

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

7 Mast Road
Lee, New Hampshire 03861
(603) 659-5414

April 24, 2020

Lee News & Upcoming
Events

**THE LEE BACKYARD FARMING INITIATIVE SERIES
scheduled for APRIL 27, 2020 has been postponed until further notice.**

A vertical poster with a blue background. At the top, a yellow circle contains the hashtag #WeAreInThisTogether. Below it, the text 'Stay at Home' is written in large white letters, with a small house icon to the left. Underneath, in smaller white text, it says 'New Hampshire has issued a Stay at Home order due to COVID-19'. A yellow horizontal band contains the text 'Let's work together to help stop the spread. We CAN make a difference!'. Below this, the text 'Only leave home to:' is followed by four items, each with an icon: a medical cross for 'Seek medical care', a shopping cart for 'Get essential supplies (Groceries, medication, cleaning supplies)', a fork and knife for 'Get food from take-out only restaurants', and a sailboat for 'Exercise outside while practicing social distancing'. At the bottom, a yellow band says 'For more information visit: nh.gov/covid19/'. To the right of this band are logos for the 'NH DIVISION OF Public Health Services' and the 'Department of Health and Human Services'.

NH DMV 20-day plates as well as NH authorized dealer 20-day plates issued on or after February 26, 2020 have been given an automatic extension through May 31, 2020.

We are encouraging anyone who has questions or needs assistance to call us or utilize our online systems for access to assessing records, motor vehicle registration, etc.

Although you may not be able to see some of us, please be assured that we are all still hard at work to keep Town operations flowing as seamlessly as possible, even though Town Hall, the Planning & Zoning office, and the Library remain closed to the public. Employees are now working remotely on a rotating schedule with one staff member at a time working in Town Hall, the P&Z office and the Library. We monitor on a daily basis all communications from the state and federal governments and we continue to communicate with each other so that everyone is connected and staying informed and up to speed on the latest information, which, as you all know changes rapidly.

NH Department of Health and Human Services FAQ Sheet on COVID-19 [CLICK HERE](#)

Please see the Town website <https://Leenh.org> for more information and be sure to subscribe to **“Town News”** to get the latest notices emailed directly to your inbox.

Police/Fire/ Ambulance Emergencies	911
Police Business Number	659-5866
Fire Business Number	659-5411
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	659-2964
Planning & Zoning/Building Inspector	659-6783
Selectmen/Assessing/Finance Office	659-5414

New Hampshire residents who have concerns about COVID-19 can call 2-1-1. Information and referral specialists are on hand to direct people to the appropriate resources. NH 2-1-1 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Outside of New Hampshire, call 1-866-444-4211.

To immediately report any suspected cases of COVID-19 to the Division of Public Health Services call 603-271-4496 (M-F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm) or after hours at 603-271-5300. Callers should expect to leave a message and be patient while waiting for a return call.

If you are sick with symptoms such as fever, cough and/or shortness of breath call your own healthcare provider and follow their instructions.

Please stay safe and keep everyone else safe by following the CDC’s guidelines – limit social contact – wash your hands – stay in if you are sick – clean and sanitize surfaces.

**PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT WE ARE NOT WIPING DOWN PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT,
PICNIC BENCHES OR ANY OTHER SURFACES**

Be smart. Do your part.

The Town of Lee urges our residents and visitors to do their part to stop 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. Do not participate in any team and contact sports, such as basketball, football, softball and soccer. Cookouts are also not permitted in Little River Park, until further notice. Avoid touching surfaces including playground equipment, benches, and other sports equipment that are handled by others.

We discourage gathering in our parks and remind everyone that groups of 10 or more are now prohibited under Governor Sununu’s Emergency Order No. 16.

Our parks and trails are open, but please:

- Do not gather in groups of more than 10 or get closer than 6 feet from others
- Do not touch any surfaces that are likely to be touched by other people
- Refrain from using playground equipment
- Do not participate in activities involving physical contact or sharing of equipment

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION

THE TRANSFER STATION IS OPEN BUT PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING

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 DUMP STICKER IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE ONE

Stickers are only good for two years!

