

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
7 Mast Road
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(603) 659-5414

**Lee News & Upcoming
Events
November 6, 2020**

TO THE VOTERS OF LEE

On behalf of the 30 + volunteers and election officials who worked the polls in Tuesday's historic election, I want to thank you for the patient and respectful rendering of your civic duty. While conducting the long Election Day process is not easy, it can be very gratifying to witness close-up a community of very diverse people coming together to exercise our most important civic responsibility, the vote. You were generous with your patience and cooperation in a process made more difficult by early morning slick roads, long lines and communication through masks and plastic. In this temporary absence of the opportunity to greet each other with warm smiles and hardy handshakes, we managed to be good neighbors none the less. Thank you.

Don Quigley, Moderator



Blood Drive
Lee Shopping Plaza Unit #10
(Old Radio Shack)
Rte 155 Lee, NH 03861

Friday, November 6, 2020
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code **LEECOMMUNITY**

**Donors who register with a valid email address
will receive a \$5 Amazon eCard as a thank you!**

Give Something that Means Something® | RedCrossBlood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

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SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM – MONDAY, November 16th 6:00 pm

Meeting ID 892 7541 3158 & Password 124855

ABC Budget Meeting – Tuesday, November 10th 6:30 p.m.

Meeting ID 851 2991 6736 & Password 124855

Please check the website for Agendas and instructions on how to access Zoom meetings

Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

Meetings can be seen on  at [CLICK HERE](#)

**The Advisory Budget Committee & Town Hall Renovation Committee have
IMMEDIATE OPENINGS**

Please contact Denise at dduval@leenh.org or call her at 603-659-5414 for more information

TRANSFER STATION ANNOUNCEMENT

NEW CHANGES TO MIXED PAPER

Mixed paper should still be placed with Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) EXCEPT NOW please go back to separating your office paper and magazines from your mixed paper in order to start the Town's recycling revenue back up again. Acceptable paper items are copy paper, envelopes (windows ok), junk mail (no glossy mail), and any magazines.

CEMETERY TRUSTEES NOTICE

Please be advised that the gates to the cemetery will now close on December 1st rather than January 1st and will remain closed to automobile traffic until April 1st unless conditions require a later date. Visitors should plan on removing any unwanted items or place any new holiday items before this closing date. The gate across from Town Hall will be open to foot traffic at all times after the other gates are closed.

SELECT BOARD NOTICE

Town Tennis Court

At the October 19th Select Board meeting, the Board reaffirmed its previous decision to have the tennis courts at Town Field dismantled and removed due to their dilapidated condition. The Board instructed the Highway Department to try to get this accomplished before this winter. The Board is considering having a tennis court installed at Little River Park.

UNH SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT

Road Safety Audit on the Lee Center Intersection

Jesse Jakubajtys, Project Manager

Dr. Kyle Kwiatkowski, Project Faculty Advisor

PLEASE HELP BY COMPLETING THE SURVEY!

The Project Team will be working under the supervision of the NHDOT to perform a Road Safety Audit on the complex intersection at Lee Center in hopes to generate alternatives to create a safer intersection for automotive and pedestrian traffic. They look forward to the community's feedback so they can do their best to evaluate and improve the safety of this intersection. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to take a survey and contact Jesse at jhj1009@wildcats.unh.edu or Dr. Kyle Kwiatkowski at kyle.kwiatkowski@unh.edu if you have any questions.



GARDEN OF NATIVE NH PLANTS

The Garden of Native NH Plants at the Lee Transfer Station was created in 2006 by a group of Lee residents including a well-known Lee Master Gardener, Carolyn Bassage. Many of the original plants also came from the generosity of Lee residents as well.

Recently, it received quite a gift - a Little Library and a Kiosk. These were designed and constructed by Vinny Golden, a Lee resident, as part of his Eagle Scout Project for Troup 154. The Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in Scouts BSA. One must obtain 21 merit badges 13 being required

to receive Eagle and 8 being selected by the scout. A Scout must also hold a leadership position for 6 months in the troop and must complete a service project for a beneficiary in their local community.

On your next trip to the Transfer Station, check them out. I think you will be impressed with this young man's project and attention to detail. The mini library and kiosk are made primarily from cedar and pressure treated wood. These structures are meant to last for years. The cedar and pressure treated woods are rot resistant. The shingles have a thirty-year life span and can withstand 130 mph winds. All locks, hinges, and handles are stainless steel to resist rust. These structures were built to last for a long time and require little to no maintenance.

