TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

July 24, 2020



CICADA KILLER WASPS AT LITTLE RIVER PARK

Eastern cicada killers (Sphecius speciosus) are the large wasps which dig burrows each summer at Little River Park. Like most hunting and parasitic wasps, the cicada killer is a beneficial insect; it exerts a measure of biological control on cicadas, some species of which damage deciduous trees by laying eggs under the soft bark of the new growth on the trees' terminal branches.

Cicada-killers hatch out in high summer, sometime between June and July, depending on the latitude and prevailing climatic conditions. After emerging and mating, female wasps spend about two weeks searching for appropriate areas in which to dig their burrows. They usually choose southeast-facing, well-drained slopes with lots of large deciduous trees nearby.

The males live for two weeks or so of intense lek (a type of animal territory in which males of a species gather) patrolling, fighting and mating and then they die. Females live longer, about four weeks after emergence, but they work even harder than the males, digging many burrows and nest chambers and bringing back an estimated 108 cicadas on which to lay 42 female eggs and 24 male eggs.

Are cicada killers dangerous? Females have significant stingers which they plunge into cicadas to inject venom that paralyzes them. However, they are not aggressive and do not have the nest-guarding instinct of honey bees and hornets. You can walk through areas where they are active without attracting attention.

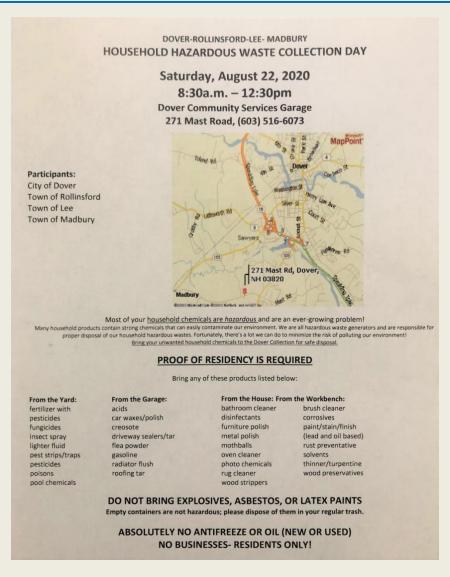
The buzzing noise that the wasps make and the warning colors on their wings and bodies intimidate and discourage predators that see them as a large meal. When attacked, females will use their stinger to protect themselves.

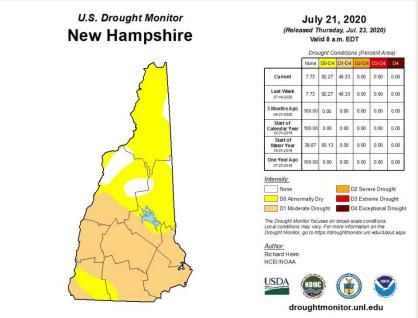
Males lack stingers but are territorial. They will approach anything that enters "their area", including walkers, people mowing or using weed-eaters, or riding tractors. They may hover and challenge trespassers but are harmless. That can be easy to forget when staring down a big wasp. Pesticides will only kill this year's wasps and, since the Park is attractive to them, cicada-killers will likely return again next year.

Ref. University of Kentucky, College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment Ref. Prof. Chuck Holliday, Lafayette College

For more information on this fascinating insect:

http://www.masscic.org/projects/cicada-killers-of-new-england http://web.archive.org/web/20141022032916/http://sites.lafayette.edu/hollidac/research/biology-of-cicada-killer-wasps/





CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & DROUGHT GUIDANCE

The Select Board urges all residents to refrain from watering lawns and washing cars and to conserve water as much as possible.

NH Department of Health and Human Services 129 Pleasant Street – Hugh Gallen State Office Park Concord, NH 03301

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 20, 2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Public Information Office 603-271-9389 or pio@dhhs.nh.gov

NH DHHS Announces Online Purchasing Program for SNAP Recipients

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

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

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

SNAP recipients will be able to purchase eligible food items, but will not be able to use benefits for service or delivery charges.