You may have seen a Lee Police Officer at the Transfer Station over the past week, checking for stickers. The fact that many people access the Transfer Station without a valid sticker has been an ongoing problem and we feel that it is more important than ever to ensure that only residents and those who are authorized to be there in accordance with the town's Solid Waste Ordinance are using our Transfer Station.



We are urging you to be patient and understanding at this time. Stickers will be available at the Transfer Station if you do not already have one. 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

regarding documentation please contact us at Town Hall or you may refer to the Solid Waste Ordinance, available [HERE](#). We are exploring the possibility of including a sticker with your car registration sometime in the near future.

CHANGES TO MIXED PAPER

Mixed paper should now be placed with Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) until further notice. We are doing this to protect our employees, as it takes a great deal of handling and sorting in order to make it recyclable. When we are no longer under the conditions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, we will switch to having residents separate office paper and magazines from other types of paper in order to maximize our recycling revenue.

PLEASE CONTINUE PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING

Both bays remain open as we have seen an improvement in the flow of traffic, but **please try to avoid peak traffic day on Saturday**. Everyone is doing a good job of maintaining a safe distance. In order for our employees and residents to maintain the recommended safe distance of 6', employees will not be stationed on the wall during this time but will be there to answer questions.

PLEASE KEEP CHILDREN IN YOUR VEHICLE

We understand that many of you have children at home with you as the schools and daycares have closed and you may not be able to leave them at home when you come to the Transfer Station but 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 in keeping everyone healthy!

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.

THANK YOU'S FROM MCGREGOR EMS

McGregor has had much to be thankful for over these past few months and wanted to publicly acknowledge and say a big THANK YOU to those who have offered to support the organization and its members. While it is not possible to recognize all of the individuals who have offered support, we do want to recognize a few groups:

- **Our Volunteers.** We have a dedicated mix of community and student volunteers and both groups are incredibly committed in their service to the community. McGregor volunteers have averaged 700+ hours of weekly volunteer time since March and the majority have agreed to give even more of their time should call volume increase or members need to be quarantined. We are extremely proud of their dedication on the front lines of this pandemic.
- **The University of New Hampshire.** UNH has been an invaluable partner providing housing and meals for ambulance crews who would normally be traveling from farther away, thus increasing the resilience of our volunteer staffing. They have also provided additional space for duty crews to operate from since the cramped nature of our current station made social distancing impossible. Our ability to provide a safe place to volunteer and work would not have been possible without the University.
- **Community Members & Local Businesses.** We want to thank the many members and businesses in the local community who have stepped forward to support McGregor & our responders. This includes businesses such as Belknap Dental, Aroma Joes, Flag Hill Winery



(pictured), Rite-Aid, The Makery, and Citizens Bank. We are also grateful for the numerous residents who have donated handmade and industrial style masks. We are truly fortunate to serve in a community with so many generous individuals and businesses. Thank you!

- **Our Financial Donors.** McGregor crews are benefiting from specialized helmets known as CAPRs which provide N95 level protection without using up disposable masks. These devices also provide enhanced protection against respiratory droplets thought to be the primary vector of COVID-19 transmission. The majority of these CAPRs were purchased in 2017 with donated funds and have become integral to our effort to maintain the 'gold' standard of protective equipment for our crews. A big thank you to everyone who contributes to our annual fund drive for their part in providing this level of protection to our volunteers and staff.

Anyone who would like more information about McGregor or what we are doing to be prepared should contact us at 862-3674 or info@mcgregorems.org.

MCGREGOR'S NEW HIGH FIDELITY MANIKIN (ARES) "CATCHES" COVID-19

In mid-March, McGregor took receipt of a high fidelity training manikin, Ares, which was purchased thanks to a generous donation. Unfortunately for Ares, she was shipped from Florida (a COVID-19 hotspot) and almost immediately "contracted" the disease. This has served as a valuable training tool for crews as they get used to performing modified state protocols while wearing extensive personal protective equipment. The goal of this training is to provide crews with ample experience caring for potential COVID-19 patients prior to facing real world situations.



SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DISASTER DECLARATION FOR NH

Based on the request of Governor Sununu, the SBA has declared a disaster declaration for the entire State of New Hampshire based on economic injury due to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19).

All the details including the joint press release, the loan application process, assistance for government contractors, and other resources can be found [here](#).

