



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

Timothy "Ted" Connors, Chair
Kenneth Latchaw
Michael Marconi

Town Clerk/Tax Collector **Closing: July 15 to 26.**

However, renewals will still be processed through the website and mail. Emergency appointments may be made, if needed.

Call the Town Hall for further details 436-7640 or e-mail Laura at Laura.Coleman22@aol.com



The Town Hall will be closed on Thursday, July 4 and Friday July 5th in celebration of Independence Day.

Upcoming Meetings:

7/1/2019	Board of Selectmen	6pm	Town Hall
7/8/2019	Planning Board	6pm	Town Hall
7/10/2019	Board of Fire Engineers	6pm	Fire Station
7/11/2019	Planning Board	4:30pm	Town Hall
7/11/2019	Conservation Commission	6:30pm	Town Hall
7/15/2019	Board of Selectmen	6pm	Town Hall
7/17/2019	Sewer Commission	9am	Waste Water Treatment Plant
7/18/2019	Library Trustees	1:30pm	Langdon Library
7/25/2019	Economic Development Committee	6pm	Town Hall



Peggy's Arboretum: As you drive from McIntyre Road along Little Bay Road before the Transfer Station, look up to your right and you will see a hill freshly planted with beautiful flowing shrubs and trees. As a tribute of thanks to Peggy Lamson, our Pease Development Authority representative, for lobbying to have these wonderful plantings installed the Selectmen have named this area Peggy's Arboretum . Thank you Peggy!

Wider Road Shoulders/Bike Lanes Research:

The Selectmen have received several e-mails from residents interested in the town roads being widened to accommodate walkers, joggers and bicyclists. The Selectmen have tasked the town engineer with researching this matter and expect to establish a committee to work on this issue in the near future.



TREE REPLANTING PROGRAM

Due to the many trees that had to be removed due to blocking the Eversource utility lines or from the Emerald Ash borer infestation; the Selectmen are developing a tree replanting program throughout town. This will be incorporated in their 2020 proposed budget.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Happy July!!! The Police Department has received requests for information pertaining to pedestrian and bicycle safety as well as rules of the road. I reached out to New Hampshire Office of Highway Safety and they provided me with some statistics and facts the motoring public should know. There are also laws listed that cyclists and pedestrians need to follow.

A reminder to residents. We do not follow social media 24 hours a day. If there is a situation you need the police department to address, please contact us. When something is posted online we can not address the concern immediately, which leaves residents frustrated. Your police department is here to serve you.

DID YOU KNOW?

IN 2018 - 11 pedestrians and 2 cyclists were killed in New Hampshire.

In 2016 - 5,987 pedestrians and 840 cyclists were killed in traffic crashes in the United States. Most fatalities occurred in urban areas (76%) at "non-intersections" between 6 and 9 PM.

Bicycles are vehicles. In NH, cyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers of motor vehicles. (RSA 265:143)

Motorists must yield to cyclists when turning, merging into bicycle lanes, and opening doors. (RSA 265:96)

Every Driver of a vehicle, when approaching a cyclist, **shall** ensure the safety and protection of the cyclist and **shall** exercise due care by leaving a reasonable and prudent distance between the vehicle and the bicycle. The distance shall be presumed to be reasonable and prudent if it is at least 3 feet when the vehicle is traveling at 30 mph or less, with one additional foot of clearance required for every 10 mph over 30 mph. (RSA 265:143-a)

Equal Respect. Equal Responsibility refers to pedestrians, cyclists and motorists. It is everyone's responsibility to travel safely.

SAFETY TIPS

Look ahead for road hazards. Maneuver safely to the left, as traffic permits, if you see one. **Check** steering, brakes, tires, chains and cables before every ride. **After** dark, use a white front headlight and a red rear light or rear reflector visible from 300 feet.



New Hampshire
Office of
Highway Safety

Pedestrian &
Bicycle Safety

33 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03305

Phone: 603-271-2131

E-mail: HWYSAFETYMAIL@dos.nh.gov

Website:
www.nh.gov/hsafety/

FOLLOW US ON...



Driver Responsibility



Expect bicycles to use designated turn lanes and to move away from the right edge of the road to avoid hazards. (RSA 265:144-XI-(d))

Before turning right, slow down and merge behind a cyclist.

