

TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

May 22, 2020

Lee News & Upcoming
Events



Town Offices will be closed on Monday, May 25th



**American
Red Cross**

MAY 29TH 1:00 – 6:00pm
LEE CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL
17 MAST ROAD, ROUTE 155

There is a heightened need for blood donors as many drives have been canceled. The Red Cross has updated their Blood Drive procedures as listed below.

We are taking extra steps to provide the safest donation environment possible for our donors, sponsors, and volunteers. Here are some of the extra measures we are taking:

- Temperature checks at the door (99.5 or greater will be turned away)
- Masks required by all on site (provided by ARC if without)
- Chairs and beds spaced 6 feet apart
- Hand sanitizer required for donors using keyboards or touch screens, gloves available if preferred
- All stations sanitized in between each donor
- Sanitation of all equipment used prior to departure

It's important to make an appointment for your donation; please call 1-880-RED-CROSS (1800-733-2767) or visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code LEECONGREGATIONAL.

Snacks will be provided by the Red Cross. No pizza during this drive. Complementary T-shirts will be mailed to donors.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR NOTICE

COVID-19 INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYING TAX BILLS

Your Lee property tax bill may be paid in 1 of the following 3 ways:

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

If you need to meet with us, please call the office 603-2864 to schedule an appointment. Thanks for understanding and stay safe!

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST NOTICE REGARDING

COVID-19 VOTER REGISTRATION

On Tuesday, June 2, 2020, Supervisors of the Checklist for the Town of Lee will hold a session for the correction of the checklist and accepting applications for voter registration or change of political party affiliation from 7:00pm-7:30pm in the parking lot outside of the Lee Town Hall at 7 Mast Road. Citizens will be able to stay in their cars and conduct business thru the closed window (please bring your own pen). **This will be the last session at which a registered voter may change political party affiliation until after the September 8, 2020 State Primary Election. Check your party affiliation on-line: <http://sos.nh.gov/VoteInforLook.aspx>**

Also, from now until June 2, you are able to change your party without appearing in person by completing the [application to change party affiliation form](#).

Voters registered as a member of a political party may only vote on that party's ballot at the state primary. Voters registered as undeclared may join a party by requesting that party's ballot when voting in person or by absentee. A voter registered as undeclared who joins a party to vote in the primary, may change back to undeclared by completing the "Election Day Party Affiliation Change Form."

Applicants for voter registration who possess proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile should bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified applicants who do not possess proof or who do not bring proof with them may still register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications for identity, age, and citizenship, and/or domicile.

On April 10, 2020, a memorandum was issued concluding that "in light of the current public health state of emergency, Emergency Orders #16 and #26, and current public health guidance on social distancing and avoiding being in public in groups of 10 or more, all voters have a reasonable ground to conclude that a 'physical disability' exists within the meaning of RSA 657:1." Even if a person does not consider them self a person with disability in other circumstances, the term applies for registering and voting in 2020. RSA 654:16. Therefore, all New Hampshire citizens may apply for voter registration by mail. Obtain an Absentee Voter Registration Form, affidavit, and instruction package by e-mailing (lreinholt@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org) or mailing (7 Mast Road, Lee, NH 03861). If unable to request by email/mail, please call 603-659-2964.

NH Department of Revenue Launches Annual Property Tax Relief Program

Applications for the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief program due June 30; provision allows for additional time to provide federal tax return

The New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA) is accepting applications for its [Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief](#) program through June 30, 2020. NHDRA distributed more than \$1.1 million through this tax relief program last year, and more than \$44 million in total since the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief program launched in 2002.

An eligible applicant for Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief is a person who is:

- * Single with adjusted gross income less than or equal to \$20,000; or
- * Married or head of New Hampshire household with adjusted gross income less than or equal to \$40,000; and
- * Owns a homestead subject to the State Education Property Tax; and
- * Has resided in that homestead as of April 1, 2019.

Applicants are required to submit their individual income tax returns with the application. However, given the federal July 15 extension, some may not have filed their federal return by the June 30 Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief program deadline. An existing provision allows NHDRA to accept late applications, if complete, until November 1 if the Commissioner believes the individual was prevented from completing his or her application in certain circumstances.

Additional information is available in this [press release](#) or on the [NHDRA website](#).