Small businesses looking for assistance should reach out to one of the following partners for help with things such as filling out paperwork, questions or even advice. These partners include SCORE, NH Small Business Development Center, and the Center for Women & Enterprise (NH's Women Business Center and Veterans Business Outreach Center). You will find links to these partners at www.sba.gov/nh.

Since this is a very rapidly developing situation, to keep up to date on all activities effecting NH small businesses, please join our mailing list [click here](#).



WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE

- Governor Sununu restricted hotels and other lodging properties, including Airbnb, to providing lodging only for essential workers and vulnerable populations through [Emergency Order 27](#).
- The Small Business Administration (SBA) reports that its Office of Disaster Assistance expects to roll out Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) next week. Eligible applicants can receive a \$10,000 emergency grant. For more information, click [here](#).
- Our partners at the [New Hampshire Small Business Development Center](#) is helping small business owners navigate the programs and resources available to them. Their comprehensive COVID-19 page explains available loans, grants and deferment programs available, as well as a link to connect with a small business advisor.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has grounded many New Hampshire companies doing business in the global marketplace. The Department of Business and Economic Affairs' Office of International Commerce invites companies experiencing a slowdown to join the free webinar, [Using Digital Strategies to Maximize International Sales](#), from 11 am – noon, on April 15. OIC's popular [Export Boot Camp](#) is now available online, for more information and to register visit the website.
- The [New Hampshire Procurement Technical Assistance Center \(NH PTAC\)](#) is a free resource for companies doing business with the federal government. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, government spending, particularly defense spending, continues, as new and increasing needs posed by the coronavirus emerge daily. For free technical assistance, contact NH PTAC.

The Department of Business and Economic Affairs is working with its state and federal partners to provide resources to New Hampshire businesses affected by COVID-19. For information, visit www.nheconomy.com/covid19 or email us at info@nheconomy.com.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the SMALL BUSINESS OWNER'S GUIDE
TO THE FEDERAL CARES ACT

RECREATION COMMISSION PROGRAM UPDATE
Fishing Derby Postponed – TBD
Model Rocket Day and the Music in the Park Program – Stay Tuned

LEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY UPDATE

THE MUSEUM'S 2020 OPENING DATE TBD

The Lee Historical Society's program, "*The Founding Father: What Were They Thinking*" originally scheduled for May 6, 2020 will be rescheduled.



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

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

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



SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM

Tuesday, April 28th – 4:00 p.m.

**Please check the website for the Agenda and for instructions on how to access the meeting
Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar**

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

Any events listed in the E-Crier are subject to change without notice, although we will do our best to keep you informed in a timely manner

**NH Department of Health and Human Services
Press Release
4/9/2020**

**NH DHHS Announces 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.

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. To learn more about NH’s Child Abuse Prevention Month activities, visit the [New Hampshire Children’s Trust](#) website. 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 through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. 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 INFORMATON CENTER, 603-223-6169 or jic@dos.nh.gov



Notice : 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 without taking them from their homes to incur possible contact with the virus.

We are still providing rides to patients who require life sustaining services such as dialysis, blood transfusions, injections etc. We will take each request as they come in and assess the depth of the need. We are suspending all rides to counseling, physical therapy and general health and dental checkups. We recommend you utilize family friends and neighbors who you already have regular contact with to help provide rides during this short suspension.

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 pickup 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. Currently if you live in the town of Durham call 868-2324 for assistance. If you live in the town of Newfields call 772-9010 and ask for Helping hands for assistance.

Barrington, Lee, Madbury, New Market, Northwood, Barrington, Nottingham and Strafford towns do not directly have things in place yet. Call us here at 244-8719 and we will do our best to find a way to get you the help you need.

What Ready Rides Offers During Normal Operation

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madury, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford. 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 CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Things to See and Places to Go – April 24 – May 1, 2020

TERRESTRIAL

Check Out Our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/LeeConservationCommission/> Amanda Gourgue, who maintains the Conservation Commission's Facebook page, publishes frequent posts to help folks learn about local trails, flora, fauna, and habitats. Her posts about outdoor/indoor activities for families and how to enjoy the outdoors while keeping safe during this period of social distancing are well worth a look.