When turning left, **yield** to oncoming cyclists or any other vehicles. (RSA 265:29)

A stop sign means you **must stop** and wait until no traffic, whether a bicycle or car, is close enough to be a danger. (RSA 265:30-I)

A yield sign means you **must** wait for traffic, cyclists included. (RSA 265:31) This may require you to stop.

Signal well in advance of turns (at least 100 feet), so that cyclists and other vehicles know your intentions. (RSA 265:45-II)

Every driver of a vehicle **shall** exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian or any person propelling a human-powered vehicle. (RSA 265:37)



Pedestrian Responsibility

Shall obey traffic signs, unless directed otherwise by a police officer. (RSA 265:34)

Shall be subject to traffic and pedestrian control signals. (RSA 265.9 & 265.34)

Pedestrians crossing a roadway outside of a crosswalk or other designated pedestrian crossing **shall** yield the right of way to all vehicles. (RSA 256.36 I &II)

No pedestrian shall cross a roadway intersection diagonally unless authorized by traffic control devices; **No** pedestrian shall cross at any place other than a marked crosswalk between adjacent intersections where traffic control signals are in operation. (RSA 265:36 III & IV)

Pedestrians **shall** use the right side of crosswalks. (RSA 265:38)

Pedestrians **cannot** walk along the road **if** there is a sidewalk provided. (RSA 265:39-I-III)

Pedestrians **can** hitchhike only if not standing on a paved portion of roadway. (RSA 265:40)

Motorists & Cyclists **must** stop for pedestrians IN all crosswalks. **DON'T PASS VEHICLES STOPPED AT A CROSSWALK.** (RSA 265:35-1&IV)

FOR COMPLETE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED (RSA) Chapter 265 "Rules of the Road", visit:

<https://gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/NHTOC/NHTOC-XXI-265.htm>

Cyclist Responsibility

Yield the right of way to approaching traffic before entering the roadway. (RSA 265:32) **Stop** at all stop signs. (RSA 265:30-I)

Don't cross the stop line when the traffic signal is red. (RSA 265:10-III a&d)

Take left turn from the outermost left turn lane **when** multiple left turn lanes are available. (RSA 265:42-II)

Do not operate on sidewalks (RSA 265:26-a), or ride the wrong way on one-way streets. (RSA 265:23-II)

Cyclists **must** wear at least one item of reflective apparel from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise. (RSA 265:144-XII)

Helmets are required <16 years of age. (RSA 265:144-X) Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic. (RSA 265:16-II) Riding against traffic **is** illegal.

Cyclists traveling upon a way at a speed less than the normal speed of traffic moving in the same direction shall remain as far to the right as practicable except when:

- ❖ **Overtaking** or passing another bicycle or vehicle moving in the same direction;
- ❖ **Preparing** to make a left-hand turn;
- ❖ **Proceeding** straight through an intersection where right-hand turns are allowed;
- ❖ **Necessary** to avoid hazardous conditions like broken pavement, glass, debris, sand, ice, the opening of doors of parked vehicles;
- ❖ **Necessary** to avoid fixed or moving objects like vehicles, other bicycles, pedestrians, or animals. (RSA 265:144-XI)

Be safe this July! If you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to give me a call or send me an email; mbilodeau@newingtonnhd.com

Michael Bilodeau, Police Chief

Eversource Settlement

The Town has settled with Eversource regarding the Seacoast Reliability Project (Transmission Line Expansion).

Negotiations have resulted in:

1. Power lines being placed **underground** for Hannah Lane, Frink Farm and Gundalow Landing.
2. Payments for leasing of land in the commercial district to Eversource will result in \$396,000 in revenue to the town.
3. Funding by Eversource of a wetlands mitigation project in the amount of \$120,000 should the town not be successful in applying for a mitigation grant through the State Department of Environmental Services.
4. Funding of \$20,000 of Historic District resource restoration by Eversource.
5. Numerous other concessions regarding shrinking the Eversource easement area to minimize the negative viewscape.