Taxpayers with questions should call Taxpayer Services at (603) 230-5920, press prompt 2, then prompt 2 again.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Last Friday SBA and Treasury released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application. [Click here](#) to view the application and instructions. The SBA expects further guidance on completing these applications and will be helping businesses with the process along with their partners at SCORE, NH-SBDC, and the CWE. In addition to continued funding available for PPP for anyone that has not applied, they continue to offer forgiveness of 6 months of payments on ALL SBA loans through September 27, 2020.

A few workshops that businesses may be interested in are listed on their web page at www.sba.gov/nh. One that may be helpful for restaurants is the SCORE Workshop for the Food Industry – on May 27th 1-3pm: [Register Here](#).

Governor Sununu announced the Main Street Relief Fund that provides an allocation and expenditure of an initial \$400 million in emergency funding from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund to provide emergency financial relief to New Hampshire small for-profit businesses due to the economic disruption caused by COVID-19. Visit their [webpage for application and details](#). Businesses must submit the pre-qualification form online by May 29, 2020.

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](#).



RESOURCES

- 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 [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**



DOGS AND LITTLE RIVER PARK

HEED THIS WARNING: DOGS MUST BE **LEASHED** AND YOU MUST **PICK UP** AFTER THEM OR IT COULD LEAD TO AN ORDINANCE BANNING DOGS FROM LRP COMPLETELY



IT'S LADY SLIPPER TIME ON THE MAUD JONES TRAIL!

DOZENS AND DOZENS OF BLOOMS NEXT WEEK
(5/23 to 5/31)

*Just when you thought Spring couldn't be more
spectacular!*

Remember - Take only photos and memories

Eversource Reminds Customers to Remain Vigilant Against Scams

Eversource is taking a moment to remind everyone to protect themselves against scams which is especially important today because scammers are trying to take advantage of the uncertainty and nervousness caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The COVID-19 outbreak has led to an increase in scam activity, with sophisticated scammers finding unique and intimidating ways to exploit people and steal their money. With this wave of scams related to the pandemic, here are a few common signs of a scam and some specific pandemic-related scams to look out for, including:

- **Threats of immediate power disconnection or demands for payment:** Eversource representatives never ask for instant payment, and the energy company is not disconnecting any customers for non-payment during this emergency period.
- **Callers asking for personal or account information or insisting on specific, unusual payment methods:** Eversource will never ask for personal information over the phone in this manner and does not accept payments via gift cards, pre-paid debit cards or other common tools used by scammers.
- **Requests for a deposit to exchange a utility meter:** Eversource has suspended all non-essential work, including routine meter changes, during the pandemic. Meters also do not suddenly expire, so be wary of calls claiming payment is necessary for a new meter to be installed because the current meter is about to expire.
- **Calls, emails or texts about government stimulus checks:** The IRS won't contact people with information about stimulus payments, or to ask for personal information like a Social Security number or bank account number.
- **Online offers for vaccinations and test kits:** There are no products proven to treat or prevent COVID-19 at this time and the only FDA-approved home test kit requires a doctor's order.

[CLICK HERE](#) for direct link to Eversource scam page. Eversource will never demand instant payment over the phone nor ask for personal information in an unsolicited call, text or email. For those who suspect they've been targeted by a scam, please immediately alert local law enforcement and call Eversource at (800) 662-7764. Always remember, don't panic and don't pay.



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.

The Selectmen's Office hours at Town Hall and the office hours for the Planning & Zoning/Building Inspector are Monday – Friday, 8:00am – 4:00pm. The Town Clerk/Tax Collector's office is open Monday-Wednesday-Friday 8:00am – 4:00pm.

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

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.

TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE COVID-19 PROCEDURES

COVID-19 HOURS: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 8-4

Please know that while the building is locked to the public, we are still doing everything we normally do here but in a different way.

RENEWING VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS:

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

Please note - We ALWAYS send renewal notices. If you moved recently you may not have received it.

If you are unable to do one of the above options for any reason, you can call our office at 659-2964 and we will tell you what you need to do to complete the transaction.

NEW VEHICLE OR NEW TO LEE:

If you are new to Lee, or if you have a new vehicle to register, please call our office at 659-2964 and we will tell you what you need to do to complete the transaction.

We are processing some NEW REGISTRATIONS while you wait in the Town Hall parking lot but you must call first.