Anytime: Take a Walk in the Lee Town Forest - Cool weather through March and April has resulted in a more gradual emergence of leaves and flowers. This year's slow-motion spring provides us with an opportunity to watch the season unfold. Wood Walk #5 will be posted on the Conservation Commission's Facebook page (link above) this weekend. Featured topics: a closer look at salamander eggs, uncoiling Canada mayflower leaves, emerging star flower leaves, pitcher plants, the male flowers of sweet ferns, and, in honor of Earth Day, some nature art.

Anytime: Take a Walk in the Maud Jones Memorial Forest - Don Quigley has posted a new self-guided at MJMF. His guide is posted on site, so you can pick up a copy at the MJMF trailhead. It is also posted on the Lee Conservation Commission's Facebook page (link above). Don's second walk features, among other things, the importance of dead wood in supplying micro-habitats and nesting sites for both invertebrates and vertebrates; a sampling of some of the habitats found in the forest; and specific plants such as oaks, yellow birch, and wetland wildflowers. There's even a quiz you can take at the end of your walk!

Go on a Scavenger Hunt: Who can find a pine cone? A perching bird? A seed? A chipmunk? A butterfly? A spider web? Mass. Audubon has printable cards to get the game going. Each card has spaces for four players, a scoring system, and a big list of cool stuff to find. Some things are easy, like a pine cone, and only worth one point; harder things, like a soaring bird, are worth two points; and hardest of all, like a spider web, are worth three points. The link below will take you to the pdf. Download and print it up, or use as a template to make up your own list. https://www.massaudubon.org/content/download/42711/1051695/file/Neighborhood-Scavenger-Hunt_fillable.pdf

Story Time: Another Owlet Rescue by Andrew Joslin - Andrew Joslin, a graphic artist who is also tree arborist, tree climbing specialist, gear innovator and instructor, was called in for his third owlet rescue in as many weeks, this time a screech owlet. The link below shows some of the photographs he took during the rescue operation: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/naturejournal/albums/72157713962922817>

And here is his description:

"On Sunday, April 19 I received a call requesting help: two "Great Horned Owl" young on the ground in Lynn, Massachusetts. I made the 45 minute drive to Lynn, ready to do a nest climb. As I drove into a neighborhood of small lots and tightly spaced houses I couldn't see a single white pine and saw only a single conifer, Norway spruce, in a backyard. The streets in the immediate area were dominated by large silver maples. While driving, I'd received a text message that the nest location was unknown. I was now a little confused, how could anyone miss seeing a typical GHO nest in a leafless large deciduous tree? Once there, I was shown two downy gray owlets in a cardboard box under a craggy silver maple. They were not GHO owlets. Then a neighbor pointed out "the mother" perched fairly high in a red oak, watching us. She was tiny and looked like a typical clump of marcescent oak leaves retained from last year. I made the fairly easy ID, screech owl. Now everything was starting to make sense. The maple I was standing under was big and in rough shape. A major leader (or stem) had

broken off a few years back and the remaining stub had a long hollow with a longitudinal opening. I looked around that tree and others nearby for a typical opening that a Screech Owl would favor for nesting: nothing. I set a rope and climbed to the hollow stub and assessed that it looked pretty good for a new owlet home. The bottom of the cavity was flat and covered with decaying wood and bark bits, no signs that it was the original nest, though. The crack opening was right to the base of the cavity so I lashed a piece of bark to the crack to create a low enclosure so the owlets wouldn't simply walk out after I put them in. I assessed the owlets to be bright-eyed and responsive. They put some good talon grabs on my fingers showing good strength. I put them in the cavity as the parent watched the entire operation.

"After I de-rigged the tree, I exchanged contact info with the neighbors. That night I received a text message report that the two adult owls were vocalizing and flying back and forth in the crown of a huge silver maple across the street. This morning I received a report that both parents were at the new nest site and one was seen feeding the young a "large worm". I haven't looked it up, but I can't imagine a screech owl pulling worms like a Robin. I'm guessing they had a young Eastern Garter or Dekay's Brown Snake. If anyone knows that screech owls eat earthworms that would be an interesting natural history factoid. I'll keep following the progress of the owl family and report back if anything interesting happens."

