



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**

Timothy “Ted” Connors, Chair  
 Bob Blonigen  
 Brandon Arsenault

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**Upcoming Meetings:**

6/1/2022	Board of Fire Engineers	5:30pm	Fire Station
6/6/2022	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
6/7/2022	Police Commission	4:00pm	Police Station
6/9/2022	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
6/13/2022	Planning Board	6:00pm	Town Hall
6/14/2022	Trustees of the Trust Funds	6:00pm	Library
6/15/2022	Sewer Commission	9:00am	WWTF
6/20/2022	Board of Selectmen	5:30pm	Town Hall
6/23/2022	Economic Development Comm.	6:00pm	Town Hall
6/27/2022	Planning Board	6:00pm	Town Hall

## Newington Fire & Rescue

And just like that, the beautiful weather is here and so is June. Along with the seasonal allergies and black flies, but oh well, it's warm. It's also a great time to take a stroll along the Fox Point trails or out through the wildlife refuge. Just make sure to bring the bug spray, suntan lotion and check yourself for ticks after your trek. Some of you may have noticed that the Firefighter memorial flags at the cemetery have been replaced in time for the upcoming Memorial Day holiday. The members look forward to doing this in the Spring and Fall each year. Aside from just a small handful of the 52 flags, all of them are for past members of Newington Fire.

We continue to be busy with calls for service, ongoing training and routine inspections. One issue that we are dealing with that is not just specific to Newington Fire, is the lack of new candidates. Staffing levels throughout the State are at an all time low and any Departments that are looking for full time, part time, and volunteer are struggling to find candidates. As of last week, there were 145 full time vacancies within the state of NH. At the last CPAT test put on by the state in April (which is the physical ability test required to enter into the state retirement system) there were only 50 candidates. Of which only 40 passed the test. Newington Fire was looking for both full and part time and we were fortunate enough to hire for our full-time position, but it came from our existing part time roster, which is already down 5 members. With that said, we are very happy to have Mr. Joseph Isabel on board with us. He's been with us for a few years on the part time side so you may recognize him. If not, feel free to say hi.

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)

## Town of Newington

### Fireworks Ordinance No. 15-01

#### A. Fireworks Generally – Statement of Purpose

1. The purpose of this Ordinance is to establish standards for the control of New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks within the Town of Newington. It is the intent of the Town of Newington to promote an environment free from danger or excessive noise which unnecessarily jeopardizes the health and welfare of the citizens of the Town and degrades the quality of life in this community, without unduly prohibiting, limiting or otherwise regulating the function of certain noise producing equipment which may be essential to the quality of life in the community.

#### B. Fireworks Regulations

1. The use of Permissible Fireworks in the Town of Newington is regulated by Town Ordinance. Fireworks permits are required and issued by the Newington Fire Department under the conditions specified in the ordinance. There is no fee for the fireworks permit. Permits will be issued 24-48 hours prior to the fireworks display and shall be valid only for the display date listed on the permit.
2. The sale of fireworks within the Town of Newington is prohibited.
3. Applicants for fireworks permits must be 21 years of age and the owner of the property, or have written permission for the display from the owner of the property where the display is being held. The applicant shall provide a valid photo identification upon request of the issuing authority.
4. Permits will not be issued in conditions of high fire danger when outside burn permits would not be issued or when the Fire Chief or his designee determine that conditions are not appropriate. Fireworks displays shall only be allowed on Saturdays, Sundays or federal holidays between the hours of 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. No fireworks display shall be ignited within 100 feet of any structure, overhead utilities or woodlands. Any fireworks display shall be restricted to the property listed on the permit unless written permission of the adjoining property owner is obtained prior to the display. Persons under the age of 21 are prohibited from igniting fireworks and any person igniting fireworks shall not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
5. Fireworks shall not be ignited when aircraft approaching or departing Pease Airport can be seen or heard.
6. The permit applicant shall be required to have a means of fire extinguishment readily accessible.
7. Only New Hampshire Permissible Fireworks purchased from a licensed fireworks retailer in New Hampshire shall be permitted to be displayed and a copy of the sales receipt is required for permitting.

### **C. Town Property**

1. Fireworks displays on or over property owned by the Town of Newington is prohibited without the written permission of the Board of Selectman and the issuance of a Fireworks Permit.

### **D. Enforcement**

1. The Fire Chief or his designee reserves the right to inspect the permitted location and the fireworks to be discharged at any time during the period for which the permit is issued. Failure to allow such inspection shall result in the immediate revocation of the permit.
2. The applicant shall be responsible for reimbursing the Town of Newington for any costs associated with the mitigation of any fire or other emergency which is the result of the applicant's use of fireworks.
3. Failure to comply with any provision of this ordinance is a violation punishable by:
  - First Offense: \$50.00 fine and revocation of permit, if applicable
  - Second Offense: Up to a \$1,000.00 fine and revocation of permit, if applicable
4. Persons found guilty of a second offense will be prohibited from obtaining any further Permissible Fireworks Permits.
5. Any sworn law enforcement officer shall be empowered to enforce this ordinance.

