests education regarding correct management practices and perhaps communal segregation bins for the citizens since most of them do not have the space for three different types of bins. In line with her philosophy of re-using and recycling, she shops for second-hand goods, but in Alkmaar because she feels the second-hand shops in Texel are underutilized and hence, understocked.

*"I hope that there are many people like you who think about it and come up with things to create new opportunities to decrease the problem."*

At January 12 2016 three students of the TU Delft visited Maria Roelofsen in her studio. As part of the course Engineering for Sustainable Development the students have been researching the inorganic waste management of Texel. To be able to have a complete overview of the system interviews were conducted with people involved with waste. The research question to be answered was:

### **How do the Texelaars look upon the transition towards a sustainable future waste system.**

Maria Roelofsen is a former primary school teacher and after moving to Texel she decided to make art of waste she found on the beach. Because she is a great example of what can be done with waste interviewing her creates an insight in her motivation and her view on sustainability. At first she is asked: .....  
After having her opinion on a future waste system our ideas are shown and her opinion about those ideas is asked.





# FIELD RESEARCH TEXEL

# WILLEM HART CONCERNED INHABITANT OF TEXEL



At January 12 2016 three students of the TU Delft visited Willem and Joke Hart in their home. As part of the course Engineering for Sustainable Development the students have been researching the inorganic waste management of Texel. To be able to have a complete overview of the system interviews were conducted with people involved with waste. The research question to be answered was:

**'How do the Texelaars look upon the transition towards a sustainable future waste system.'**

Willem and Joke are not originally from Texel but have been living at the island for 42 years. Willem has been concerned with the municipality and the rules and regulation and has been speaking in open meetings of the counsel several times. When entering he showed a big folder full of articles related to sustainability. At first he is asked:

.....  
After having her opinion on a future waste system our ideas are shown and her opinion about those ideas is asked.

Willem is a Texel resident that has a great interest in the (sustainable) future of Texel. For the past decade, Willem has been meticulously tracing municipal and private projects and pilots aimed at making the Texel lifestyle more sustainable. He feels it is difficult to define sustainability. He points out that Texel is not really a "closed system" that welcomes and encourages pilots as we were told. He is frustrated with how pilot projects are executed on the island. If a technology is proven to be possible, why not implement it fully already. In his opinion, there is a disconnection between the visions of the Texelaars and the municipality/ firms. There is only a short term vision that they keep shifting forward, but there is not longterm vision.

*"If they would have given me 2000 euro's and I put panels on the rooftop, but they decided to give it to Texel Energy."*

More often than not, pilots fail to scale up and die because the revenue projections were faulty, the opinions and acceptance of the residents was not obtained on time. He points out how the municipality keeps changing the target date for achieving full sustainability.

*"I wonder why they want Texel to be self sufficient!"*

Perhaps rightly, he asked us why Texel should attain self-sufficiency? He laments how in the attempt to make Texel more sustainable, the pilots and projects are ruining the beauty of Texel.

*"We have the 'afvalstoffenplan' (waste management plan) and I thought of it as a very interesting plan, because it told about the amount of biomass (to be used for energy/biomass installations). The amount was far too short to get the biomass installations running, the people at the city council had no idea where they talked about. They wanted to treat the waste themselves, but you cannot exit HVC and the amount is too little."*

