

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

May 1, 2020

Lee News & Upcoming Events

Today, Governor Chris Sununu will hold a press conference at 3:00 PM on reopening the economy in New Hampshire.

You can watch it on WMUR TV and hear it on your local radio stations.



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.

RAIN BARRELS FOR SALE AT THE TRANSFER STATION
\$ 50 EACH
ONE ALLOWED PER HOUSEHOLD
There is a very limited quantity, first-come-first-served



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

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

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



NEXT SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM TBD

Please check the website for Agendas and for instructions on how to access Zoom meetings
Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

Meetings can be seen on  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.

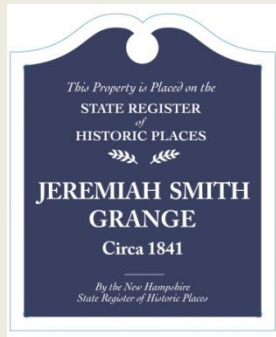
To request information about registering as a rider or becoming a volunteer driver, please email us at info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an [Application](#) for riders and a [Volunteer Application](#) can be printed from this website and emailed or mailed to Ready Rides P.O. Box 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](#).



The Lee Heritage Commission has created a series of historic marker plaques that are being awarded to the owners of historic properties in Lee who have successfully applied for New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places designation. The wording on each plaque states, *"This Property is Placed on the State Register of Historic Places by the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places"*.

Every time we share a photo of a historic property plaque presentation, we will also try to share some of the history of that property – and the families that have owned it. On February 29, 2020, the Heritage Commission had the honor of presenting the Jeremiah Smith Grange on Lee Hook Road in Lee with a plaque that acknowledges the historic importance of the Jeremiah Smith Grange to the State of New Hampshire and the Town of Lee.



(L-R back row): Laura Gund (Heritage Commission member), Donna Eisenhard (Heritage Commission member and Grange Member), Patricia Jenkins (Chairperson of the Lee Heritage Commission), Jimmy Brady (Grange Master), Betty Brady (Grange Member), (front row) Andrew Blomquist (age 2.5), Elisabeth McCaffrey (Heritage Commission member), Frederic Blomquist (being held by his Mom, age 9 months) Photos by Scott Bugbee

Jeremiah Smith Grange Building History:

The building was built in 1841 and was originally a Baptist Church. The building was given to the Grange by the widow of Elder A.G. Comings who was the pastor of the Church with the stipulation that it be repaired since it was fast becoming dilapidated and rundown. The Grange moved in on October 31, 1891 after it was sufficiently renovated for its use. The Jeremiah Smith Grange was started earlier that same year and met in the Town Hall until the building was ready.

The building is about 40' wide by 60' deep with a kitchen and overhanging balcony. The Grange currently has their meetings in the building and rents out the facility for various community and private functions.

More photos of owners of Lee Historic Plaque properties accepting their plaques will be published in the coming months, along with historic notes about their properties and the people who owned them.

LEE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Things to See and Places to Go – May 1 – May 8, 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 - After a chilly beginning, things are beginning to cook along our purple ribbon loop. This week, Nature Notes #6 will be featured on our Facebook page (link above) this weekend. Featured topics will include which tree species are leafing out, identifying oaks, spring ephemerals and bumble bees.

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!

Critter Cards: Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center has issued two more critter cards. Each card provides information and several activities that you and your child can do. Folks are encouraged to post their observations, drawings, paintings, photos, poems, etc. Last week's critter card featured grey squirrels:

<https://www.facebook.com/MassAudubonJoppaFlats/photos/a.257414180946/10156741993750947/?type=3&theater>

This week's features American robins (one of our birds of the week):

<https://www.facebook.com/MassAudubonJoppaFlats/photos/a.257414180946/10156766363830947/?type=3&theater>

Become a Mudologist: It's mud season! If your child has an uncanny ability to get into it, so much the better. Mass Audubon's "Marvelous Mushy Mud" encourages your child to learn while doing what comes naturally - getting muddy! Print up their activity page and learn about the many ways creatures use mud, including as a means to get from one place to another, as a material to build with, as a place to hide, as a place to keep safe in winter, and as a place to dine. Best of all, there are experiments to do with mud as well as mud art activities. <https://www.massaudubon.org/get-outdoors/young-explorers/activity-sheets/marvelous-mushy-mud-activity-page>

Bird of the Week: Tufted Titmouse - Usually it's our resident cardinal who starts each day's the dawn chorus, but this week, starting at 4:55, the whistled "Peter, Peter Peter" of a tufted titmouse has been the first birdsong in our yard. This dapper little bird is a relatively recent addition to New England's avian population, having expanded its range north to New Hampshire and Maine during the 60's. Like its close cousin the chickadee, the tufted titmouse belongs to the Paridae family, and like the chickadee, it is a year-round resident and a frequent visitor to bird feeders. Andrea LeBlanc's photo captures all of the titmouse's distinguishing characteristics: pale grey head, back, wings, and tail; buffy flanks; white breast and belly; large, black "hobnail" eyes; black, rounded beak, and an almost perpetually-raised, shaggy crest with a black spot just above the beak as its exclamation point.

