



The Town of Newington E-Newsletter includes information about Town-sponsored events, projects, and special announcements. Visit [www.newington.nh.us](http://www.newington.nh.us) to join the distribution list, or to be removed.

Board of Selectmen

Bob Blonigen, Chair  
 Brandon Arsenaault  
 Christian Wayss

**INDEX:**

<u>Page</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>
1	Meetings Schedule
2	Trash Pick up/State Maintenance Facility,
3-4	Recreation Dept.
5	Building Department
6	Planning Department
7-8	Town Clerk Dog Registrations/Election Results/ Upland Plover Town Bird
9-10	Fire Department
11-12	Police Department
13	Apple Cider- State Drink
14-16	Langdon Library

**Upcoming Meetings:**

4/3/2023	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
4/4/2023	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
4/4/2023	Recreation Committee	5:30pm	Library
4/5/2023	Board of Fire Engineers	5:00pm	Fire Station
4/10/2023	Planning Board	6pm	Old Town Hall
4/13/2023	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
4/17/2023	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
4/18/2023	Stone School Committee	5:30pm	Town Hall
4/19/2023	Sewer Commission	9am	Wst. Water Trtmt. Facility
4/24/2023	Planning Board	6pm	Old Town Hall



### Trash Container Distribution

Trash containers were distributed by G Mello Trash Disposal this last week.

If you haven't received one for your home, please call the Town Hall Selectmen's Office and let us know. 603-436-7640 ext 6

**PLEASE SEE THE FLYER AT THE FOLLOWING LINK SHOWING HOW TO PUT OUT YOUR NEW TRASH CONTAINERS:**

[Instructions on How to Put Out Your New Trash Containers. Please See Attached Document. | Newington NH](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

What is the building being built by the Spaulding Turnpike just past the Joe Mitchell Gulf Station?

A State Department of Transportation Maintenance facility and salt sheds are being constructed on this site.



## Newington Recreation Newsletter

Hello Newington Residents!! Make a note that Senior Dinner will be on May 21<sup>st</sup> on a Sunday, starting at 4pm until 7:30pm. The dinner this year will be an Italian buffet! Will have many dishes to choose from. Please sign-up at the Town Hall. The committee needs to know how many people we will be serving. Last year we had a wonderful meal and residents got to visit with neighbors and friends. Let 's do it again! We got a local catering company. Get ready to sit down and enjoy the night!!



Walking Club is still going on meet on Mondays at the library. Take notice we have a new time convenient to all, 4:30pm. We will be continuing this time for the month of March, April, and May.



Camp Newington is now taking applications at the town hall. The Newington Camp is being run by YMCA. The camp starts June 26th and ends on August 25<sup>th</sup>.



\*\*\*\*\*



**Town Meeting Results can be found at this link:**

[TOWN MEETING RESULTS | Newington NH](#)

## April Reminder from the Building Dept.

Hello Newington Residents! This may come as a first time notice to some or a friendly reminder to others. If you are having a contractor perform any work that requires a road cut or work in the Town's right of way please remind your contractor to reach out to the Building Inspector. A permit must be completed along with a couple of other requirements. Once permitted, I will coordinate with your contractor and the Town's engineering firm to get the two parties in communication. I will make every effort to streamline the process so as not to delay the start of the project. This process ensures that our town roads are not adversely impacted by any work performed which results in less money spent on costly repairs in the future.

*Did you know that even performing excavation work even several feet from the side of the road it can create a sink hole on the road surface? Improper materials or backfilling techniques can cause soils to shift and move over time. Therefore, it's so important to have our contracted engineering firm review the proposed work, materials and planned backfilling process with your contractor.*

Thank you,

Jeremy Boston

Building Inspector



Sink hole picture

## Planning Board Happenings:

The Planning Board has been working on many exciting projects throughout the winter which are beneficial to the Town and the regional economy.