We will be putting gardening books and magazines in the Little Library and invite you to enjoy and share any that you have.

The Kiosk will include the history of the garden, details about the plants, information from UNH Cooperative Extension and your local Strafford County Master Gardeners including their annual plant sale that benefits community projects including our K-12 School Gardening Grants.

If you see Vinny, his Dad, Jim, or another member of the Golden family please take a moment and thank them for this wonderful gift to the residents of Lee and the Master Gardeners of Strafford County.

For the past 14 years, the garden has been maintained by volunteers including Master Gardeners from Lee and other surrounding communities. Linda Seedner coordinates volunteers at the Garden, and if you'd like to be involved email her at lseedner@comcast.net.

Judy Von Feldt, SC MG



Extreme Drought -- Let's Conserve Water

Most Lee residents harvest groundwater using residential wells, so we all share the same water. Once the ground freezes the aquifers cannot recharge. In order to get through the winter, everyone should be conserving water now. Please practice these easy ways to conserve:

- Eliminate non-essential water use such as lawn watering and car washing.
- Reduce shower times, do only full loads of laundry, and turn off the faucet while brushing teeth, doing dishes and washing hands.
- Fix any leaks or drips in your household water system, including outside fixtures and hoses.
- Replace harmful chemical cleaning products with safer, non-toxic and biodegradable alternatives. Polluted groundwater is groundwater lost.
- Never pour gasoline, oil, pesticides, antifreeze or paint down your drains.
- Encourage your children to share and practice what they've been taught about conserving natural resources. Make conserving a family practice.

A few more ideas for water conservation, not quite as easy:

- Update fixtures and appliances to the newer water-saving models.
- Replace asphalt with naturally draining surfaces so rainwater is absorbed.
- Plant trees and other plants in your yard.
- Support and volunteer for environmental and conservation organizations.
- Join the Lee Sustainability Committee!

There's more information on Lee's water resources and how to monitor your own well and groundwater in the Lee Well and Groundwater Awareness Program document from the Lee Sustainability Committee: https://www.leenh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlf776/f/uploads/reside_1.pdf

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFORMATION & DROUGHT GUIDANCE

Widespread drought conditions remain, but severe drought and extreme drought have been downgraded to moderate drought in approximately 50% of the southeastern area of the state which has experienced the worst dry conditions. There is no rain forecast through the weekend or early next week and above normal temperatures in the 60s are expected, with southern parts of NH potentially seeing temperatures in the low 70s on Saturday. Outlooks for mid-November indicate precipitation received is likely to be normal to slightly above normal. Since last week, the U.S. Monthly Drought Outlook has been released and indicates it is unlikely there will be more drought improvement by the end of the month.

ATTN: While the growing season is over, the warmer temperatures over the next few days are likely to result in an increase of outdoor water use as people head outdoors to wash cars, power wash, and tie up other fall cleanup chores. Please also consider these [indoor water saving tips](#).

New Monthly Groundwater Update! While the majority of the wells in the NH Geological Survey's monitoring network are experiencing below normal to low groundwater levels, recent precipitation has raised groundwater levels in many of the wells in the northern portion of the state from low to normal. With slightly below average precipitation in the central and southeast portions of the state, falling or below normal to low groundwater levels continue. For more information, see the [New Hampshire Groundwater Level Monitoring Report](#) for October 2020. Reports are released monthly.

NEW! Are residential well owners experiencing well shortage issues in your community? If so, they may qualify for the [Low-Income Residential Drought Assistance Program](#).