If you have a temporary plate issued on or after February 26, 2020, the state has extended those until May 31, 2020.

VITAL RECORDS REQUESTS:

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

DOG LICENSES:

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

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Stay healthy and stay safe!

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!

If you do not already have one, stickers will be available at the Transfer Station or call Town Hall (659-5414) to get 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 only one left! First-come-first-served!

**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 still 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



NEXT SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM – Tuesday, May 26th 6:00 pm

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

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

THE LEE BACKYARD FARMING INITIATIVE SERIES
scheduled for MAY 2020 have 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 programs for April & May will be rescheduled. Check here for updates.



[CLICK HERE](#) for Lee Farmers Market
Facebook Page
[CLICK HERE](#) for the Lee Farms and
Agricultural Brochure

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

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

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

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

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

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

March data from the Division for Children, Youth and Families (DCYF) shows a [decrease in referrals](#) to DCYF's Central Intake, compared to the same time period over the past two years. New child abuse and neglect referrals are down nearly 50% each week overall.

To learn more about recognizing the signs of child abuse and neglect, visit [Know and Tell](#), an education program offered through the Granite State Children's Alliance, the Chapter Organization for the network of New Hampshire's Child Advocacy Centers.

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

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



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 – May 22 – June 2, 2020

TERRESTRIAL

Wednesday, May 27, 10:00 am - Live Storytime at NH Audubon: This is the last scheduled live story time. If you aren't able to watch on this date, all the story time videos are available for viewing on their NH Audubon's Facebook page. On rainy days, or when you and your child are having a bit of quiet time, tune into the NH Audubon's Facebook page every Wednesday at 10:00 to listen to a nature-based children's story. <https://www.facebook.com/nh.audubon/>

Wednesday, May 27, 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm - Online Lecture, The Tidepools of Plum Island: Lisa Hutchings, Mass Audubon School and Youth Education Coordinator, speaks about the tide pools of Plum Island and their inhabitants. After a brief introduction and orientation regarding online participation, Lisa will share images of intertidal zone creatures such as the European green crab and green sea urchin; also included will be beach creatures such as the northern moon snail and the big-eye beach hopper. Following the lecture, registered participants will receive an email from Lisa with her favorite guides for the field and some online resources about the rocky shore to help you make your own identifications once it's safe to return to the beach. Hosted by Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center. To register, go to this link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2572831106261935/>

Thursday, May 28, 10:00 am - Live Animal Q&A, with Shelby at NH Audubon: NH Audubon Educator, Shelby Morelli and one of Audubon's animal ambassadors will take part in a live Q&A session. This is the last scheduled session. Past sessions have featured a painted turtle, a barn owl, and last week, a wood turtle that had long ago lost its two front legs after a less than salutary encounter with an otter. All videos are available for viewing anytime on their FB page. <https://www.facebook.com/nh.audubon/>

Anytime: Take a Walk in the Lee Town Forest - With warmer temperatures forecast for the coming week, our cool spring may be coming to an end. Things are heating up in the Mast Way vernal pool, the canopy is filling out and Canada mayflowers and starflowers will be opening up, as changes continue to unfold along our purple ribbon loop. On Sunday, Nature Notes #9 will be posted on our Facebook page (link above). Featured topics include snakes (can't get enough of them), spring flowers, oak flowers, and a sparrow fight.

Anytime: Take a Walk in the Maud Jones Memorial Forest - Don Quigley's second self-guided walk through MJMF 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) - just scroll down, and let the page load. 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!

Bird of the Week - Black and White

Warbler: For bird watchers, springtime is warbler-time. These small, active, brightly colored, Neotropical songbirds are found only in the Americas. Rapidly flitting here and there as they forage, many of them high in the canopy, their small size and constant motion often makes identification an exercise in frustration; as soon as a birder gets the binoculars zeroed in and focused on the warbler in question, it's gone.