### **These projects include:**

- ◇ **Fox Run Mall** redevelopment. The owners of the Mall and Sears (Torrington Properties) are currently working with a consulting company to develop a Master Plan to redevelop the property, and are planning to meet with the Planning Board to review their concepts;
- ◇ **Wilcox Industries.** Wilcox purchased the property abutting them on Woodbury Avenue from Northeast Credit Union and have met with the Planning Board to review preliminary plans for a new office and manufacturing building and associated parking on the property which will be merged with the existing lot. This expansion will allow Wilcox to grow to meet their increased demands for products they develop and sell, create high-paying jobs, and strengthen the Town's tax base;
- ◇ **Sig Sauer,** Pease Development Authority. The Planning Board approved a large (150,000+s.f.) office, manufacturing and warehouse facility on PDA property which is yet another large job creator in the Seacoast;
- ◇ **Sprague Energy.** Sprague is trying to stay ahead of the ever changing energy market (gas, oil, LP) and is in talks with the Town to develop a waste to energy facility which could be a great source of green energy, provided that the Board determines there to be little or no impact to the surrounding properties and the Town as a whole;
- ◇ **Shackford Point,** Newington's newest and largest subdivision built in years is well under construction and we anticipate home construction to start this Spring.
- ◇ The Planning Board approved a 100+ room hotel and a Chick-fil-a restaurant, both of which are anticipating breaking ground this Spring.
- ◇ The Planning Board revised the Housing Chapter of the Master Plan to reflect changes since the Master Plan's adoption in 2020. The intent of the Master Plan was to revise individual chapters as necessary to (hopefully) avoid the need to update the entire Plan in 2030
- ◇ The Planning Board continues to field inquiries from perspective developers and land owners about developing or redeveloping property in Newington – the interest level remains high.

*The Planning Board meets 1-2 times monthly and encourages residents and people interested in the Board's work to attend our meetings which are posted on the both the Town's website and the bulletin board at Town Hall.*



Dog licenses are due by April 30. This can be done online if you licensed your dog last year. It can also be done here at the office Tues., Wed. or Thu. from 9-2 or by appointment. It's also fine to drop the payment into the drop box out front with any rabies updates. Be sure to leave your name and your dog's name so we can mail it out to you.

Any questions please contact us by phone 603-436-7640 or email [dcaradonna@townofnewingtonnh.com](mailto:dcaradonna@townofnewingtonnh.com)

Enzo and Gigi showing off their 2023 licenses

\*\*\*\*\*

### Elections

**Thank you to all the election workers as well as the voters who came out on a stormy Election Day!  
The results are as follows:**

Board of Selectmen - 3 Years

Christian Wayss                      86

Town Clerk/Tax Collector -1 Year

Doreen Caradonna                      99

Board of Fire Engineers -3 Years

Ann Hyland Hebert                      86

Sewer Commission – 3 Years

Thomas B Hazelton                      96

Library Trustee - 3 Years

Ted Karabinas                      95

Library Trustee - 2 Years

Alexandra Jacuch                      94

Trustee of Trust Funds -3 Years

Jennifer Mulstay                      91

Cemetery Committee – 3 Years

Cosmos Iocovozzi (write in)      15

Budget Committee - 3 for 3 Years

James Belanger                      84

Margaret Cooke                      82

Alan Wilson                      80

Supervisor of the Checklist – 3 Years

Sheryl Bagley                      97

Supervisor of the Checklist – 1 Year

Heidi Stortz                      94

Planning Board - 3 Years

Christopher Cross 81

Russell Cooke 82

School District Clerk

Doreen Caradonna 102

Police Commission - 3 Years

Brenda Blonigen 89

School Board

Jeremy Boston 3 Years 103

Brian Semprini 1 Year 101

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In 1993 Town Meeting declared the Upland Plover (also known as the Upland Sandpiper) as the Town Bird!  
Read more about it at this link: [Upland sandpiper - Wikipedia](#)





## *Newington Fire & Rescue*

And just like that, April is here. The days are longer, the trees will start to bud any day and the grass will be greening up soon. First off, I would like to thank all the residents that came out for one of the fastest annual town meetings I have ever seen. The continued support of your Fire Department over the years is very much appreciated and I feel privileged to be a part of it.