After posting his rescue in the google group MassBird, several people wrote in to let Andrew know that earthworms do, in fact, make up a significant part of the diet of Eastern Screech-owls. Joshua Rose wrote that, "one study published in 2010 found that they were the third-most often consumed prey item: scarab beetles were by far in first place at 554, followed by voles at 292, and worms were eaten 79 times, a distant third but ahead of several other categories including deer mice, house Mice, caterpillars, adult moths, ground beetles, amphibians of any sort, and many others." Several other people wrote in describing their observations of screech owls eating earthworms, and additional information was provided about worm-eating kestrels and even red-tailed hawks!

Bird of the Week: Brown Creeper

Walking the woods this week, I've been enjoying the sweet songs of brown creepers. Transcribed as "*trees, beautiful trees*", it's a song that usually comes from high in the trees and, compared to the songs and calls of other birds, has a soft, thin quality. Robert Fletcher's photograph at right, beautifully captures the essential characteristics of this small brown and white patterned bird: long, sharply notched tail, short legs, long curved toes and long talons - structural adaptations that make it an adept bark-forager and tree climber. That long, stiff



tail serves as a brace that supports the bird as it circles up and around a tree trunk using its sharp, narrow, decurved (downward-pointing) bill to probe the bark's cracks and crevices for insects, spiders and other tasty invertebrates that make up the bulk of their diet. Woodpeckers and nuthatches forage in similar ways, but woodpeckers will go forwards and backwards on a tree trunk, while nuthatches are equally comfortable navigating the trunk in a head-up or head-down motion. Brown

creepers generally climb a tree trunk in a spiral, and almost always, they only spiral up - when they reach the tree top, they fly back down to the bottom of the trunk (or fly off to the base of a fresh tree) and spiral back up again. Here's a link to a video that nicely describes how a brown creeper navigates a tree trunk: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RvXPM33u3bQ>

Robert reported that he took the photograph last week when a pair of brown creepers were in his yard, combing tree trunks for food. The creeper in his photo has at least three insects in its beak. Why carry them around, rather than eat each insect as it's found? Well, one of the brown creepers was saving its juicy morsels as a present. Occasionally, in the course of their foraging, the pair would meet up, and Robert observed that the creeper with insects in its beak fed them to its mate. This is a type of avian behavior known as allofeeding, and at this time of year, it is behavior almost certainly related to courtship. Usually it's the male who feeds the female. By feeding her he strengthens the bond between them and shows her that he'll be a good provider; more importantly, research has shown that, among species where allofeeding is part of courtship, such behavior helps to offset the physical toll of nest-building, egg production, and brooding; a well-fed female, generally produces more, and weightier, eggs.

Both male and female seek out potential nesting sites - usually under the loose bark of a dead or dying tree, although occasionally a live tree with peeling bark, such as shagbark hickory, is chosen. (How cool that one of Don Quigley's topics in his new version of a self-guided walk in Maud Jones Memorial Forest, features the importance of dead trees as habitat and nesting sites.) On occasion, knot holes, woodpecker excavations, and squirrel drays are chosen as nest sites. The female constructs her nest using materials that she and her mate gather including wood fiber, hair, feathers, grass, leaves, moss and lichens. Using spider webs, spider egg sacs, and cocoons, she binds her building material to several high places in the nesting site - creating a hammock that supports the cup-shaped nest. At Casa Fisher, we once had the pleasure of watching a pair nest under the bark of a dead tree in our forested backyard. Even knowing where the nest was - and it was low on the trunk - it was easy to lose track of the parents, so perfectly did they blend in with the bark.

Sharon Beals, whose book *Nests: Fifty Nests and the Birds that Built Them*, provides both information and stunning photography, kindly allowed me to use her photographs of two brown creeper nests, each from a different science collection.