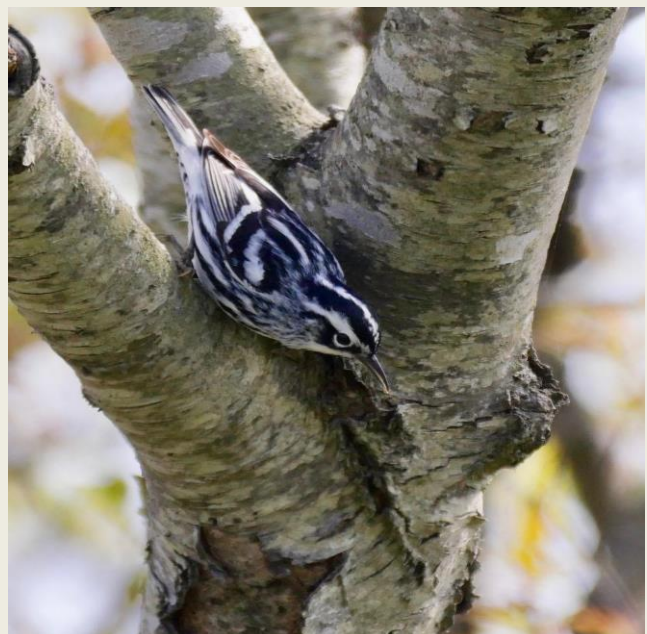
Fortunately there are a few warbler species that are more accommodating, and today's bird, the black and white warbler, is one of them. With its bold black and white markings, this species, *Mniotilta varia*, is unlike any of the other members of the 110 species of the family Parulidae, the New World warblers. Male and female black and white warblers are very similar in their plumage, with the male being more boldly striped along the cheek and flanks than the female, who is paler in these areas. It is the only member of the genus, *Mniotilta*, which is Latin for moss-plucking and refers to the way this species forages by using its slender, slightly decurved bill to probe for food in the lichen-covered crevices of tree bark.

Black and white warblers behave a lot like nuthatches, creeping along tree trunks searching for insects, spiders and other invertebrates. Their legs are heavier than those of most warblers, the pads on the ends of their toes are notched, and their hind toe is equipped with an extra-long talon - all adaptations that allow it to travel headfirst down tree trunks and under and around tree limbs. This behavior, in combination with their striking plumage, makes them much easier to observe and identify than most members of the family.

Perhaps because it isn't dependent on finding insects in foliage and therefore doesn't have to wait for the canopy to appear, black and white warblers are among the first warblers to arrive in the spring. Often by the end of April here in NH, the male's high, thin song, interpreted as "weesy, weesy, weesy" or "squeaky, squeaky, squeaky" can be heard in its preferred habitat of mixed coniferous forests. The song is one of the highest pitched of all the warblers. This YouTube link has a nice video of a spring male in song:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JfaOut8fEMY>

Courtship begins in mid-May with male and female engaging in chase flights. Once they have finished their aerial game of tag, the female begins to examine the bases of trees for potential nesting areas, with the male offering



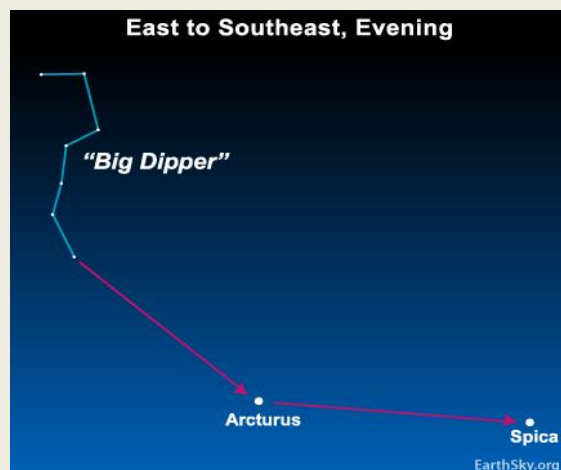
encouragement by perching nearby and fluttering his wings. On occasion, a female will assess the vigor of the male by taking him on a tour of the territory and observing his interactions with neighboring males. Should he pass muster, mating will likely ensue, but here the black and white warbler draws a curtain, as despite the hundreds of hours that humans have spent observing this species, no human has ever seen a pair mating.

The nest is most often located on the ground, usually in a depression at the base of a stump, log, or tree base. Using dead leaves, dead pine needles, grapevines, and inner tree bark the female builds a beautiful and well-camouflaged nest lined with moss, hair, and thin grasses for her clutch of four to six eggs. These hatch within twelve to fourteen days. After two weeks of constant feeding by both parents, the young leave the nest - barely able to fly, and mostly using their wings to scurry across the ground. The parents continue to feed and defend their young; when necessary, the female distracts a would-be predator by acting like a rodent - running off while hunching her back and dragging her tail. As their flying abilities improve, the young perch in the lower branches of trees, usually still within the nest area.