Things continue to be busy around the fire station. Calls for service continue to be steady across the board. In fact, they are up by 4.5% compared to this time last year. As I've been mentioning over the past year or so, part time staffing continues to be a challenge. We are continuing on several fronts to hire part time personnel, but there is very small group of which to pull from and a large number of departments looking for help. On a much better note, the SCBA compressor that we've been waiting for arrived and was installed. It has already been hard at work and has performed flawlessly.

As it is Spring, I would like to remind residents of the burn permit process. Anyone who wishes to burn clean, ordinary combustibles such as leaves, brush or untreated lumber, or have a camp/cooking fire **MUST** have written permission from the landowner and a fire permit from the local fire department in the town where the fire will be kindled or you can obtain a permit online at: <https://nhdflweb.sovsportsnet.net/>. The online option does have a fee that goes to pay for the 3<sup>rd</sup> party web services. You **MUST** be at least 18 years of age to obtain a written fire permit. And as always, you can either stop by the fire station or give us a call and we can come to you to get a permit with no fee.

As always, we are here and available if you have any needs or questions. Stay safe.

EJ Hoyt  
Fire Chief  
436-9441 x6  
[ehoyt@newingtonfire.org](mailto:ehoyt@newingtonfire.org)

## *Spring Yard Cleanup Safety Tips*

Blue skies, chirping birds, warming temperatures — April is prime time for getting home exteriors, yards, and gardens back into shape. But before you get started on your outdoor to-do list, make sure you take appropriate safety precautions.

## Dress for the job

- Wear shoes or boots, not sandals, to protect your toes.
- Properly fitting gloves can not only improve your grip on tools but also help keep skin safe from blisters, sunburn, bug bites, poisonous plants, and chemicals.
- Hearing protection is a must-have when using loud equipment.
- Safety glasses keep flying objects out of your eyes.
- Bug spray keeps the pests away. Shower after use to remove the chemicals from your skin. And while you're at it, take a minute to look for ticks. If you find one, gently pull it out with tweezers.
- Apply SPF to any exposed skin. Don't be fooled by cloudy days; you can still get a sunburn.

## Work smart

- Take time to stretch and warm up before the work begins. Weeding, trimming, and raking are repetitive motions – change your posture or stance every few minutes and switch activities every 30 minutes.
- Lift properly by bending at the knees and hips and using leg power rather than bending at the waist and putting the strain on your back. Instead of carrying heavy or unwieldy loads, employ a cart or wheelbarrow.
- Drink water and take breaks in the shade. Even if it's not hot or humid, yard work is exercise, and staying hydrated is important to avoid heat-related illness.
- Don't drink and drive. Don't text and drive. The same rules that apply to vehicles apply to power tools, including lawn mowers. Say no to distractions and anything that might cloud judgment.

## Ready the tools

- Familiarize yourself with power tools and how they work. Read owner's manuals (many are available online) and know about various switches, modes, and required maintenance.
- Check cords on tools and extension cords for cuts, cracks, and frayed wires – and do not use them if damaged. Also check the label to make sure you don't use an indoor extension cord outside.
- Make sure tools are in the "off" position before plugging them in or unplugging.
- Use ladders safely: Set on a firm, level surface; never stand on one of the top three rungs; and use a utility belt to hold tools so you can properly climb facing the ladder.
- Call 811 before you dig. This notifies local utilities to check your property before you plant a tree, dig a trench, or set fence posts.

## Protect loved ones

- Be sure children and pets are inside (or well supervised if out) while you work.
- Store sharp tools, weed killer, fertilizer, and other dangerous items in a locked cabinet out of reach of curious hands and mouths.
- Before allowing any child to operate a mower, sound judgment, strength, coordination, and maturity are necessary. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children should have these characteristics and be at least 12 years old before operating any type of mower – and at least 16 years old to operate a riding mower. Be sure to educate and supervise kids as they learn how to safely use the equipment.

