



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

Board of Selectmen

- Brandon Arsenault, Chair
- Christian Wayss
- Bob Blonigen

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Upcoming Meetings:

4/1/2024	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
4/2/2024	Police Commission	4pm	Police Station
4/2/2024	Recreation Committee	5:30pm	Library
4/3/2024	Board of Fire Engineers	5:00pm	Fire Station
4/29/2024	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
4/15/2024	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
4/11/2024	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
4/17/2024	Sewer Commission	9am	Wst. Water Trtmt. Facility
4/17/2024	Trustees of the Trust Fund	5:30pm	Library
4/29/2024	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall

Newington Fire & Rescue

And just like that, April is here, granted winter didn't want to let go just yet. The days are getting longer, the trees will start to bud and the grass will be greening up soon. First off, I would like to thank all the residents that came out for annual town meeting. The continued support of your Fire Department over the years, especially this year, is very much appreciated and I feel very privileged to be a part of it. We have already advertised the positions on the state's employment site and various social media sites. We look forward to seeing how the next couple of months go with the whole hiring process.

Things continue to be busy around the fire station. Calls for service continue to be steady across the board. Inspections are also picking up with the increased building in Town. These inspections include both new construction and renovations. Things will get even busier with the recent ground breaking of the new hotel on Woodbury Avenue and Chick-fil-A.



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://nhdfweb.sovsportsnet.net/>. The online option does have a fee that goes to pay for the 3rd 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

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.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Held twice a year, in Spring and Fall.

The next date is Saturday, April 13, 2024, 8 am to 12 noon at the Portsmouth Recycling Center, 680 Peverly Hill Road.

For residents of Portsmouth, Greenland & Newington - Proof of Residency Required.

Location: Department of Public Works, 680 Peverly Hill Road, Portsmouth, NH 03801

NO LATEX PAINT will be accepted at this collection event. Latex paint may be solidified with kitty litter, sawdust, speedy dry or by opening the can and allowing the paint to completely dry before it is disposed at the Recycling Center.

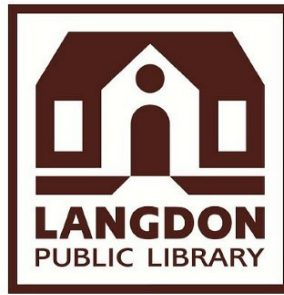
Bring your unwanted household chemicals to Portsmouth's Dept of Public Works for safe disposal including:

What Is Household Hazardous Waste?

Hazardous wastes typically found in homes include: ·

Gasoline · Antifreeze · Photographic Chemicals · Oil-Based Paints · Drain Cleaners · Pesticides · Furniture Strippers · Oven Cleaners · Disinfectants · Kerosene · Spot Removers · Used Motor Oil · Auto Batteries

See more information at this link: [Household Hazardous Waste Day | City of Portsmouth](#)

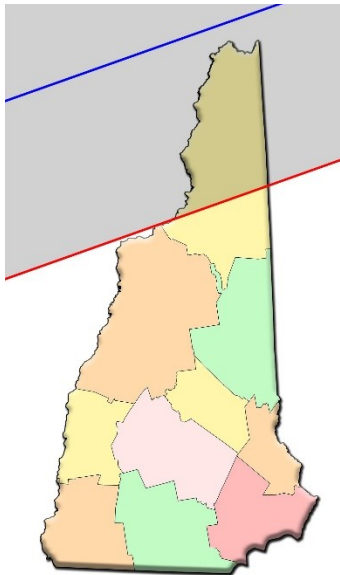


April at the Library

Total Solar Eclipse, April 8, 2024, 2:01 PM

The library has eclipse glasses! We are giving out 4 per Newington household, while supplies last. Make sure you have glasses or another solar-viewing filter as it is not safe to directly view an eclipse. Solar-viewing glasses that are safe to use say on the back that they conform to ISO 12312-2 certification. Sunglasses or tinted glass are NOT adequate protection. For a path map and times of the total solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, click here:

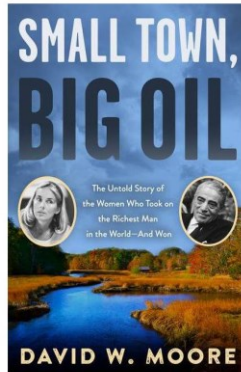
<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/map/2024-april-8>



For information about viewing the eclipse in New Hampshire [click here](#)

Small Town, Big Oil

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the heroic battle fought by three women against an oil refinery in Durham, a shipping terminal on the Isles of Shoals and a pipeline between the two, the Great Bay Stewards and the Conservation Law Foundation are hosting a coordinated book reading of [Small Town, Big Oil: The Untold Story of the Women who Took on the Richest Man in the World--And Won](#) by David W. Moore. A discussion will be held on Thursday, April 25 at [3S Art Space](#) in Portsmouth. You may receive a free copy of "Small Town, Big Oil" at the library during the month of April, while supplies last.