### **E. Pease Airport Fireworks Restrictions**

1. The ignition/display of fireworks within the common path of approach and departure to Pease Airport is strictly prohibited. No fireworks permits will be issued for properties within this restricted space. A map of the restricted space will be maintained by the Fire Department and referred to at the time a fireworks permit is requested.
2. No fireworks shall be ignited when aircraft approaching the Pease Airport can be seen or heard.

### **F. Other**

1. No permit issued under this ordinance shall relieve the permit holder of any responsibilities or liabilities associated with any other rule, ordinance or law governing the conduct of the permit holder, and no permit issued under this ordinance shall provide for any exemptions to any other rule, ordinance or law.





## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Now that we are in full weekly or biweekly mowing, I would like to educate you on a mowing safety tip that will save lives. When you are mowing your yard near the section that is close to the roadway, make sure you are not blowing grass clippings into the roadway. This causes a slick hazardous condition for motorcycles, mopeds, and cyclists. Whether the grass clippings are dry or wet, the clippings cause icy like conditions, reducing the tire traction on the roadway. Though no specific NH RSA makes it illegal to leave grass clippings in the roadway, you could be held liable for causing the accident. Please pass this along to family, friends, and your lawn care professional.

To the parents of students at the Newington Public School. You will see an increase in patrol at the school since the senseless tragedy at Robb Elementary School, Uvalde, Texas. We have always been proactive in measures to make a presence at the school throughout the years, with periodic "drop ins" to see the kids and teachers, building relationships. We train throughout the year not only inhouse, but with neighboring agencies on active shooter scenarios, for preparedness. Our policies and procedures on All Hazards Plans are reviewed annually for best practices and updated if needed.

Happy painted turtle



Angry Snapping turtle!



Turtles, turtles everywhere, making their trek across the roadways to lay their eggs. Or are they simply curious to see what is on the other side? We all want to do our part to save them. Please use caution. Only stop if it is safe to do so. Stopping immediately or

walking in the roadway can cause an accident or severe injury. Make sure you are aware of your surroundings, slow to a stop and put on your hazards, to notify other motorists. Look both ways before jumping out of your vehicle to make sure all is clear. Never return a turtle to the side of the road they are walking from, always to where they are headed. Know your turtles. Snapping turtles are ornery and can snip your fingers off with one bite! Experts say to grab them by the back of the shell near their back legs. Experts can be wrong, so I keep a shovel in the back of my vehicle, to move them along.

As stated last month, more people are out on the roads with the warmer weather and traveling through the side roads of Newington. We are out there conducting directed patrols and stationary radar in high traffic areas, to enforce motor vehicle violations. We cannot be everywhere and need

your assistance in letting us know if there is an area we need to concentrate on. Please do not let your frustrations build up. We will be setting up the radar trailer within the next couple of days. If you would like to see the trailer near your house, give me a call or send me an email.

Statistics as of May 31, 2022

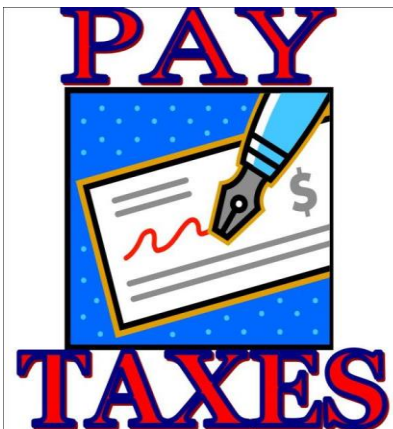
Motor vehicle stops	287	Summons/warnings issued
Accidents	7	Reports taken
Incidents/calls for service	23	Reports taken
Arrests	17	Felony/Misdemeanor offences
Field Interviews	2	Suspicious person(s)
Warrants	3	Felony/Misdemeanors

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

Be safe and healthy!!

Chief Michael Bilodeau

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**Its Tax Time Again!!!**

Mark your calendars; **taxes are due by July 1st.** The Tax Collectors hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 9am-2pm. To avoid interest or penalties, please remember to pay your taxes timely. **You can just drop them in the Tax Collector drop box out in front of the town hall 24/7.** Thanks!





This is a reminder to take advantage of our very own [Great Bay Wildlife Refuge](#) on Arboretum Drive in Newington.