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## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mud season is here!!! Blah, Blah, Blah, Blah, about the flowers blooming and the tree leaves popping. Spring is here, which means more people will be out and about enjoying the warmer weather.

I want to remind residents their responsibilities while walking or running through our historic village and throughout town, to be safe.

Always walk or run facing traffic, not with traffic, on the shoulder, and away from the edge of the road. This way you can see an oncoming hazard and move quickly out of the way. While walking your dog, make sure the dog is on a leash to your left side. This keeps the dog out of the roadway. If your dog gets excited or catches a squirrel from their peripheral vision, they may want to run into the roadway, dragging you along with them. Always, Always, wear bright or reflective clothing, so oncoming traffic can see you. Some walkers and runners even go the extra mile (there's the pun) carrying or attaching a light source to their clothing.

Below is the New Hampshire Law regarding pedestrians on the roadway:

### 265:39 Pedestrians on Roadway. -

I. Where sidewalks are provided it shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to walk along and upon an adjacent roadway.

II. Where a sidewalk is not available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a way shall walk only on a shoulder, as far as practicable from the edge of the roadway. Where neither a sidewalk nor a shoulder is available, any pedestrian walking along and upon a way shall walk as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway, and if on a two-way roadway, shall walk only on the left side of the roadway.

III. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, any pedestrian upon a roadway shall yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway.



To keep up with the running, walking, and safety theme, what do these two pictures have in common? Sergeant Wood and K9 Augie have been requested by the Massachusetts State Police, to assist with explosive detection security at this year's Boston Marathon, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Through their dedication and excellence in training, they both have developed quite the reputation with federal and state agencies. Newington should be proud they got the invite. So if you are running in or watching the marathon this year, keep an eye out for these two.

Don't forget to call in for a seat at the police department for the SWOT exercise. I promise you will enjoy yourself.



Michael Bilodeau  
Chief of Police

*Newington Police Department*  
71 Fox Point Road  
Newington, N.H. 03801

Office: (603)431-5461  
Fax: (603)436-3998



Brandon Smart  
Captain

March 21, 2023

Newington residents.

On April 15, 2023, the Newington Police Department is holding a Community Engagement Session that will benefit by your attendance. We are attempting to gather a cross section of the community to assist us in formulating what our goals and objectives should be for the future.

During this meeting we will be using a **SWOT** exercise which is an acronym for **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats**, where your opinions and perceptions would be sought. We hope that this community meeting will provide us with feedback and suggestions as to how we may better serve the Newington community.

This get-together will commence promptly at 9:00 AM and is planning to conclude at 11:00 AM. Please contact Executive Assistant, Taylor Fiore at (603)431-5461, or email her at [tfiore@newingtonnhd.com](mailto:tfiore@newingtonnhd.com) no later than April 8<sup>th</sup>, to confirm your attendance. Thank you for your commitment of time toward this project.

Sincerely,



Michael Bilodeau  
Chief of Police

Statistics as of March 29, 2023.

Motor vehicle stops	133	Summons/warnings issued
Accidents	8	Reports taken
Incidents/calls for service	32	Reports taken
Arrests	9	Felony/Misdemeanor offences
Field Interviews	2	Suspicious person(s)
Warrants	2	Felony/Misdemeanors

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call 431-5461 or send me an email; [mbilodeau@newingtonnhd.com](mailto:mbilodeau@newingtonnhd.com)