Things to Do and See and Places to Go October 23rd – November 6th Terrestrial

Anytime before November 11: Take part in the Cornell Ornithology Lab's Project FeederWatch - Cornell Lab has a bunch of citizen science programs, and Project FeederWatch, which began in 1987, is one of its oldest. By participating in this program, you can turn your interest in winter birds into useful scientific data. If your yard has habitat, plantings, or water that attracts birds, you don't even need a feeder. There is an \$18.00 participation fee (\$15.00 for Cornell Lab members). First time participants receive a research kit which includes instructions, a winter bird species poster, a calendar, and other swag. To find out more about the project and how to register visit the FeederWatch website here: <https://feederwatch.org/about/>



January 2016 Art Challenge Photo 'Birds of a Feather'" by COLORED PENCIL magazine is licensed under CC BY 2.0

Every day at 10:00 a.m., York Center for Wildlife Facebook: Live Animal Ambassador - Meet one of the 29 animal ambassadors who live at the Center. Learn about the habitats where these animals make their homes, how they live and what they eat. Questions are welcome! You can tune in here each morning:
<https://www.facebook.com/CenterForWildlife/>

Anytime: Help Children Learn about Birds: Feathered Friends Program, free from Cornell Labs - While this is described as being geared towards educators, anyone can take part. There are age-specific down-loadable lessons on learning how to identify birds, exploring habitats, and developing STEM skills. Lessons are organized by month, so sign up and get started with November's lessons!
<https://www.birds.cornell.edu/k12/feathered-friends/>

November 3, 4, and 6, 2:00 -3:30 pm, Wells Reserve at Laudholm Farm, Wells, Me: Detectives of Disguise - This nature walk is offered on three different days and will focus on learning about why some animals stand out in their habitats and others blend in. Masks are required and social distancing will be practiced during this walk. There is a \$7 registration fee; \$15 family fee. Registration is required, for more information and driving directions:
<https://www.wellsreserve.org/event/12830/detectives-of-disguise>

Celestial

Looking Northwest to Northeast, after 7:00 p.m., October-November: Use the Big Dipper to find the North Star and multicolored Capella - The Big Dipper is an asterism within Ursa Major, the Big Bear, and you can use it to find Polaris, the alpha star in Ursa Minor, the Little Bear. Polaris has been, for several millennia, located almost exactly at the north celestial pole. If you were standing on the North Pole, Polaris would be directly overhead. Because of its location, Polaris neither rises nor sets, but is always found in the same location in the night sky.

To find it, just keep extending an imaginary line connecting the two stars that form the outer edge of the Big Dipper's bowl: Polaris is the first star you'll come to.



Capella will be located east (right) of both the Big Dipper and Polaris. It is a first magnitude star, and the 7th brightest in the night sky. Capella is the alpha star in the constellation Auriga, The Charioteer, and is actually two stars, both about the same temperature of our sun, but much larger. At this time of year, Capella appears to flash red and green. Capella is actually a golden star, but because it is currently appearing so low on our horizon, the Earth's atmosphere refracts the star's light, creating the reds and greens we see as we gaze at it from Earth.

TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICES RE-OPENING PLANS

On August 31st the Select Board approved a lease agreement between the Town of Lee and Daley Realty Trust for commercial office rental space for the new municipal offices. Modifications have been made to the building in order to provide safe spaces for the public and employees to socially distance from each other. Each department will have its own entrance to the building (these entrances already exist) and each entrance has sufficient parking. The Department of Revenue has approved the Select Board's request for an emergency appropriation, with funds to come out of the unassigned fund balance so that no additional taxpayer dollars will be required for the modification costs and twelve months' lease payments. The move in date is still pending DOT traffic approvals, tax bill schedule and the approaching holidays so as not to cause any unnecessary risk, confusion, or inconveniences for the general public. The Select Board has been meeting regularly via the Zoom platform and we invite all members of the public to join us as we continue to discuss this plan. Agendas, minutes and videos of the meetings can be found on the town's website www.leenh.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE TOWN IS NOT WIPING DOWN PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT, PICNIC BENCHES OR ANY OTHER SURFACES

The Town of Lee urges our residents and visitors to do their part to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our community. If you go to a park or trail to exercise, use extreme caution. Maintain at least 6 feet of distance between yourself and others when outside and wear a mask if you cannot maintain this distance. Cookouts are now permitted in Little River Park.

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE

COVID-19 HOURS: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 8-4 (Closed 12-1)

The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office is currently experiencing a higher volume of calls than usual, so if your call is not immediately answered, please leave a message or email reinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org. The office will try to respond to all messages on the same business day if left no later than 3 pm; any messages left after 3 pm will be answered on our next business day.

TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE COVID-19 PROCEDURES

There is a walk-up service window located outside the Town Clerk's Office. This does not change the way the office is conducting business while the building is closed. If you cannot conduct your business online or by dropping it in the box outside then call 659-2864 to schedule an appointment.

