

**TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
249 Calef Highway
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(603) 659-5414**

**Lee News & Upcoming
Events
December 17, 2021**

**ICE SKATING RINK AT TOWN FIELD RETURNING IN 2022
Please keep these guidelines in mind for when it opens**

GUIDELINES WHEN USING NEW ICE RINK

1. DAWN TO 8pm
2. HOCKEY MAY BE PLAYED IF NO ONE ELSE IS SKATING
3. HOCKEY ONLY HOURS: SAT & SUN 8-10am WED 6-8pm



ARE YOU IN NEED OF ALITTLE HELP DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

Christmas is fast approaching, if you could use extra help with food or gifts we may be able to help you! If you have a child(ren) in the Oyster River School District, please reach out to either Katherine Moore or Erica Talbot at 659-3001. If your children are not in school, please reach out to Caren Rossi at 603-659-6783 or crossi@leenh.org. **Please don't delay, REACH OUT NOW!**

JOIN THE NEW COMMITTEE OF LEE GREETERS!

The Lee Select Board is interested in putting together a committee of approximately 6-7 members who will work together on greeting new residents to the Town of Lee. What, when and the logistics of how this will happen will be developed by this new committee and presented to the Board for final approval. If you are interested in being part of this, please call Caren at 603-659-6783.

HOLIDAY CLOSING SCHEDULE

TOWN OFFICES

CLOSED FRIDAY, 12/24/21 Christmas Eve

CLOSED FRIDAY, 12/31/21 New Year's Eve

TRANSFER STATION

CLOSED SATURDAY, 12/25/21 Christmas Day

CLOSED SATURDAY 1/1/22 New Year's Day

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

December 27th Select Board Meeting & 1st Budget Public Hearing

January 10th Select Board Meeting & 2nd Budget Public Hearing

[CLICK HERE](#) for Budget Meetings Schedule

Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road
Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

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

LEE HAERITAGE COMMISSION CALENDARS FOR SALE



The Lee Heritage Commission 2022 calendars are now available!! Calendars can now be purchased in person at the Lee Library. They are \$10 each, payable by cash or check made out to the Town of Lee. If you would like to order copies online and have them shipped (they make great gifts!) go to <https://www.ebay.com/itm/133965658009>.

We hope you all enjoy the photos as much as we have! Here's to a happier and healthier 2022!



Lee's Trees Contest: Then and Now

Enter Soon, Before It's Gone!

Got a favorite tree from the past or present? Honor it with an entry in The Lee's Trees Contest: Then and Now! Contest details and entry forms are available here:

https://www.leenh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif776/f/uploads/lees_trees_brochure_2021_0.pdf

As December and 2021 wind down, the Lee's Trees Contest is nearing its close. Share your love and give your tree a hug!



*The Lee's Trees Contest:
Then and Now*

A Celebration of Lee's Trees: History, Science and the Arts

Three Entry Categories:
Then and Now, Old or New and Tree Art

Details at:

www.leenh.org (Sustainability Committee)

Facebook: [LeenHSustainabilityCommittee](https://www.facebook.com/LeenHSustainabilityCommittee)

Brochures at Lee Town Offices and the Lee Public Library

Open to all Lee residents and ORCSD elementary school students.

All submissions due by December 31, 2021

LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE NEEDS 1 MORE LEE REPRESENTATIVE

The LRAC needs 1 more interested individual in serving on the Committee to represent the Town of Lee. There may be up to 4 individuals representing each municipality. Currently, there are 2 Lee representatives on the Committee and 1 who is in the process of applying. LRAC members must reside in NH and may represent a broad range of interests including local government, business, conservation interests, recreation, agriculture, and riparian landowners (those who own property adjacent to the river). Each member serves a term of 3 years. [CLICK HERE](#) for the nomination form. Please contact Joe Foley, Chair at jmfoley48@comcast.net if you have any questions about LRAC, or Denise Duval, Assistant Town Administrator at dduval@leenh.org if have any questions about the nominating process.

LEE POLICE DEPARTMENT REMINDER

Please Do Not park any vehicles upon any roadway in Town during a snowstorm as it impedes the Highway Department from doing their job. Also, please clear the snow from your vehicle before hitting the road!

Jessica's Law has been the law of NH for about fifteen (15) years now. It is a law that **requires the clearing of ice and snow off the top of a vehicle prior to driving it**. The basis of the law was a tragic accident that claimed the life of Jessica Smith in 1999.

265:79-b Negligent Driving. – Whoever upon any way drives a vehicle negligently or causes a vehicle to be driven negligently, as defined in RSA 626:2, II(d), or in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger any person or property shall be guilty of a violation and shall be fined not less than \$250 nor more than \$500 for a first offense and not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 for a second or subsequent offense.

The Town of Lee also has a **Snow Casting Ordinance** which was adopted on 1/7/2008. [CLICK HERE](#).

STUMPOLOGY PART 1 – HARDWOOD STUMPS

By Catherine Fisher

Every forest has stumps. The Lee Town Forest, after years of being used agriculturally and as a woodlot, is full of them.