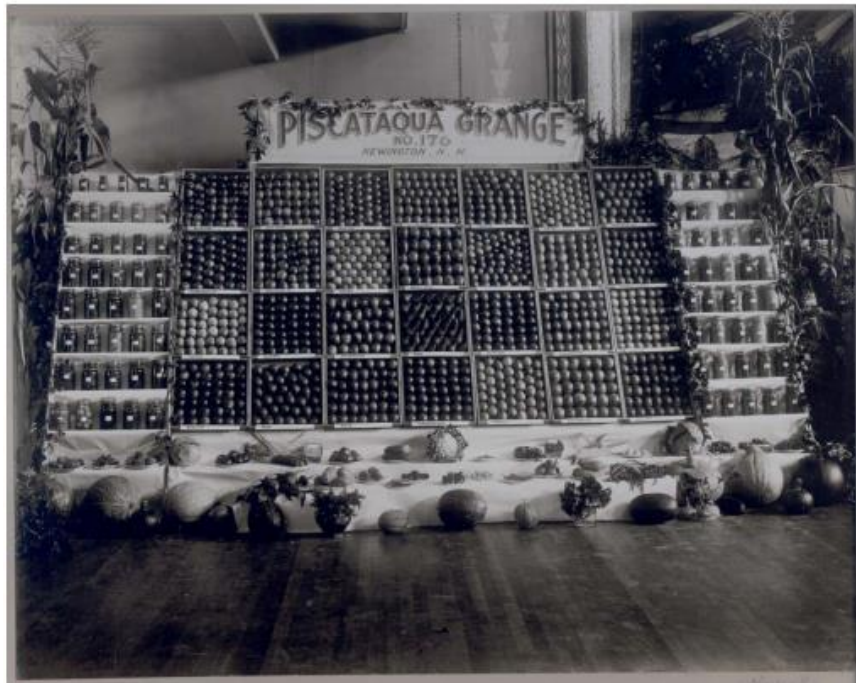
Be safe and healthy!!

Chief Michael Bilodeau





New Hampshire designated apple cider as the official state beverage in 2010. There are nearly 150 apple growers in New Hampshire (more than 1,400 acres of apple orchards). New Hampshire is the only state to have apple cider as its official beverage. Milk is the state beverage for 20 states.



Newington History Moment M. S. Watson's First Prize Winning Apple Display at the 1927 Agricultural Fair

**Newington Cider Traded World-wide!** The Town of Newington was primarily agricultural during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. During these periods, apple orchards were predominant throughout town. Apples for cider were easily grown and it was a very economical drink. Cider was a significant source of income for Newington farmers and was used as a trading commodity. Newington cider was traded with England and in the West Indies. Apples were picked from August to October. They were sorted by variety, quality, and purpose. Cider mills were used to make the process easier and quicker. Residents would take their apples to the mills, have them pressed and fill their own barrels with the cider. The apple industry of Newington lasted well into the 1940's but gradually faded as the commercial industry and Pease Air Force Base entered the picture.



**LANGDON**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1	2
 <p>APRIL 2023</p>	3 Recreation Com. Walking Club	4 Writing Group	5 TechTalk	6 T.A.G.	7 Storytime	8	9
	10 Recreation Com. Walking Club	11 Game Night	12	13 T.A.G.	14 Book Group Storytime	15	16
	17 Recreation Com. Walking Club	18 Plant Paper	19 TechTalk	20 Adult Movie Night T.A.G.	21 Storytime	22	23
	24 Recreation Com. Walking Club	25	26 Craft Night	27 T.A.G.	28 Storytime	29	30

***April 23 through 29 is National Library Week***

After more than a decade as a librarian, I’ve heard a lot of opinions about my profession: how my job supposedly entails reading all day and shushing people, that “Libraries are obsolete now that you can get everything on the internet” and “Who needs libraries, no one reads books anymore.” Sometimes those stereotypes influence media coverage of libraries, like NH Chronicle’s recent “Libraries Aren’t Just about Books” segment:

<https://www.wmur.com/article/nh-chronicle-libraries-arent-just-about-books-you-can-also-borrow-other-things/43179995>

While it’s good to be aware that libraries have a lot to offer, and our own library has its share of unconventional items to borrow (like a telescope, a Kill-A-Watt detector, 5 ukuleles, and a foot candle light meter!) if I made a segment about libraries I would call it something like “Libraries are All About Books, and That’s Awesome!” In Newington, not only do people use the library, they still read lots and lots of books. In fact, the only lasting post-pandemic decrease our library experienced was