National Library Week, April 7 through 13

I would like to say an enormous thank you for the hard work of the staff, subs, trustees, volunteers and donors who make our library's many successes possible. As they say, it takes a village, and we have a great one!

Writing Group: All ages are welcome to join us on Tues., April 2 at 6 PM to write about your favorite children's book. Sharing is optional.

Tech Talk with Randall Bush: Weds. Apr. 3 & 17 from 2:30 – 3:30 PM. All ages and “tech” questions welcome.

Story Times: Every Friday at 11 AM for preschoolers and their caregivers, and one on Saturday, March 2 at 11 AM, an outdoor scavenger hunt!

Video Game Night: Tuesday, April 9 at 6 PM. Bring your consoles, controllers, and positive attitudes! Refreshments will be provided.

Craft Night: Tuesday, April 16 at 6 PM. Paint a vase. Please bring your own vase. All ages welcome.

Book Group: April Book Group is reading [Commonwealth](#) by Ann Patchett. Copies are available at the desk. We will discuss it together on Friday, April 19 at 10:30 AM. There is also a [digital forum](#) you may use to discuss it. Ask the library for the passcode.

Outdoor Games: Tuesday, April 30 at 6 PM

Langdon Library Board of Trustees Meeting: Tuesday, April 18, at 5:30 PM

See you at the library!

Lara, Theresa, Brittany and Debbie

www.langdonlibrary.org

February 2024 Library Usage Statistics

Checkouts	Visits	NH <u>Downloadables</u>	Hoopla Digital	Room Use	Program Attendance	Interlibrary Loan (To and From)
544	487	244	71	152	88	99

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Town of Newington is accepting letters of application for the following volunteer positions:

The following letters of interest should be addressed to the Newington Selectmen and e-mailed to selectmen@newington.nh.us or mailed to the address below:

- [Conservation Commission](#)
- [Economic Development Committee](#)
- [Zoning Board of Adjustment](#)
- [Recreation Committee](#)
- [Pease Development Authority Representative](#)
- [Langdon Library Trustee Alternate](#)

The following letters of interest should be addressed to the Newington Planning Board and emailed to jkrebs@newingtonnh.gov or mailed to the address below:

- [Planning Board Alternate](#)

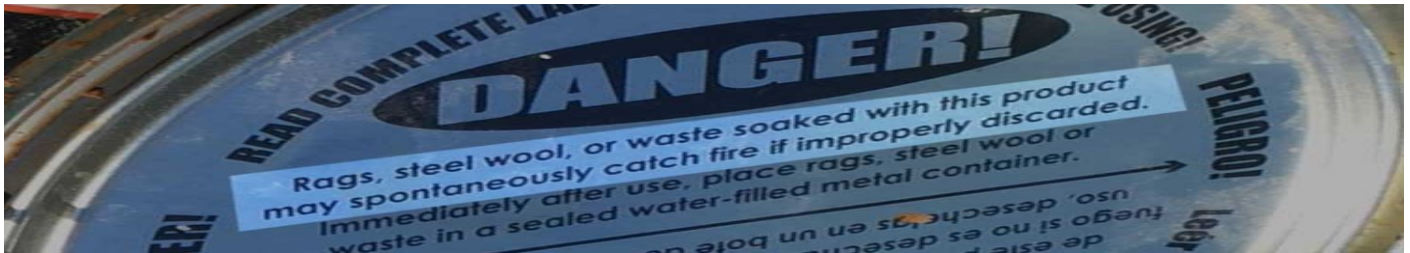
Please see or call the Town Hall for further details:

TOWN OF NEWINGTON
205 Nimble Hill Road
Newington, NH 03801
603-436-7640 ext. 4 or 6

April Building/Health Dept Newsletter

What a busy month of March it was! Lots of new construction work has been taking place in town! Valve replacement on Fox Point, new houses going up off of Nimble Hill rd., Chick-fil-A is underway (No, it's not a April Fool's joke, its really happening) and the hotel on Woodbury Ave is moving along.

As the weather will eventually start feeling like spring, and spring projects will be underway I wanted to talk about something that happens more often than most people realize. A fire broke out at a job site in town, not only once but twice due to not disposing of stain/finish rags properly. Never leave used finish rags inside the home or business when done for the day. These rags or applicators need to be disposed of properly.