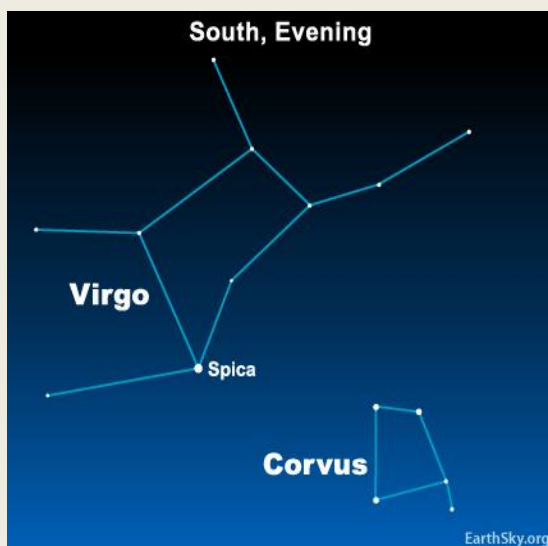
Fall migration for this species runs from late August to mid-September. For its journey south, the black and white warbler joins other migrating warblers. Some black and white warblers travel only as far as the Southeastern United States, but most continue on to Mexico, Central America and northern South America. Like the rose-breasted grosbeak featured last week, this little bird crosses the Gulf of Mexico, a 500 mile stretch of open water, in a continuous flight that lasts 20 to 30 hours. That's an amazing feat for a tiny bird weighing .38 ounces!

CELESTIAL

Anytime in May, after 9:00 pm, Looking South - Big Dipper to Bootes to Virgo to Corvus: If you're learning the constellations with your child, you can constellation-hop from the easily recognized Ursa Major to the Shepherd to the Virgin to the Crow. At this time of year, the only difficulty is waiting for the sky to get dark enough.



After you've located the handle of the Big Dipper in Ursa Major, draw an angled, imaginary line from Alkaid, the last star in the Dipper's handle, angled towards the bright star to Alkaid's lower right. That star is Arcturus, the brightest star in Bootes, The Shepherd.

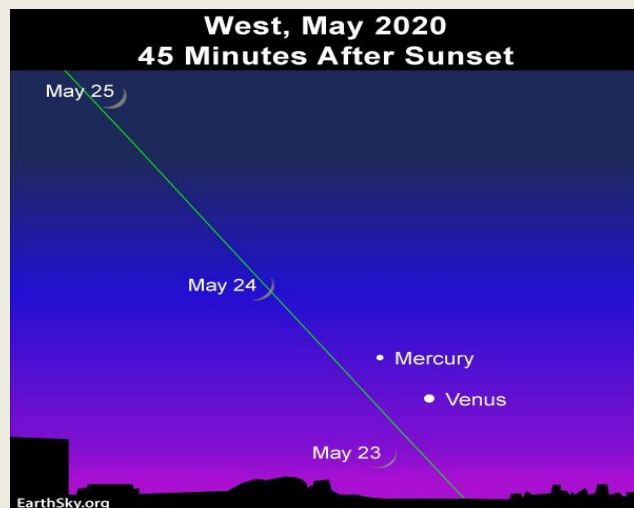
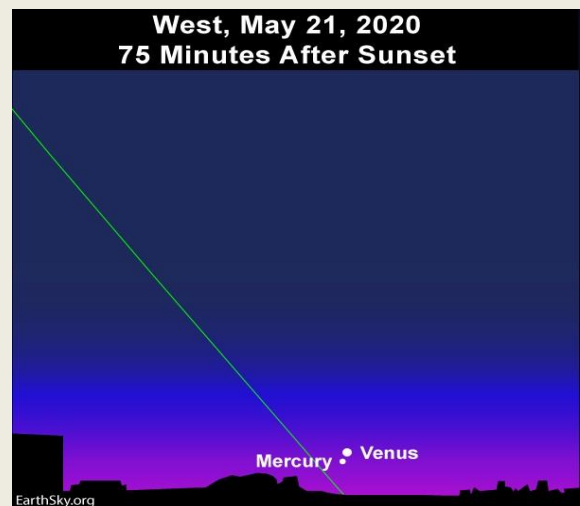


Once you've connected to Arcturus, draw your imaginary line at a nearly, but not quite, straight line to the right until you get to Spica, the brightest star in Virgo, the Virgin, and the 16th brightest star in the sky. The mnemonic for this particular star-hopping venture is: *Arc to Arcturus, then drive a spike to Spica.*

Once you've located Spica, you can go on to find Corvus, The Crow. Draw a spike from Spica slightly down and to the left until you reach the two stars that sit at two corners of the four-sided constellation that is Corvus.