RENEWING VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS:

- If you have a vehicle currently registered in Lee and it is not more than 6 months late, you can register online at www.leenh.org. The registrations and decals are then mailed to you;
- If you have your Lee renewal notice, you can renew by mail or drop it off at the Town Clerk/Tax Collector Lock Box along with a check made out in the correct amount to the Town of Lee. We will then mail you the registrations and decals.

Please note - We always try to send renewal notices. If you are unable to do one of the above options for any reason, please call our office at 659-2964.

NEW VEHICLE OR NEW TO LEE: If you are new to Lee, or if you have a NEW REGISTRATION, please call 659-2964 to make an appointment to come to Town Hall. Temporary plates issued on or after February 26, 2020 expired on May 31, 2020.

VITAL RECORDS REQUESTS: These can be done online at www.leenh.org. The directions will indicate that it is required to email your ID in order to complete this request. Please email your ID to estone@leenh.org.

DOG LICENSES:

- If your dog was registered for 2019-2020 and the rabies is still up-to-date, you can renew the registration online.
- If the rabies is not up-to-date, then we need proof from the vet. You can mail it, email it (estone@leenh.org) or fax it (603-659-7202) to us and then you can do it online or through the mail or drop box.
- NEW DOGS cannot be done online. We need owner's birthday, phone number, address, dog's name, breed, and color and proof of rabies from the vet. If they are spayed or neutered we need proof. Altered dogs are \$6.50 and unaltered dogs are \$9. Puppies under 1 year are \$6.50. You can send us via mail or drop box this information with a check in the correct amount to the Town of Lee and we will mail your license.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR LEE PROPERTY TAX BILL

1. **TC/TC Lock Box** – This is labeled and located to the left of the entrance to the Town Hall building. Please leave payment in an envelope with the payment stub.
2. **Mail** - Mail it to our office at 7 Mast Road, Lee, NH 03861. Again, please include the payment stub with your check.
3. **Online** – Go to www.leenh.org. Click on the property taxes button under Town Resource Center. There you may pay via ACH or credit card. There are additional fees associated with this method.

If you want a receipt for any of the above transactions, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or include your email address. Thanks for understanding and stay safe!

TRANSFER STATION

HOURS

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

The Swap Shop will remain closed until further notice.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO GET A TRANSFER STATION STICKER IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE ONE
Stickers are only good for two years!



The easiest way to get your sticker is when you register your car. If you have already done so and still do not have a sticker, they are available at the Transfer Station or at Town Hall. Proof of residency, such as a recent utility bill, lease or rental agreement, or recent tax bill, and your car registration will be required. If you have any questions please call Town Hall or you may refer to the Solid Waste Ordinance, available [HERE](#).

NEW CHANGES TO MIXED PAPER

Mixed paper should still be placed with Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) EXCEPT NOW please go back to separating your office paper and magazines from your mixed paper in order to start the Town's recycling revenue back up again. Acceptable paper items are copy paper, envelopes (windows ok), junk mail (no glossy mail), any magazines.

PLEASE CONTINUE PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING

Both bays remain open as we have seen an improvement in the flow of traffic, but everyone has to maintain the recommended safe distance of 6' while inside. In order for our employees and residents to maintain a safe distance, employees will not be stationed on the wall during this time but will be available to answer questions.

PLEASE KEEP CHILDREN IN YOUR VEHICLE

PLEASE have your child(ren) stay in your vehicle while you are disposing of trash and recyclables. This is for their safety! If they have to be out of the vehicle please keep them next to you at all times and do not let them run through the Transfer Station, roadways or parking areas.

There are several important issues you must be aware of regarding your household trash and recycling disposal if you or anyone in your household has been quarantined for COVID-19 or has tested positive for COVID-19. Your trash and recycling must be handled and disposed of under different rules. Please consult Caren Rossi, Lee's Health Officer to discuss the new steps that must be taken. Email is crossi@leenh.org or phone at 659-6783. Thank you for your cooperation.

Bulky items are accepted at the Transfer Station, HOWEVER, payment will be by check only – there will be a drop box available. Employees will **not** be able to assist with removing items from your vehicle but will be available to guide you, weigh items, and answer your questions.