*Do not pile or ball rags soaked with oil finish into a tight mass or toss them in the regular trash while they're still wet.

*Let the rags soak in a metal container outside filled with water to dilute left over product on rags.

*Do allow the rags to dry thoroughly before disposal. Spread the rags outdoors, on the ground or on a metal rack, until completely dry and somewhat hard. Two full days is usually enough time, but it might take longer.

*Once the rags are completely dry, they should be safe for disposal. Put them in the trash on collection day. This method allows the oil to fully cure without overheating.

I also want to remind everyone as they start spending more time outside with family, friends and pets that the ticks will be out and about soon, if not already!



Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremy Boston
Buildings, Safety and Health Officer

POLICE DEPARTMENT



I want to preface my following message; this is not an April Fool's prank. It is with great sorrow I must announce, the silver, 2013 police SUV Interceptor you are accustomed to seeing and waving to me in, has been decommissioned, due to a failed rusted support frame. This was discovered while the front brakes were going to be replaced. While on the lift, the mechanic and I quote, "I put my finger through the bottom frame." At that point, I made the decision not to have the breaks done and take her offline.



Who is this handsome guy you ask? You should know, since you voted for him as the newly elected police commissioner, David Obertanec. Commissioner Obertanec began his career in the United States Air Force in 1996. In 1998, he joined the Air National Guard as a Human Resource Specialist and was promoted to be the 11th State Command Chief. Commissioner Obertanec retired from the New Hampshire Air National Guard in 2021, with over 37 years of service. He currently works as a civil servant for the New Hampshire Air National Guard as a Group Unit Deployment Manager. He also works part-time for Loyal Source and at the Newington Transfer Station. Commissioner Obertanec resides on Little Bay Road with his wife, Debbra, who is an employee at the Langdon Library. The Police Commission and the police department welcome Commissioner Obertanec and look forward to working with you.

I would also like to thank former Police Commissioner William Wright, for your service to the community as a commissioner and your dedication to the police department. You challenged us to be better and held me accountable as a leader. Thank you!



We have had an uptick in scams calling residents claiming they have won the Publishing Clearing House Award. The caller will inform you that you have won a considerable sum of money and a new vehicle. They will ask you for some personal information but not be too intrusive. They will then instruct you to go to Walgreens or a box store and purchase a cash card for various amounts. They will give you a separate phone number to call once the card is purchased. When you call the number, they will ask you to scratch the back of the card and provide the now visible code numbers to the card. They will then ask you for the code, stealing the cash amount of the card.

We received the call at the police department and as I was talking with the Publisher Clearing House "agent," I could hear a rooster in the background. When asked about the rooster, the "agent" hung up on me.

The reason I know the scam is going through town, is because residents have been doing their due diligence and notifying us after they receive the call and prior to taking any action.

As I have said before, prior to making any decisions when you receive a cold phone call claiming you have won a prize, charity, or person claiming they are from the IRS or law enforcement, asking for personal information or money, please let us know. We can and will verify the information for you to see if it is a scam.



With the warmer weather just around the corner and hopefully here as you read this, more people will be out walking or running on the roadways. We all must do our part, both pedestrians and motor vehicle operators, to be safe. Some helpful hints.

- Always run or walk towards (facing) traffic. This way you can see the vehicle or cyclist coming towards you and you can move off the paved portion of the roadway.
- Wear bright colors, day, and night, so people can see you. If running at night wear reflective gear.
- If running in a group on the roadway, run single file, as vehicles approach.

NH RSA: 265:39 Pedestrians on 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.

We are all sharing the roadways, walkers, runners, cyclists, and motor vehicles. Be patient and courteous to others.

Thank you to everyone who came out and voted at the town meeting on March 16th. I do enjoy talking with and meeting residents and listening to your concerns. Your continued support for the department is appreciated and recognized by the men and women who serve you.

Statistics as of March 31, 2024

Motor vehicle stops	140	Summons/warnings issued
Accidents	7	Reports taken
Incidents/calls for service	30	Reports taken
Arrests	5	Felony/Misdemeanor offences
Field Interviews	6	Suspicious person(s)
Warrants	5	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@newingtonnhpd.com

Be safe and healthy!

Chief Michael Bilodeau

Recreation Committee Newsletter

Hello Newington Residents! **Senior Dinner will be on May 5, Sunday from 4pm-7pm.** Save the date and you can sign up at the Town Hall or Sign-up Genius. Reservations are required. Terra Carta pasta catered last year. So, we will continue it for this year since everyone seemed to enjoy it!