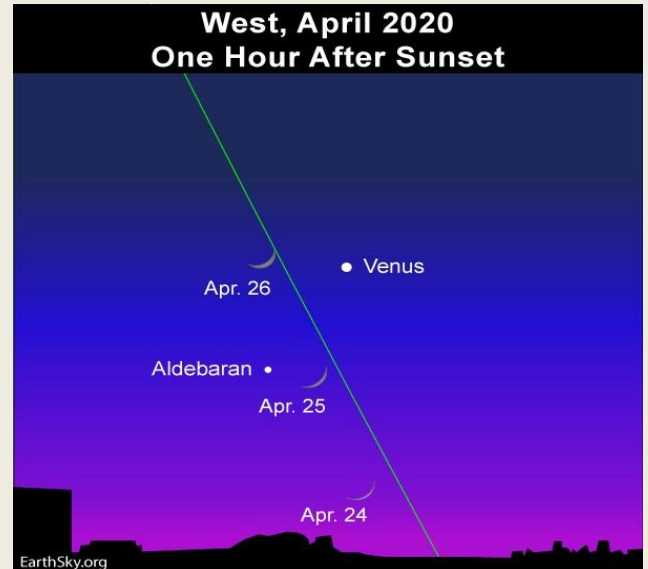


CELESTIAL

April 24-May 1, one hour after sunset, looking west
- **waxing crescent moon and Venus:** The two brightest objects in the night sky perform a celestial pas de deux for the next week, with the moon drifting closer to Venus on the 24 and 25th until it makes its closest approach on the 26th. After that, the widening moon drifts further and further away from Venus, rising more to the south with each succeeding evening. This last week of April is when Venus will be at its brightest for the year.

May 1-May 3, after sunset, looking south - moon and Leo - On these three evenings, you can use the waxing gibbous moon to become familiar with the constellation Leo, The Lion. With its large, backwards question mark, an asterism known as "the sickle", forming the lion's head, Leo is distinctive.

On May 1: The moon will be poised just over the constellation's brightest star, blue-white Regulus, the lion's heart. The 21st brightest night-sky object, and three and half times the size of our sun, Regulus is a very hot star - 21,000°F as compared to our Sun's 9,942°F. It is also a binary star, orbited by a white dwarf star. Regulus is 77.6 light years away.



On May 2: The moon will be drifting towards the Lion's hindquarters.

May 3: A very gibbous moon will be situated just under Denebola, the second-brightest star in Leo. Its name derives from the Arabic name meaning "lion's tail". Like Regulus, Denebola is a very hot, blue-white star, whose mass is nearly twice that of our sun. At 35.8 light years away, it is half as far from our planet as Regulus, but it is a much dimmer star - the 61st brightest night sky object.

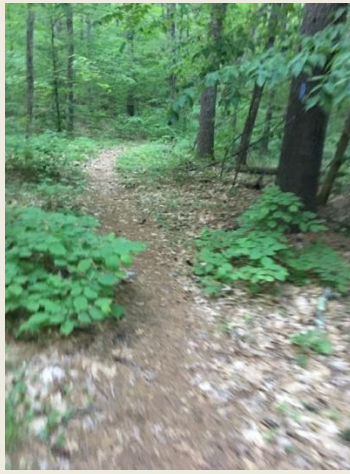


Photo by Dawn Limauro

WATCH FOR NEW NATURE HIGHLIGHTS ON THE MAUD JONES FOREST TRAILS BY DON QUIGLEY



Scott M. Nemet
Fire Chief

LEE FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT

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



Jeffery S. Liporto
Deputy Chief

TIMELY TOPICS FOR THE SPRING SEASON

We are in the midst of unprecedented times with the onset of the COVID 19 Virus. In an effort to protect our personnel and the public, the Fire Department has adjusted its operations. We are still fully staffed and operating to protect our community and respond to emergencies, but we have put a hold on or adjusted the way we provide some of our services. The Safety Complex has been closed to all visitors for the foreseeable future. All official business will be conducted by phone or email. Phone numbers and email addresses are provided on the Fire Department's web page (<https://www.leenh.org/fire-department>).

Burn permits are still required for all outside burning and all State burning regulations are still in effect. Burning regulations and permits can be found below.

All station tours are suspended as are all home visits for wood stove, burn permit and inspection purposes. Furnace installation inspections will be conducted on an emergency basis for emergency replacement only. All furnace replacement work shall be coordinated through the Fire Chief's office before any work is to be done.

All local bodies of water are ice free at this time. Please be cautious when recreating on the water as the water temperature is still near freezing and any exposure to the water could lead to hypothermia very quickly. Always wear a safety jacket when boating and abide by all safe boating practices.