[CLICK HERE](#) for Lee Farmers Market
Facebook Page

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Lee Farms and
Agricultural Brochure

**During this time of social distancing and no Farmer's Markets –
Please remember to shop your local farms online, by delivery or pickup**

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY - Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

Even though our building is closed, the food pantry is open to any household in Lee, Durham, Madbury, Newmarket, and Nottingham. Delivery is through a walk-up window service to minimize contact during this time. The pantry is open the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month from 6 - 7:00pm. If you have an emergency need for food outside of the normal hours, please call the Church office at 659-2861 or email at leechurchucc@comcast.net. All visits to the pantry are strictly confidential.

LEE TOWN COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Planning Board, Energy, Advisory Budget, and Sustainability Committees have openings to be filled. If you are interested contact the Town Secretary Denise Duval at 603-659-5414 or email dduval@leenh.org. [CLICK HERE](#) for Application.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

Go to <https://www.leenh.org/calendar>

LIBRARY CALENDAR

Go to <https://www.leenh.org/node/14/events/month/2019-08>

READY RIDES

Change in Services Due to Social Distancing Recommendation

Ready Rides is still operating during this time. We have adjusted our services to reflect the recommendations in place and to protect both our drivers and riders while still remaining available to those most vulnerable.

We are still providing rides to patients. We recommend you utilize family friends and neighbors who you already have regular contact with to help provide rides if possible but we are here for you if you need us.

A service we are adding to our registered riders is pharmacy pickups and food pantry and grocery pickups. If you have placed an order with Walmart.com or Hannaford.com we have volunteers who will pick up these orders and bring them to your door with minimal contact.

If you are unable to order online and you are in desperate need of help with acquiring food or some necessity here are some resources.

If you live in Barrington, Lee, Madbury, Newmarket, Northwood, Barrington, Nottingham and Strafford towns call 244-8719 and we will do our best to find a way to get you the help you need.

What Ready Rides does during normal operations

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: **Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madbury, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford** NH. Rides are provided by volunteer drivers using their own vehicles. **Accessible rides available.**

To request information about registering as a rider or becoming a volunteer driver, please email us at info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an [Application](#) for riders and a [Volunteer Application](#) can be printed from this website and emailed or mailed to Ready Rides P.O. Box 272 Northwood, NH 03261. Be sure to also print out our service description. For other transportation options available in the region, please visit ACT's [Community Transportation Directory](#).

LEE FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Scott M. Nemet
Fire Chief

20 George Bennett Road
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(P): 603.659.5411 (F): 603.659.9611



Jeffery S. Liporto
Deputy Chief



**LEE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT SEEKING CALL
FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS**
[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

BURN PERMIT

[CLICK HERE](#) for NH BURN PERMIT RULES AND REGULATIONS
[CLICK HERE](#) to get a Burn Permit Online

[BACKYARD BURNING QUICK GUIDE](#)
[DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS FIRE PERMIT BROCHURE](#)

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for the Fire Department Fee Schedule
Please [CLICK HERE](#) for the Permitting Checklist and Reference Guide

WHEN SECONDS COUNT... Please take the time NOW to SAVE TIME in an EMERGENCY.



Can the Police, Fire, or Ambulance find your home when you need them for assistance with an emergency? Can they find it at night? Can they find it during a snowstorm? Having your name and number on a mailbox is just not enough. Some mailboxes are clustered together. The numbers are small and the location may not mark the entrance to your driveway.

The Lee Firemen's Association, in a joint effort with the Lee Fire Department, has a program to install reflective house number signs at driveway entrances to assist all emergency responders in locating your home in a time of need. The cost for each sign with a post is \$35.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association.

[CLICK HERE](#) for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form

Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery

Shelter Modification Program – The GOFERR allocated \$15 million from the federal funding NH received through the CARES Act towards creating the Shelter Modification Program. The New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority (NHHFA) will distribute grants to existing homeless shelters for physical modifications and expansion before December 30, 2020 to enable shelters to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The application window is now open and NHHFA will accept and approve applications until funds are exhausted or December 14, 2020, whichever comes first. More information and the application can be found [here](#).

NH Housing Relief Program – The GOFERR allocated \$35 million from the \$1.25 billion in federal funds that NH received from the CARES Act State-Local Coronavirus Relief Fund towards a new [Housing Relief Program](#) to assist families and individuals facing housing insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has two components: 1) one-time grants for households that suffered a limited short-term loss of household income or increased expenses that threaten the family's ability to maintain its housing; and 2) short-term rental assistance program. The program is being administered by the state's five Community Action Program (CAP) agencies and more details, including how to apply to your local CAP, can be found [here](#).