April Activities 2024

Yoga Classes continue until the end of April. Classes are on a Saturday at 8:30AM. We have Beth Grecoe a teacher at Pasada Yoga Studio in North Hampton. She is well experienced in teaching us all levels of Vinyasa. Vinyasa yoga focuses on the breath with a flow of Physical postures offering variation to suit all students. The combination of breath control and movement in Vinyasa yoga is designed to cultivate a deep mind-body connection. Practitioners often find that the practice promotes mindfulness and reduces stress. Due to the popularity of the class, it will continue into April. Bring your yoga mat and water bottle! See you there!



Dance Exercise Classes will continue into April. Classes are on Tuesday from 6:15 pm until 7:15. Tia Pike is an experienced choreographer and dance instructor. Tia has coached competitive dance teams, taught dance exercise classes, created, and organized many flashmobs, and has organized dance performances for the Portsmouth Halloween parade for many years. Class description: Dance for Joy and Exercise! Get your body moving with some calorie burning dance exercise moves that are easy, safe, and fun! Learn simple dance routines that feel like mini performances to boost your energy and self-confidence. No dance experience required! Due to popularity, class will continue.



Both yoga and dance classes are being offered for 5 classes for \$35. The drop in cost is \$10. The class location depends on the class date, check in with town hall. Offered to Newington Residents and guests only. **Please pay at the town hall.**

March Activities 2024(recap)

Due to snow and rain our Easter Egg Hunt turned into an Easter Egg Party. It was still fun for all the children and adults. We had hot chocolate, coffee, tea, and juice. We enjoyed bagels from Panera and pastries. We had vegetables, fruit, and cheese platter. We had the kids pick out their Easter basket with eggs, bunny ears, and surprises. Then we had a craft competition in which the children created a craft to compete in our Golden Egg Contest. Fortunately, we had plenty of golden eggs, so all the kids won a prize toy, game, or balloon! Us adults watched the little ones' surprised faces as the Easter Bunny arrived. The Easter Bunny sat with the children as parents and grandparents took pictures. At the party we also had musical games! Golden eggs are always a big treat and another wonderful activity in the Easter Egg Party.



May Activities:

Pickleball nets will go up in Newington Road.

Tennis Pick-up is on Tuesday and Thursday. Sign-up at Town Hall!

June, July, August, Activities

Camp Newington is back for Summer 2024!

You've probably heard that Camp Newington 2023 was a great experience for all who attended, and the Recreation Committee, the Board of Selectmen, and the YMCA have worked hard to plan for an even better summer in 2024!

Camp is available for up to 9 weeks, from June 24th - August 23rd, 8am-5pm, and signing up this year is week-to-week! Pick only the weeks you want. Sign up early to ensure a spot in the camp weeks you need!

The camp is open to incoming kindergarteners (5 years and up) through outgoing 6th graders. Newington Residents, Newington Public School Tuition Students, Newington Town Employee Children (Police, Fire, Town Hall, Library), and grandchildren of Newington Residents may sign up at the resident rate. The cost is \$228 per week and includes 2 field trips - one to the YMCA for swimming and one special field trip! (Some of last year's favorite trips were the Boston Museum of Science, a Fisher Cats game, and Funtown Splashtown). Kona Ice will be likely back (and

I believe that is included as well). Campers will also enjoy weekly activities at the Langdon Public Library.

Registration dates are IMPORTANT this year, so mark your calendars and think about which weeks are best for you:

- - Registration for returning YMCA campers (this includes Camp Newington, Camp Gundalow, etc.)
- - Registration open to all Newington affiliated campers.
- February 5th - Registration is open to a few non-residents to fill remaining available spots. The non-resident rate is \$285 (or \$228 for YMCA members).

Be sure to sign up before Feb 5th! Contact: llarocque@graniteymca.org 603-431-2334

FOX POINT TRAIL DIVERTED UPDATE

Due to the **Portsmouth Waterline Valve Replacement Project at the Point**, the trail that traverses the Point from the docks through the woods to the bench at the tip of the Point will not be fully passable from March 4th to June 7th. There will be blockades set up on either side of the trail by the waterline project directing residents to go out to the field and loop back the way they came.

The new valve installations are anticipated to take place on Monday, April 1st.

To read more about the project check this link:

[City of Portsmouth Water Transmission Main Valve Improvement Project » Wright-Pierce - Environmental Engineering Firm](#)

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

Subscribe or *Unsubscribe* at this link: <http://www.newington.nh.us/subscribe>

WOULD YOU PREFER TO GET A PRINTED COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER MAILED TO YOU?

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