For many hundreds, if not thousands, of years, the Town Forest was a primeval forest. A place where disturbances such as wind and fire resulted in swaths of open areas, giving rise to a mixed-age forest - a multilayered canopy with stands of young trees bumping up against communities of trees many hundreds of years old. Native Americans who lived here may have created small clearings to raise crops and may have used fire to create a more open canopy to facilitate hunting, but the multilayered, multigenerational forest remained. Abandoned crop clearings created openings where small grassy patch habitats and early succession shrublands added to habitat and species diversity among the forest's tree communities.

The advent of European settlers brought an end to this historical forest. At the time of their arrival, 90% of what is now New England was forested. With much of Europe's forests consumed in the production of buildings, ships and fuel, North America's vast tracts of primeval forest were a boon to settlers from across the Atlantic. White pines were felled for masts; forests were cleared for building materials, fuel and to create fields for pasture and crops. By the mid to late 1800's much of New England had been deforested, with many of these once-forested tracts, including what is now the Town Forest, giving way to farms.

Evidence of the Town Forest's agricultural past is everywhere: stonewalls, barbed wire, stunted junipers, pasture pines, and the occasional cedar snag are evidence that, for generations, this was open farmland. Like many of New England's marginal farms (and with its steep ravines, this part of Lee would not have been an easy place to farm), farming here eventually ceased, and the forest began to return. As hardwoods and conifers grew in size, they were often harvested, and throughout the Town Forest old stumps and coppiced hardwoods give evidence of this activity.



Stumps from conifers and deciduous hardwoods are easy to tell apart because they rot differently. Conifers rot from the outside in and hardwoods rot from the inside out. Conifer stumps are legion in the Town Forest; hardwood stumps are much less common. The stump pictured here, with its tough exterior surrounding an empty well like the curtain wall of a medieval castle, is a classic example of an old hardwood stump. Determining what species of hardwood this was requires some guesswork, although the field of candidates can be narrowed. Maples, birches, beech, red oak, hickory and ash rot fairly

quickly and uniformly - a stump from any of these species will disappear entirely within 30 years, with only coppiced suckers remaining to give proof that this is where a stump once stood.

White oak, black locust, and American chestnut, however, are made of sturdier stuff. All are naturally rot-resistant and can persist longer than a century. Given that this stump has definitely not rotted uniformly, it likely is one of these hardwoods. Which one? As I've not come across black locust in the Town Forest (though this doesn't mean they aren't present here), this species seems an unlikely candidate. Which leaves white oak or American chestnut as the likely species. Because American chestnut reddens with age, and because the stump is located near an area where chestnut suckers grow, suggests that perhaps this stump is the remains of what was a fine old

chestnut that either succumbed to the chestnut blight introduced in this country in 1904, or was harvested in anticipation of it being taken by the disease. With a diameter of 20 inches, this tree may have been 75 to a hundred years old when it died. In New England, American chestnuts began to succumb to the introduced chestnut blight in the 1920s, and by the 1950s the species was considered functionally extinct. Along with elm and butternut, it is a species, once a significant part of this forest's tree community that has all but disappeared.



One Bin at a Time – The Consolidated e-Book

Talking trash with Jen Messeder, LSC member

Greetings, fellow recyclers! The Sustainability Committee has a couple of announcements this week. First, you've no doubt noticed some changes at the Transfer Station. The obvious change is that the divided bin (office paper and magazines) has been recombined back to mixed paper. A less obvious change is the financial information that is posted at the bins to let us know how much we earn (or pay) to recycle our recyclables. The pandemic has raised the demand for recycled material across the board and the paper market is especially hot. Now more than ever, it pays to recycle! The second announcement is that we've updated the One Bin electronic book to reflect these changes and posted it on the Sustainability Committee's page on the town's website in place of the old version – <https://www.leenh.org/sustainability-committee> (left side, One Bin at a Time button). We hope it will serve as an ongoing resource for the community and we will continue to keep it up to date as things change.



Refuse • Reduce • Reuse • Repair • Repurpose • Recycle • Rot



• Lee NH Sustainability Committee • Low Carbon Diet - Seacoast NH • "Zero Waste" groups

SWAP SHOP NEWS – WINTER 2021/2022

With winter approaching and the weather getting colder, the Transfer Station Swap Shop will need to change how it accepts items and its hours of operation.

Bulky Items: **Saturday, December 11** was the last day until spring that large bulky items were accepted at the Swap Shop.

Electronics: A reminder that there is a Disposal Fee that needs to be paid before drop off of electronics (Radios, Stereos VCR/DVD Players, Monitors, or TV's).

Smaller items: With limited space for the winter, please limit your drop off items to One (1) Tote per week.

If you have a large load, we suggest you use the Facebook page “Swap Shop Treasures ~ Lee, NH” or one of the local charitable groups (Goodwill, Re-Store, Salvation Army, etc.). Please note the “Swap Shop Treasures ~ Lee, NH” Facebook page is not maintained or controlled by the Transfer Station Swap Shop but provided by a private citizen. Please follow the rules associated with this page.



Hours: The Swap Shop is open for now but the number of Volunteers is reducing for the winter months. This open status may change in the future.