Child Care COVID-19 Assistance Supplement (CCCAS) Funding – The GOFERR allocated an additional \$10 million in federal funding provided by the CARES Act for child care and afterschool providers. Existing Child Care Recovery and Stabilization Program (CCRSP) providers who received funding in round one are eligible to receive additional funding to address their income losses and COVID-related expenses incurred between March 1st – December 30th, 2020. **The application window for the second round of funding opened on October 15th and closes on November 6th.** More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

IRS

The deadline to register for an Economic Impact Payment (EIP) is November 21, 2020. The IRS has urged people who don't typically file a tax return – and haven't received an EIP – to register as quickly as possible using the [Non-Filers tool](#) on IRS.gov. The tool will not be available after November 21. More information can be found [here](#).

The IRS has made two key publications designed for tax professionals available in Spanish. More information can be found [here](#).

The IRS recently announced a number of changes designed to help struggling taxpayers impacted by COVID-19 more easily settle their tax debts with the IRS. More information can be found [here](#).

NH CARES ACT FUNDING

The State has published an online Transparency Map which is an interactive overview of awards made with New Hampshire's CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds. To date, the Town of Lee, as well as other non-profit organizations and for profit businesses have received a total of **\$1,490,852**. Go to <https://www.goferr.nh.gov/> to see a complete list and the amount of funding provided.

The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery has initiated a number of financial aid programs to assist residents such as Supporting Children In Care Program, NH Housing Relief Program, Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH) Tuition Assistance Program and NH Agriculture Relief Program Expansion. Please go to <https://www.goferr.nh.gov/apply> for a description of each program and application deadlines.

SAFER AT HOME GUIDELINES

The Stay at Home 2.0 order has been replaced by Safer at Home. Guidelines still must be followed and can be found at <https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/>

Town Offices remain closed to the public at this time but we are working on a plan to be able to reopen to the public. Town employees continue to work both remotely and on site and remain committed to ensuring the safety of both employees and the public.

EVERSOURCE

In these difficult times, we want you to know that help is available. Additional funds were recently allocated to The New Hampshire Housing Relief Program to help customers experiencing financial hardship during the pandemic.

- Even if you have never applied before, if you have been laid off or had your hours reduced because of the pandemic, you may be eligible now for a one-time grant of up to \$2,500 or assistance over the course of several months.
- These funds can be used to pay housing or utility costs and will be sent on your behalf direction to your landlord or utility company.
- There is no income limit to qualify.
- This is not a loan and does not need to be paid back.

Apply online, or through your local community action agency. To find an agency nearest you, call 211. Please have copies of your utility bill handy for reference. [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

NH HOUSING RELIEF PROGRAM

The GOFERR allocated \$35 million from the \$1.25 billion in federal funds that NH received from the CARES Act State-Local Coronavirus Relief Fund towards a new [Housing Relief Program](#) to assist families and individuals facing housing insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has two components: 1) one-time grants for households that suffered a limited short-term loss of household income or increased expenses that threaten the family's ability to maintain its housing; and 2) short-term rental assistance program. The program is being administered by the state's five Community Action Program (CAP) agencies and more details, including how to apply to your local CAP, can be found [here](#).

NH DHHS Announces Online Purchasing Program for SNAP Recipients

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division for Economic and Housing Stability (DEHS) has received approval from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to participate in a pilot program that allows recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to purchase and pay for groceries online. The [SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot](#) program allows the use of Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards to purchase eligible food items through two authorized online retailers, Amazon and Walmart.

"From the beginning of the COVID-19 emergency, we have worked hard to ensure that our residents are able to safely access the things their families need when they need them the most," said Governor Chris Sununu. "Online purchasing provides additional flexibility for all Granite State SNAP recipients, allowing them more ways to use their SNAP benefits to make sure their families have access to healthy and nutritious food during the pandemic and beyond."

“Online purchasing is one more way New Hampshire residents can access good nutrition throughout the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said DHHS Commissioner Lori Shibinette. “Purchasing groceries online is safe, secure, and helps people maintain social distancing measures that help slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.”