The titmouse is an omnivore, devouring insects, fruits, nuts and seeds. Because it hasn't the seed-cracking beak of a finch or a cardinal, the titmouse places a sunflower, or other seed, between its toes and hammers the side of the shell until it cracks open. At this time of year, their diet shifts towards invertebrates - especially caterpillars. Like all Paridae, titmice are agile foliage gleaners - plucking prey from the undersides of leaves - often while hanging upside down.



Titmice are among the first birds to begin singing in spring - often as early as late January, when the gradual increase in day length triggers the onset of the breeding season. By April and May, the urge to mate is strong, and titmice have, for the most part, paired off. Like the brown creeper featured last week, titmice engage in allofeeding - courtship behavior in which the male brings food to the female. In the case of the titmouse, the female solicits allofeeding by shivering her wings and making begging sounds like a baby bird. This seems to trigger the male's desire to give his mate a bite to eat.

When the female is ready to nest, she'll seek out a cavity in which to lay her clutch of up to nine eggs. Titmice cannot hollow out their own nesting cavities, but instead search for a natural opening, or an old excavation made by a chickadee, nuthatch, or woodpecker. The female lines the cavity with soft materials such as fur, wooly plant fibers, and hair. I had a memorable experience concerning the gathering of the latter material; it remains one of my all-time favorite bird moments and is a reason why this is a species that is dear to my heart. Twenty springs ago, both my youngest sister and I were going through similar scary health issues, and one afternoon, when the future looked particularly bleak, I went out to sit on the back stoop, thinking to indulge in a good cry. As is usually the case when I get outdoors, I became absorbed by what was going on in the garden, watching the various insects flitting over the flowers. Gradually, I became aware of the harsh, "dee-dee-dee" of a titmouse in the rhododendron to my left. It's a sound I hear in our yard all the time, so it took a while for me to become conscious of it, but this bird was very near and very constant, enough so that I began to pay attention. That titmouse was definitely interested in me, and given the time of year, I was pretty sure that it was my long hair that had caught her eye, so I kept as still as I could. She was clearly uneasy about coming close enough to get some hair, and she aborted her first few attempts to land on me, but as I was doing my best to be an immovable object and did nothing to alarm her, eventually she settled on the top of my head and went to work. My state of mind went from desolation to exhilaration as I felt her little talons on my scalp and heard the scissoring of her beak as she began to harvest some of my hair. That she cut, rather than plucked, was a happy discovery, as I'd been a bit leery of the discomfort-factor involved in having strands of hair yanked out. Once she'd gathered a good beakful, she flew off, but made several return trips that



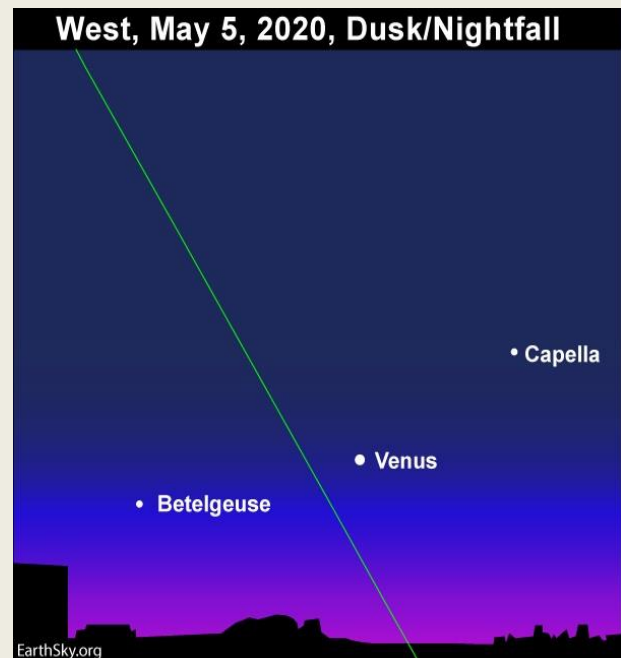
day and the next. In fact, by the second day she was comfortable enough that I could work in my garden with her perched on my head. It was a bit of a letdown once she'd finished her nest-making and no longer needed me and my hair (and, if you're wondering: no, I didn't have bald patches, but there were a few stubbly areas on my scalp). In subsequent springs, I'd linger, bare-headed near the rhododendrons, hoping for another encounter, but the experience has never been repeated - perhaps that's for the best, as I no longer have much hair to spare. All these years later, it still gives me a boost to remember that brave little bird that brought great cheer to my life at a time when it was sorely needed. Because I'm so partial to titmice, another picture by Andrea is called for, and this one, as is true for so many of her photographs, is full of personality!

CELESTIAL

May 4-6, Looking East before Dawn: Eta Aquariids Meteor Showers - This is more so you'll keep an eye on the sky if you're outside these three evenings, and maybe catch a glimpse of a stray meteor. . Unfortunately, a nearly full moon will pretty much ruin the show predawn show. When there's no moon to obscure the show, the Eta Aquariids can put on a show with 20-40 meteors an hour. These meteors are caused by the dust and debris left behind by one of the most famous comets of all, Halley.