Here is a link to a great article on the many National WILDLIFE Refuges along the I-95 corridor if you are traveling this summer. [The Wildlife Refuges of I-95 | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#)

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**Newington Fire Department Story Hour at the Library, May 20, 2022**









## June News from the Library

These are a few pictures of our Friday morning story hour visit from the Newington Fire Department, obviously enjoyed by all who attended! To see all of the pictures, click here:

<https://www.facebook.com/langdonlibrary/posts/10159078745884601>

This week we will have another visit, from the Newington Police Department, on June 3 at 10:30 AM. Our occasional story times with police and fire departments began after the late Newington fire Chief Darin Sabine explained how vital it is for young children to interact with first responders in familiar environments, to build trust that will help them cooperate in emergencies. I had never thought of it that way but it made a big impression. Chiefs Bilodeau and Hoyt and their teams are great with the kids and have helped us continue the tradition, including this month when library sub Debbie Obertanec reached out to them for help story hours while we're in the process of hiring Miss Amanda's replacement. It takes a village! Thank you so much to both departments.

June's Morning & Evening Book Group read is Pulitzer Prize winner *Beloved* by Toni Morrison, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature. "Banned" books are in the news lately, including this one. This article gives an overview of the recent trend:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/banned-books-beloved-controversy-critical-race-theory/>

Books are available for pickup at the library; an audiobook is available on NH Downloadables. Join us for discussion in the library on Tuesday, June 14 at 6:30 PM or Friday, June 17 at 10:30 AM. Refreshments will be enjoyed. New participants (adults and teens) are always welcome.

We are in the final stages of hiring a youth programming, literature and publicity replacement, who will start mid-month. Thanks to our amazing subs, especially Debbie Obertanec, Paula Knox and Jane Kendall, we have been able to maintain our normal hours during the hiring process, but sub availability is changing as summer schedules speed up, so check our website [www.langdonlibrary.org](http://www.langdonlibrary.org) before you visit in case there are changes.

In addition, we have been doing a review of our "traffic" patterns, and may change hours of operation based on the most active and inactive times at the library. New hours may begin later this

month and will be publicized in our newsletter (sign up here: <https://www.langdonlibrary.org/langdon-letter/>), Facebook and on our website.

Finally, Teen Advisory Group continues on Mondays at 6:30 PM. We need assistance with summer programs like a Summer Reading Kick-Off this month and a July Outdoor Movie Night. All teens age 13 through 19 are welcome to help with planning these events, and more. If you can't come on Monday nights, teens can still volunteer to help at events. Just let us know at the desk.

See you at the library!

Lara Berry, Library Director

Langdon Public Library

328 Nimble Hill Road

Newington NH 03801

603-436-5154

[director@langdonlibrary.org](mailto:director@langdonlibrary.org)

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**Resident Stickers**



Please remember that you need to have your resident sticker displayed on your vehicle when using Fox Point and the Transfer Station. You get these when you register your car. With new people overseeing both facilities, it is important your stickers are in place.

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**School Funding Legislation**

We haven't reported recently on issues relating to the state funding of education and how it relates to the statewide property tax because there has not been much to report. With the ending of this year's legislative session last week, much of the uncertainty on this issue ended for this year at least.

The Town of Newington as a member of the Coalition Communities 2.0 monitored many bills relating to school funding that were introduced this session. Most, as filed, dealt with refining the Education Freedom Accounts or school voucher program enacted last year. Although each bill appeared to not change the means of funding the state’s obligation to fund an adequate education, the legislative process would allow for amendments to adopt that change. These amendments could possibly enact a methodology that re-established the donor/receiver town funding methodology that the Coalition Communities oppose due to the unfair burden placed on our property taxpayers.

Most of these bills were either tabled, voted as inexpedient to legislate (ITL), or were never amended to impact the statewide property tax. There seemed to be little interest to address this issue in the second session of this legislature when many legislators are also considering running for public office later this year. The net result was no substantive move to change the funding of public education in NH. There is one notable exception. HB 1680 was sent to interim study, which means a legislative committee will study the issue of funding education in NH through the summer with a report to the full legislature due by October 28, 2022. No meetings have been scheduled as of yet. The Coalition will be monitoring these efforts and provide input when allowed. HB 1680 contained many of the provisions recommended in the Commission to Study School Funding report issued in December of 2020 in which the donor/receive town concept was again introduced as a mechanism to fund the state’s obligation to fund education.

Meanwhile there is still yet another lawsuit working its way through the legal system in which several school districts are suing the state for not providing proper funding for an adequate education. Results from that process are not expected to be known until later this year and more likely into the beginning of 2023. Stay tuned because this issue will not go away.

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**HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR DOG?**  
**STOP IN TO THE TOWN CLERK Tuesday- Thursday 9am-2pm**

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Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri. 9 - 4:30pm  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Tuesday through Thursday 9am-2:00pm  
Building Dept. - Monday - Friday 7:30am- 3:30pm  
Planning Dept. - Monday & Thursday 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)  
Langdon Library - Mon & Tues 12-8pm, Wed. 9-7pm, Thurs. & Fri. 9-5pm, Sat. 10-2pm  
Transfer Station - Wed. 5 - 7pm, Sat 9 - 3pm  
Subscribe or *Unsubscribe* at this link: <http://www.newington.nh.us/subscribe>  
Newington Town Hall 603-436-7640