All information regarding the Town of Lee's recommendations and response to the COVID 19 crisis will come from the Town of Lee Health Officer, Caren Rossi. All questions should be directed to her office at (603) 659-6783. Please abide by all recommendations to stay home, social distance, hand wash and protect yourself and the community. Only together can we make it through this crisis. For more information regarding COVID-19, please visit www.cdc.gov/.



**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...



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.

Please take the time NOW to SAVE TIME in an EMERGENCY.
[CLICK HERE](#) for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form

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](#)!

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY

Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

The food pantry is open to **any family** in the towns of Lee, Durham, Newmarket and Nottingham. The pantry is open the 1st & 3rd Monday of each month from 6 - 7:00 pm. If there is an emergency please call the Church office at 659-2861. All visits to the pantry are strictly confidential.

LEE TOWN COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Planning Board, Energy, and Sustainability Committees have immediate 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>



THE LIBRARY IS NOW CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Starting Saturday, March 28, 2020 the library discontinued curbside pickup. Per order of Governor Sununu's Stay Home order, we will no longer offer book pickup. We encourage you to keep all the items you currently have on loan until a future date, yet to be determined.

Please DO NOT return anything to the library during this time. When the library reopens we will begin accepting returns. Our Book Drop will remain CLOSED for the next several weeks.

You can reach the library director through email leelibrary@comcast.net with any concerns or questions.

MISSING THE LIBRARY?

You can check out Overdrive, Novelist, EBSCOHost and Universal Class at leelibrarynh.org.



GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, April 8, 2020

[CLICK HERE](#) for the 4/8/2020 Minutes

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the State House in Concord, NH

Help UNH Extension map food-access resources and needs across New Hampshire during COVID-19 – [CLICK HERE](#)



10th ANNUAL SEACOAST VETERANS CONFERENCE

The decision has been made to postpone the Seacoast Veterans Conference scheduled for May 9th due to the evolving COVID-19 situation. The health and safety of the veterans, vendors and community is of the utmost importance. They will re-evaluate in May and decide how to proceed. Keep an eye out for updates here or:

[CLICK HERE](#) for direct access to the Seacoast Veterans Conference Website

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED IN STRAFFORD COUNTY

Foster children come from your town, your neighborhood, and your school. They are friends of your child, members of your church, and kids on your little league team. They are babies, toddlers, school-aged kids, and teenagers. They are brothers and sisters who need to stay together. Due to a situation beyond their control, they have to be displaced from their homes and put into a temporary home. They need support, guidance and love. They need a safe place to call home while their family works to put itself back together. Are you able to make a difference in a child's life? Are you able to open your home to a child from your community – enabling them to remain in a familiar school, with familiar friends? There is a real need for foster homes in the Merrimack and Strafford County areas for Children of all ages & sibling groups.

If you'd like to learn more about the foster care program, please contact Dawn Ghiorzi, Recruitment and Licensing Specialist, with Ascentria Care Alliance at 603-931-9582 or at dghiorzi@ascentria.org. For more information on how you may help foster children in the Lee community please call Sally Cedarholm at the Lee Church 603-659-2861 or email her at leechurchucc@comcast.net.

NHES Operation VET Connect

Operation VETS Connect is a challenge to connect those who served and those who are serving and their spouses to employment, training and services they need to return to employment or into training to assist them with obtaining employment. Additional goals are to build an employer's awareness of the benefits to hiring those who served along with the awareness for those who served of the skills they have or need to build on to return to employment.

Employers are asked to register for the challenge by completing the registration form on the website under Job Fairs. (<http://www.nhes.nh.gov/media/job-fairs/index.htm>) The information from their registration form will be entered into a spreadsheet by Operations staff and made available to the offices. The employer name, industry, and town/city will also be listed on the website weekly. ESRs and LVERs should verify that the employer is registered in JMS and if appropriate, contact the employer to advise of the services available to them.

Veterans, those currently serving and their spouses are also asked to complete a registration form on the website under Job Fairs. (<http://www.nhes.nh.gov/media/job-fairs/index.htm>) Their information will be entered into a separate spreadsheet and distributed to the office nearest their homes. [CLICK HERE](#) for the Operation VET Connect Flyer

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!