Participation in the pilot program is one of several measures DHHS has taken to reduce concerns around food insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Others include the issuance of emergency SNAP benefits; the extension of certification periods for SNAP recipients; a temporary suspension of SNAP work requirements for eligible individuals; participation in Pandemic EBT (P-EBT), which provides families with children enrolled in the National School Lunch Program additional SNAP benefits due to the loss of school meals during remote learning; and accepting applications by phone for the Women, Infants and Children program. SNAP recipients will be able to purchase eligible food items, but will not be able to use benefits for service or delivery charges.

The SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot was established by the federal 2014 Farm Bill, which mandated a pilot to test the feasibility of allowing online transactions using SNAP benefits. In 2017, eight states were selected to be part of the pilot, which was launched in New York State in 2019, followed by Washington in January 2020. Additional states have joined the program as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. For more information on the SNAP Online Purchasing Pilot program, please visit <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dfa/foodstamps/index.htm>.

NH Department of Health and Human Services Resource Guide and Warm Line to Support Families During COVID-19

Concord, NH – The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) has developed two new resources to help children, youth, families and caregivers during the COVID-19 emergency.

The first is “[Supporting Child and Family Wellbeing During the COVID-19 Emergency](#),” a new resource guide with practical tips on how we can all support children and families during COVID-19. The guide also provides a list of resources available to families statewide. The second resource is the [Family Support Warm Line](#), a partnership between DHHS and Waypoint. The Family Support Warm Line is a no-cost, confidential phone support line focused on promoting family resiliency. Residents can call 800-640-6486 and speak with family support professionals and parent partners for help with managing family challenges, coping strategies, or emotional support during COVID-19.

“Our data has shown a decline in the number of calls made to DCYF from those community helpers who regularly see kids face to face, but this is continues to be a stressful time for families and our focus has to remain on prevention,” said DCYF Director Joseph Ribsam. “Having resources readily available and a place where parents and caregivers can turn if they need to talk to someone can make a difference for our families and guide them to the services they need to stay strong and healthy, before they reach a tipping point that leads to abuse or neglect.”

The efforts stem from [Emergency Order #22](#), issued by Governor Chris Sununu on April 1, which authorizes emergency funding for critical child protection services to ensure that New Hampshire families continue to receive the right services at the right time during the COVID-19 emergency. In addition to the Family Support Warm Line, the funding will support domestic violence and substance use supports, expansion of the DCYF Strength to Succeed Program, and additional technology support for DCYF-involved families.

March data from the Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) shows a [decrease in referrals](#) to DCYF's Central Intake, compared to the same time period over the past two years. New child abuse and neglect referrals are down nearly 50% each week overall. To learn more about recognizing the signs of child abuse and neglect, visit [Know and Tell](#), an education program offered through the Granite State Children's Alliance, the Chapter Organization for the network of New Hampshire's Child Advocacy Centers.

The Family Support Warm Line can be reached toll-free at 1-800-640-6486, Monday - Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. If you suspect child abuse or neglect, call the DCYF Central Intake line at (603) 271-6562 or toll-free (in state) at (800) 894-5533.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, STATE JOINT INFORMATION CENTER, 603-223-6169 or jic@dos.nh.gov

SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available in New Hampshire Following Secretary of Agriculture Disaster Declaration for Drought

The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today that Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and private nonprofit organizations as a result of drought. The loans are available in the following counties: Belknap, Carroll, Grafton, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham, Strafford and Sullivan in **New Hampshire**. Loan applications can be downloaded from sba.gov/disaster. Submit completed loan applications to SBA no later than **June 15, 2021**. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.



NEW HOURS FOR THE LIBRARY

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 11am -7pm
Thursday and Friday 10am – 5pm Saturday 9am – 12pm
CLOSED Wednesday, November 11th for Veterans Day



Youth Programs November 2020

Story-time At The Library! (weather permitting)

We will have an outdoor/in person story time Thursday mornings from 10:00-10:45 weather permitting. Bring a blanket to sit on and your mask. We will update Facebook by 9:15 if there are any changes or cancellations.

Grab and Go Crafts - Pick up on Tuesdays

We continue to put out new craft kits and activities every Tuesday at 2:00 pm.

We also have fun worksheets to take.