New PFAS (per- and polyfluoralkyl substances) Limits Proposed

The Board of Selectmen was pleased to learn that their concerns regarding the proposed maximum contaminant levels for PFAS chemicals was heard and acted on by the NH DES. On –March 26th the Board wrote to the state requesting that they look closely at the limits being proposed saying that:

“The proposed limits of .38 ppt for PFOA, .70 ppt for PFOS, .85 PFHxs and .23 ppt PFNA are better than what currently exists, although Newington believes that New Hampshire should pay careful attention to the Minnesota Department of Health’s study (Goeden et al., 2019) that shows that those limits may still be too high to be safe. Minnesota’s important study has opened up new scientific information that needs to be reviewed. The safe level for infants, as determined through blood serum levels would be the most protective for all residents. The combined limit should also encompass all four of the listed PFAS chemicals.”

After reviewing the numerous comments received, NHDES released revised and stricter regulations of per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS) in New Hampshire drinking water. The proposed maximum contaminant levels are some of the most protective when compared with other states. The final proposed limits are .12 ppt for PFOA, .15 ppt for PFOS, .18 PFHxs and .11 ppt PFNA. If these final numbers are approved by the Joint legislative Committee for Administrative Rules there may be a few residential wells in Newington that will no longer be under the limits and will need to have filtration systems installed. The town will work actively to see that protective measures are put into place. Technical questions can be referred to Clark Frieze at Clark.Frieze@des.nh.gov . A question and answer sheet developed by DES will be posted on the town’s website.

Langdon Library:

Visit this link for a complete list of Summer Programs:

<https://www.langdonlibrary.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2019-SRP-1.pdf>

Lou Ferland, Adventures Along the Piscataqua

Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 PM

Since the days of the Abenaki Indians, the Piscataqua River has been the place of many adventures. Learn about Indian Attacks, Pirate Pursuits, Immigration Controls, Fort Building and Coastal Defense, Spanish-American War Prisoners, Famous Explorers, German Submarines, Gambling, Whiskey Smuggling, a Nuclear Submarine fire, and a Navy Prison's hopeful beginning, long history, and slow crumble. This dynamic and visual presentation recounts the history along the Portsmouth Waterfront.

Dr. David "Lou" Ferland is a retired Portsmouth Chief of Police, Adjunct Faculty member at Southern New Hampshire University, and the Executive Director of the United States Police Canine Association. He is also the author of Historic Crimes & Justice in Portsmouth, NH.

Meteor Shower

Monday, July 29 at 8 PM

We will view space footage from NASA and enjoy light refreshments, then gather on the library lawn for a chance to view the Delta Aquariids meteor shower. The library's Orion StarBlast telescope will be available.

Book Groups and Game Nights will resume in September after Summer Reading Programs conclude. Caregivers Cafe continues the final Thursday of every month at 10:30 AM, this month on July 25.

Lara Berry, MEd
Director, Langdon Public Library
NHLTA Board of Directors
MLIS Candidate, San Jose State University



Fox Point Dock Rules and Regulations

1. No exclusive privileges will be granted to any boat owner in Newington
2. All residents of the Town may utilize the town dock at Fox Point, provided their boat is tiller driven, 14' in length or less
3. Boats must be identified with the owner's name as a minimum
4. The end of the dock is for loading and unloading only
5. The Town is not responsible for maintaining boats at the dock
6. Violations of these regulations shall result in the forfeiture of rights to the dock

Red Tide- Great Bay:

The NH Department of Environmental Services and NH Fish and Game have announced the closure of Great Bay and Little Bay for the harvesting of mussels, clams, oysters until further notice due to "red tide."

The red tide closure does not apply to lobster, but state officials advise consumers to avoid eating the tomalley.

Cemetery Veteran's Flags:

The Disabled American Veterans of Newington place American flags on all veteran's cemetery plots each year. Helping place these flags this year were: Chief Michael Bilodeau, Brenda Blonigen, Paul Spinney, Police Captain Michael Sullivan, Ken Latchaw. Mike Marconi and Peggy Lamson. Thanks to all!



Newington Veterans



The Town of Newington takes great pride in our country's veterans that have chosen to live in Newington. In the front lobby of the town hall there is a list of those residents that are veterans and we are in the process of bringing that list up to date. If you are a Veteran residing in Newington we would like to add your name to the list for public recognition.

Federal privacy laws require that we have written permission to add your name and years of service to this recognition. Please contact Karen at kanderson@townofnewingtonnh.com to arrange a time to bring in your DD214 and fill out the appropriate form.

Thank you for your service and we look forward to adding you to our public recognition efforts.