May 21 - May 26, Looking West, 45 Minutes after Sunset - Venus and Mercury: Venus is easy, Mercury not so much. The clearer your view of the western horizon the better. If your view of the west is less than perfect, wait a bit later in the month when Venus and Mercury sit higher in the sky, and the Moon joins the dance.

May 28-May 30, Looking Southwest, after dark - use the moon to find the constellation Leo, The Lion, and its brightest star, Regulus: The moon will grow from waxing crescent to waxing gibbous over these next several evenings. On the 28, the waxing



crescent will pass beneath the lion's head, also known as the sickle. On the 29 it will be in its first quarter phase and resting beneath the lion's belly, between its brightest star Regulus (Alpha Leonis) and one of its dimmest stars, Chertan (Theta Leonis). On May 30, the waxing moon will be in its gibbous phase and just six days away from full.

June 1-2, after dark - moon and Spica: Throughout May, we've shown how you can use Arcturus to find Spica. But if you weren't successful, or cloudy skies made star-gazing impossible, you can use the almost-full moon to locate the brightest star in the zodiacal constellation, Virgo, The Virgin. Spica is, in fact, the only bright star in this constellation, and the brightness of the moon will probably make seeing Virgo's other stars impossible. Spica is a spring and summer night-sky object, and as these seasons spool by, it will move increasingly west, towards the sunset, and by the time the autumnal equinox rolls around, it will disappear for a half a year, obscured by the brilliance of the sun.





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>



LIBRARY BOOK DROP REOPENS!

Starting **9:00 am TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020** the Library will reopen the book drop. Thank you for your patience and for caring for our materials during this time. As usual, there are no overdue fines and we will continue renewing your items as needed until the library building reopens.

The Library building still remains closed to the public. We are getting materials ready for you and are ordering new books and DVDs on a regular basis. Please continue making your requests known through the library catalog, by email and telephone and continue to pick up items at the front of the library.

In order to assist us, please try not to return everything you have out at once, stagger your returns, over a few days especially if you have many to return. All materials returned to us **WILL NOT BE CHECKED IN** for 72 hours. The current best practice for library material handling specifies quarantine of those materials for at least 72 hours. After sufficient time has passed the library staff will wipe down, and then check in the items.

If you want to see what the library has just ordered and want to request those items go to the [Library Catalog](#) and look at the scrolling list of "What's New" and "What's Coming". Log in to your account on the top right corner of the page.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call us 659-2626 or email Ruth Eifert, [library director](#) at leelibrary@comcast.net. You may email book or DVD requests to [Michelle](#) at leelibraryill@comcast.net.



Regional & State News & Events

NHDOT's Bunker Creek Bridge Replacement Project on US Route 4

Progress since last update:

- Concrete placement of all abutment sections (4 of 4 sections).

Upcoming work:

- Continue reconstruction of 700 feet of roadway on eastern side of bridge to Morgan Way.
- Reconstruction of 450 feet of roadway on the western side of the bridge.

The week of May 18th will require extended work hours (approximately 6am – 7pm Monday - Saturday) to ensure asphalt pavement can be placed before the Memorial Day weekend. June 1st - 12th will also require extended works. During those time periods the existing asphalt pavement will be removed and traffic will travel on a gravel roadway until the new asphalt pavement can be placed. Work will be contingent on weather conditions and current COVID-19 constraints.

If you have questions, please contact the Design-Build Team,

- Facebook - NHDOTRte4Durham
- Twitter - @NHDOTRte4Durham
- Email - nhdotrte4durham@gmail.com

For project history or background information you can also visit the NHDOT's Webpage at <https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/durham16236/index.htm>

GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, May 20, 2020

[CLICK HERE](#) for the 5/20/2020 Minutes

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, June 10, 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](#)

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.



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 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>

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!