November 10 STEM grabber craft

November 17 I am thankful for you cards

November 24 Turkey placemat or hat



Preschool Story-time – Thursdays - 11:30 am Note NEW Time!!

Come join our preschool story-time on **Facebook Live!** every Thursday.

November 12 Kindness stories

November 19 Thanksgiving stories



Lap sit Story-time – Wednesday November 18 - 9:00 am Facebook Live

Music and Movement – Wednesday November 11 - 2:30 pm Facebook Live

Pajama Story-time - Wednesday – November 25 - 6:00 pm

We will read some fun stories, do some activities and learn some fun facts. Wear your pajamas and bring your teddy bear. A **Facebook Live!** Program.

Adult Book Discussion Monday, November 9 - 7:00pm via Zoom

We will be discussing *The Collector's Apprentice* by B.A. Shapiro. There are copies at the library for you, just call and reserve one. We will bag and tag it and put in on the Curbside Cart for you! To join the discussion go to Zoom.us, Join Meeting ID 476 452 0503 Password 675752.



A Virtual Program for Children and Youth

Comics Workshop with Marek Barrett

Saturdays November 7 and 21 11:00 am

Click [Here](#) to register. A two-part program on drawing comics. Attend one or both sessions. This is a Zoom program, **registration is required**. Click on the link above or go to www.durhampubliclibrary.org to register. Sponsored by the Friends of the Lee Public Library.



CURBSIDE PICKUP

Contact-less curb-side pickup is available during regular open hours. If the weather is non-cooperative, the pickup will be just inside the library main entrance. You may request items via phone 659-2626, [email](#) or online through our [catalog](#). Your requested items will be checked out to you, placed in a bag, and tagged with your name. We will email or call you when your items are ready to be picked up.



Regional & State News & Events

NH COMMERCE CORRIDOR & NH EMPLOYMENT SECURITY VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

Tuesday, November 10TH 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

This virtual job fair will showcase many different industries with hundreds of positions from Concord to the Massachusetts border. Employer and attendees can [register here](#). More information for interested employers can be found [here](#).

OYSTER RIVER SCHOOL BOARD NEWS – OCTOBER 21, 2020

The Oyster River School Board welcomed student representative Megan Deane, an ORHS senior following recent student leadership elections.

The Barrington student tuition rate for ORHS has been set at \$18,330 for the 2021-2022 school year based on the formula agreed in the Tuition Agreement, which is based on the actual change in spending at ORHS from year to year.

Over 1600 responses were received to the district's survey about preferences and satisfaction with certain aspects of school this fall. The school board appreciates the high response rate and continued thoughtful comments on all aspects of this fall's school models.

Mast Way and Moharimet Schools will continue to operate Hybrid (four half days per week at school, learning at home other days) and Remote models. Families who would prefer to switch models will be given that opportunity, provided space exists in class sizes. No action was taken regarding Middle School and High School models. MS and HS administrators will refine models presented this week for the November 4 school board meeting.

The slides presented for each school level and the survey results are posted on the ORCSD website under the [Agenda and Minutes for October 21ST](#).

GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, October 21, 2020

[CLICK HERE](#) for the 10/21/2020 Minutes

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the State House in Concord, NH



[CLICK HERE](#) for the Fall Lamprey River Wild & Scenic Newsletter

McGregor EMS Volunteers Needed

McGregor EMS is currently seeking both Medical and Non-Medical Volunteers. Those interested may email membership@mcgregorems.org. To learn more about this great service [CLICK HERE](#)!

If you are a Lee Resident in need of assistance with a Veteran's issue the Lee Memorial VFW Post 10676 may be able to help.

This post serves the communities of Lee, Durham, Madbury and Newmarket and has Service Officers who can help folks with just about any Veteran's related issue. At the State level they have a seat on the SVAC (State Veterans Advisory Committee) and are linked with tens of other non-profit Veterans organizations that provide a host of services. Please contact Andy Corrow, Commander, VFW Post 10676, at 603-397-9267 or vfwpost10676@yahoo.com for assistance.

ATTENTION!

To receive the E-CRIER via email every week go to www.leenh.org, click on the Subscribe button under the Town Resource Center section & follow the directions to subscribe.

If you do not have the internet please come to Town Hall for a printed copy or go to the Library to view it there. If you cannot leave your home please call Town Secretary Denise Duval at 659-5414 to have it mailed!