Tax Exemptions and Tax Credits

The Newington voters over the years have recognized the importance of assisting our elderly and disabled residents with property tax exemptions and have honored our Veteran's with generous Veteran's credits. The cost of the exemptions and tax credits that are granted to qualified property owners is shared by all of the other property tax payers, which is why any changes to the States minimum requirements must be voted on at Town Meeting. Many of our property owners enjoy the benefits of these credits, exemptions and deferrals, while there may be other residents that are not aware of the options that are available to them. A tax credit is an amount of money that is deducted directly from the taxpayer's tax bill, and a tax exemption is the amount of money that is deducted from the assessed valuation of the real estate before the property tax is billed. The State of New Hampshire requires municipalities to provide some of these benefits, with the town having the option to set the limits and establish requirements that are more favorable than the State's minimums and offer additional exemptions that are not required.

VETERANS TAX CREDIT

The State of New Hampshire, through RSA 72:28 requires towns to provide a minimum tax credit to qualifying veterans of \$50 with the option for Town Meeting to increase that up to \$750. Newington residents voted in 2019 to increase the Veteran's Credit to the maximum of \$750. The requirements to qualify for a Veterans Credit are set by the State and require that the property must be the principle residence of the Veteran and the Veteran must have lived in New Hampshire for one year preceding the April 1st that the credit begins. The Veteran must have also served in a specific qualifying war or armed conflict for not less than 90 days and have been honorably discharged. There are some periods of service time that currently do not qualify for the credit, and they include between 12/31/46 and 6/25/50; between 1/31/55 and 12/22/61 and between 5/8/75 and 8/2/90. Active duty for training purposes does not count toward the 90 day requirement, however the 90 days of active service does not have to be concurrent. In 2019, the voters also increased the Veteran's credit for those with a 100% service disability to \$1,400.

In 2016, the State Legislature added an Optional Veteran's Credit that towns may adopt that will extend the Veteran's Credit to all Honorably Discharged Veteran's with 90 days of active service, regardless if they served during one of the armed conflicts previously required. Newington has not adopted that credit at this time.

ELDERLY EXEMPTIONS

All municipalities in New Hampshire are required to offer a tax exemption for elderly residents that are 65 years of age or older and have lived in New Hampshire for three consecutive years. There are minimum financial requirements that are set by the State, and towns then have the ability to adjust those requirements through Town Meeting votes. The property must be owned by the resident, jointly with a spouse, or in trust with the qualifying person shown as a trustee to qualify. If the property is owned jointly with someone other than a spouse that does not meet the age requirement, the exemption is prorated based on the percentage of ownership. Currently the financial requirements are that the tax payer must have a net income of not more than \$40,000 if single or \$60,000 if married; and own assets not in excess of \$500,000 excluding the value of the person's residence. The exemption amount for residents that qualify between the ages of 65 and 74 is \$200,000; for residents between 75 - 79 the exemption amount is \$300,000 and for residents age 80 and over the exemption amount is \$300,000. The net income is defined as all moneys received from any source, including social security and pensions, and then deducting proceeds from the sale of assets such as stocks. If the property is a duplex, the rental income is counted. The town is required to certify that residents receiving the elderly exemption continue to qualify and that is done periodically. During 2019, all recipients were required to recertify as part of our State Certification process done by the Department of Revenue.

All applications for credits and exemptions are due by April 1st and must be approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Tax Deferrals

Another option that is available to our elderly and disabled residents is a tax deferral. This is very different from the tax exemption because the property taxes that are assessed are paid by the town, and a tax deferral lien is placed on file at the Registry of Deeds. At the time the property is sold or deeded to someone else, the taxes are then paid, with a 5% interest rate. This deferral is available to property owners if the tax liability causes an undue hardship or possible loss of the property. If there is a mortgage on the property, permission for this lien must be given by the mortgage company. There are other restrictions on this deferral and appointments can be made with the assessor to explain them to any resident interested.

Hours of Operation: Town Offices - Mon - Fri 9 - 4:30pm
Town Clerk/Tax Collector Tues 2 - 6pm, Wed and Thurs 9 - 1pm,
Building Dept. - Mon - Thurs 8 - 4pm,
Planning Dept. - Mon - Fri 9 - 4:30pm (Planner by appointment)
Langdon Library - Tues 3 - 8pm, Wed 12 - 7pm, Thurs 10 - 5pm, Fri 10 - 5pm, Sat 10 - 4pm,
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