Throughout May, Looking West at Dusk: Venus - For the next several weeks, Venus will linger in the sky after sunset. In June, its orbit will take it between our planet and the sun, and by the end of that month it will be visible in the eastern predawn sky.

May 6, Looking East at Sunset: Last Supermoon of 2020 - Supermoons occur about three times a year, and this is the third and final one of 2020. Supermoons occur when a full moon coincides with its closest approach to Earth (perigee). The sight is most impressive as the moon breaks over the horizon, and a clear view of the east gives you the best view. As always, the coast is where the eastern view is most unobstructed, and if parking permitted along the shoreline, that's a fine place to watch.



Don't forget these two online resources to help you and your family explore the night sky:

EarthSky (<https://earthsky.org/>). The EarthSky website provides **several weeks' worth of nightly write-ups about what's going on in the night sky, along with a brief daily feature giving more in-depth information about a particular night-sky object.** They've very generously given their permission to have their graphics used in this newsletter, and I encourage you and your children to visit their website.

Stellarium (<https://stellarium-web.org/>), has replaced StarAtlas, but remains an interactive map of the night sky. This new incarnation will set itself to your location. You can change the time and date to coincide with when you'll be star-gazing, and the map scrolls in all directions. If, for instance, in your location the best place for viewing the night sky happens to be facing west, just scroll the map to show the stars, planets and satellites that will appear in that part of the sky. Once you have the sky set for viewing time and direction, you can click on objects in the sky and an information box will appear giving the object's name plus information about brightness, type of object, etc. This is a fantastic website.

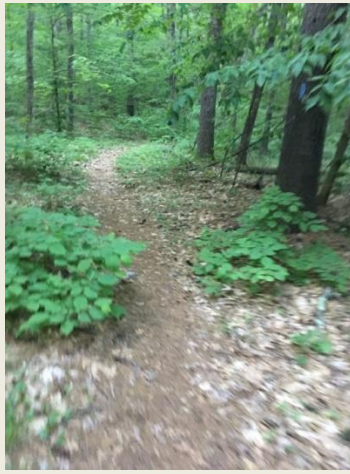


Photo by Dawn Limauro

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

Even though our building is closed, the food pantry is still open to any household in the towns of 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 - 7:00 pm. 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, 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>



LEE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Although the library building remains closed to the public, there are still many resources available to you. The library just purchased 100 new juvenile and youth titles available to download from Overdrive using their Libby app! Check out Overdrive at www.nh.overdrive.com and remember when logging in to Overdrive or Libby your library card number MUST start with the prefix 4575.

An advertisement for the Libby app. It features a smartphone displaying the app's interface with various book covers. Above the phone is a circular icon with a red book cover. To the right of the phone is a large pink circle with the text "OPEN 24 HOURS" in blue. The text "The digital library is always open." is at the top. The OverDrive logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom, it says "Read on Libby. The one-tap reading app from our library."

OverDrive

The digital library is **always open.**

OPEN 24 HOURS

Read on Libby.
The one-tap reading app from our library.

Stay tuned for any changes to our current conditions. We hope to start offering curbside service soon! There are staff members at the library Monday-Thursday 9-4 and Fridays until 1 to answer questions and help with accessing our online services. Call 659-2626.

Regional & State News & Events

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.



Granite State Gardening Facebook Live Series

With Emma Erler

UNH Extension Education Center Program Coordinator

(as seen on WMUR's Grow it Green) and Nate Bernitz

Mondays & Thursday, at 3:00pm

Tune into - Ask UNH Extension Facebook Page

Facebook live sessions where UNH Extension staff will discuss gardening in the Granite State. A wide variety of topics focused for the enthusiastic home gardener are covered.

May 4 - Invasive Plants with Mike Gagnon and Charlotte Thompson

May 7 - Pollinator Gardening and Habitat with Emma Erler

May 11 - Vegetable Gardening with Becky Sideman

May 14 - Food Preservation: Canning Basics with Ann Hamilton

May 18 - Landscaping for Wildlife with Matt Tarr

May 21 - Food Preservation: Canning, Pickling, Jams and Jellies with Ann Hamilton

May 28 - Food Preservation: Freezing, Drying and other Food Preservation Techniques with Ann Hamilton

Two Interactive Maps to Help you Find Food



The New Hampshire Farm Products Map:

In response to the developments associated with COVID-19 and the resulting adaptations being made by farmers as they market their products, UNH Cooperative Extension has developed a statewide New Hampshire Farm Products Map. This is the only statewide map of its kind. This tool will make it easy for farmers to update their information on an interactive online map so that consumers can quickly and easily learn where and how to purchase their products in light of the changing situation associated with COVID-19.

Add your Farm to the Map [HERE](#)



The New Hampshire Food Map

UNH Extension worked with the public assistance community to create the New Hampshire Food Access Map, an online platform that enables organizations to offer their services and share their needs with the public.

The map shows locations where:

- free or low-cost food is offered
- volunteers are needed
- donations are accepted

<https://extension.unh.edu/foodaccessmap>

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!