DVD circulation, now that streaming services mean people access movies at home. Our library circulated 64% fewer DVDs in 2020 than our prepandemic average, but only 50% fewer (physical) books; digital audio and eBook usage increased 26%. After we emerged from the pandemic in 2022, DVDs remain at 38% of their former usage but books are at 91%, and digital audio and eBooks sustained an increase of 22%. These numbers mirror my own experience as a reader during and after the pandemic, which is that I'm reading more than ever, just in more formats. I listen to audiobooks on Libby and Hoopla but I read just as many books as ever. I know, I'm a librarian, and sure, it's arguable that Newington is a unique community, given our library's status among NH seacoast libraries and other NH libraries of our size, having one of the top two circulation rates per capita year after year. But anecdotally from other libraries I hear that they are up to or close to the amount of usage prior to 2020, and that the drop in DVDs is made up for by, none other than, books!

The disconnect between public perception of libraries, then, and the actual experience of them, is a profound one. And this year that feels more true than ever. We continue to see an outrageous and climbing number of book challenges and attempted bans all over the country. In our own state, legislation is targeting schools and libraries that provide diverse materials and perspectives. But why do they bother, since no one reads or goes to the library anymore anyway, right??

In reality, people do still read books. And that is wonderful! My friend and colleague, Andrew Richmond, Rye library director, wrote in a column for Seacoast Online this week:

"Books provide a safe platform from which to consider new ideas without the consequences of having to discover or experience everything for yourself. Simply reading about another experience doesn't mean I have to buy in, follow the same path, or even agree, but I can grow from seeing with the different perspective offered by reading of another's experience." (See more here:

<https://www.seacoastonline.com/story/opinion/columns/2023/03/29/commentary-we-need-to-teach-our-children-not-place-them-in-a-bubble/70054351007/>)

People who try to ban books are afraid. They are afraid a book could change their mind, their children, their world. Maybe it will, and that is okay! That is what books have always done! As Andrew writes, "Books are one way that individual life experiences are recorded and shared. Are those stories likely to differ from our own? I hope so... A myriad of experiences must be reflected in educational materials to offer all students a chance to find resonant stories that might help them navigate their lives."

So on this year's National Library Week, I celebrate both our freedom to read, and my joy that we still do. I celebrate libraries along with our potential, to enrich and educate our communities as well as serve and support them. And I especially celebrate the Langdon Library, and our unbelievably active and supportive Newington community of library users.

Our March book group book, *Learning to Fall* by Philip Simmons, was so well loved we are showing a documentary about Philip Simmons' life, "[The Man Who Learned to Fall](#)" on Thursday April 20 at the

library at 6 PM. There will be popcorn, lemonade and a short discussion after the film. Adults and teens who have read the book or are just interested in the movie are welcome.

Our April Book Group meets Friday, April 14 at 10:30 AM. Copies of *Girl Waits With Gun* by Amy Stewart are available at the desk. There is also a digital forum you may use to discuss it at <https://www.langdonlibrary.org/april-book-group/>

For many other dates, times and information about April programs please browse our website [www.langdonlibrary.org](http://www.langdonlibrary.org) or sign up for our newsletter at <https://www.langdonlibrary.org/langdon-letter/>

*See you at the library!*

*Lara, Theresa, Brittany and Debbie*

Next Library Trustee Meeting: Tuesday April 11, 2023 at the library.

### **February 2023 Library Usage Statistics**

Checkouts	Visits	NH Downloadables	Hoopla Digital	Room Use	Interlibrary Loan (To and From)
517	386	184	90	104	88

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Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm (436-7640)  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Tuesday through Thursday 9am-2pm  
Building Dept. - Mon - Friday 7:30am- 3:30pm  
Planning Dept. - Monday & Thursday 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)  
Transfer Station: Wed 5 - 7pm, Sat 9 - 3pm

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*Just call the town hall and we will put you on our mailing list (603-436-7640 ext 4)*