The Swap Shop is open, if the garage door is open. **Please do not drop off anything if the Swap Shop garage door is closed.**

The Swap Shop will be Closed due to:

High winds, rain or snow;

Schools closing due to weather;

Temperatures below 10°F wind chill;

Or the lack of volunteers.

Thank you for your understanding and we look forward to returning to normal operations in the spring.

RECENT COVID-RELATED INFORMATION
[NH COVID-19 WEBSITE](#)

NH DHHS
[COVID-19 PANDEMIC, UPDATE #48](#)
Vaccine for Children 5-11 Years Old

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY - Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

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 **5:30pm - 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

Various Committees have openings to be filled. If you are interested contact the Office Manager Denise Duval at 603-659-5414 or email dduval@leenh.org. [CLICK HERE](#) for Application.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & BOARD [MEETING CALENDAR](#)
[LIBRARY CALENDAR](#)

READY RIDES

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: **Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madury, 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 info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an [Application](#) for riders and a [Volunteer Application](#) on this website. Email or mail it to Ready Rides P.O. Box 272 Northwood, NH 03261. For other transportation options available in the region, please visit ACT's [Community Transportation Directory](#).

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. 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 \$50.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association. [CLICK HERE](#) for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form

Lee Public Library

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Wednesday 11:00 am – 7:00 pm
Thursday & Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Holiday Hours at the Library

Friday, December 24, 2021 – 9 am – Noon
Saturday, December 25 – Closed
Friday, December 31- 9 am - Noon
Saturday, January 1, 2022 - Closed



KNITTERS MEET HERE

Knitters are meeting on the 1ST AND 3RD Wednesday morning of the month at 10 AM. Their next meeting is Wednesday, January 5th and 19th. All skill levels invited, and there is instruction!



WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2021 PROGRAMS

We are taking a break from preschool programs until January 2022.

Preschool Story-time – Thursdays from 10:30am – 11:30am. Stop by for our traditional story time. We will read, sing, wiggle and craft.

Sensory/Station Story time – Fridays from 10:30am – 11:30am. This is our activity based program. We will listen to a story or two, get out our rhythm sticks/maracas/boomwhackers or scarves and then have fun with assorted stations including sensory, fine/gross motor, puzzles...

Virtual Program

Saturday, December 18th - 10:30am – 11:30am
Eric Carle Museum virtual program for kids
Register at www.durhampubliclibrary.org



Afterschool Offerings – Tuesday & Thursday
Call the library at 659-2626 for information.

Session 3 – January and February 2022

Afterschool story time - Tuesdays from bus drop off until 4:45.
Lego Club - Thursdays from bus drop off until 4:45.

Middle School Book Club – Tuesday, December 28th

Our middle school book club meets via ZOOM on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-6:45 pm. Contact the library at 659-2626 if you are in grades 5-8 and would like to join us. We have a supply of the books available at the Library.

Regional & State News & Events



The Seacoast Village Project (a nonprofit)

Helping seniors age in their homes and community!

Educational Programs, Social Activities, Home Services, Resources, Friendships

Membership Information

<https://www.seacoastvillageproject.org/>

(603)-373-8429

OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS – 12-15-2021

Nearly 900 COVID-19 vaccinations were administered at ORHS on Saturday, December 11th in an event administered by McGregor Memorial EMS with support from Strafford County Public Health Network and many volunteers. This includes doses for Oyster River and Barrington students aged 5-11, as well as 1st, 2nd and booster doses for ages 12+. Thank you to all who made this event a success! Those who received second doses on December 11th are considered fully vaccinated as of December 25th.

School Nurses continue to be extra-busy taking care of our students and staff, answering questions about symptoms and exposure, and providing both rapid and PCR COVID-19 tests to students and staff. If you are unsure about sending your student to school due to symptoms of illness or possible COVID-19 exposure, please call the school and discuss options with the school nursing team.

Students will begin classes in the new Oyster River Middle School building in 75 days. Principal Jay Richard is planning open houses for community and alumni for both the new middle school and the current middle school. The existing ORMS building will be removed in spring of 2022 for construction of the athletic field.

Catherine Plourde, Director of Student Services, has been named one of two NH Special Education Administrators of the Year. Congratulations, Catherine, and thank you to the special education staff that nominated her.

Assistant Superintendent Suzanne Filippone presented academic progress data spanning Fall 2018 to Fall 2021 and described how teachers and administrators use these tools to help identify individual and groups of students in need of additional academic support at all levels. While this data cannot measure the entire student experience, they indicate that on average, reading and math scores in the fall of 2021 was equivalent to or better than they were in 2018 and 2019 pre-pandemic.

The next regular Oyster River School Board meeting will be January 5, 2022 in the ORHS library. A presentation and public hearing on the proposed 2022-2023 budget will be on January 11, 2022 at 7:00 in the Oyster River High School auditorium.

Oyster River Schools are closed from December 23, 2021 through January 2, 2022. School resumes on Monday, January 3, 2022.



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

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 **Scott Moreau**, Commander, VFW Post 10676, at 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 the Town Offices 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!