Participation in the pilot program is one of several measures DHHS has taken to reduce concerns around food insecurity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Others include the issuance of emergency SNAP benefits; the extension of certification periods for SNAP recipients; a temporary suspension of SNAP work requirements for eligible individuals; participation in Pandemic EBT (P-EBT), which provides families with children enrolled in the National School Lunch Program additional SNAP benefits due to the loss of school meals during remote learning; and accepting applications by phone for the Women, Infants and Children program.

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

ELECTION INFORMATION PLEASE DON'T WAIT UNTIL ELECTION DAY - REGISTER TO VOTE NOW!

Although NH citizens are allowed to register to vote at the polls, it is strongly recommended that you register as soon as possible. How?

- Make an appointment to see the Town Clerk at the Town Hall walk-up window next to the
 parking lot by emailing lreinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org or by calling 659-2964.

 Be sure to bring your own pen and proof of age, identity, citizenship, and your domicile in
 Lee. Wear a mask.
- Request that a voter registration packet be mailed to you using the same contact information as above.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY A REGISTERED VOTER IN LEE, please consider voting by ABSENTEE BALLOT on September 8th for the State Primary and on November 3rd for the General Election. This year, because of Covid-19, all registered voters can vote by absentee ballot. How?

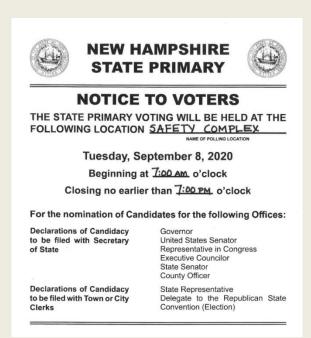
- Request an absentee ballot application from the Town clerk as early as possible. Contact information is above.
- Or, download an absentee ballot application at http://sos.nh.gov/ElecForms2.aspx or on the Town of Lee website at https://www.leenh.org/home/files/2020-application-state-absentee-ballot
- Four ways to return your absentee ballot request:

Mail application to Town Clerk at 7 Mast Rd., Lee NH 03861 Drop in locked box outside rear door of Town Hall Fax to 659-7202

Email Ireinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting Wednesday, July 29th from 9:10 am to 9:40 am to approve additions and/or removals from the official checklist for the town of Lee. Because the Town Hall is currently closed to the public, the call-in number to access this meeting is 701-802-5101 with access code 8767140.



TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE

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

TOWN CLERK / TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE COVID-19 PROCEDURES COVID-19 HOURS: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 8-4

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

RENEWING VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS:

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

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

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

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

DOG LICENSES:

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PAYING YOUR LEE PROPERTY TAX BILL

1. **TC/TC Lock Box** – This is labeled and located to the left of the entrance to the Town Hall building. Please leave payment in an envelope with the payment stub.

- 2. **Mail** Mail it to our office at 7 Mast Road, Lee, NH 03861. Again, please include the payment stub with your check.
- 3. **Online** Go to www.leenh.org. Click on the property taxes button under Town Resource Center. There you may pay via ACH or credit card. There are additional fees associated with this method.

If you want a receipt for any of the above transactions, please include a self- addressed, stamped envelope or include your email address. If you need to meet with us, please call the office 659-2864 to schedule an appointment. Thanks for understanding and stay safe!

Stay at Home Order Expired June 15, 2020

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

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

TOWN MUNICIPAL OFFICES RE-OPENING PLANS

Almost as soon as Governor Sununu declared a state of Emergency due to the pandemic, employees have been working on a rotating schedule at Town Hall and the Annex so that only one person at a time is on site while the other employees work remotely. Although the work is still getting done, it is certainly not the most efficient system; and, while the public has been most kind and patient, they, too, are ready for us to get to the next phase of working with Covid-19 as a reality for the foreseeable future.

Although Town Hall is a lovely, historic building, the Select Board has determined, through consultation with architects and engineers, as well as town staff, including the Health Officer and Emergency Management Director that the structure is not conducive to being modified in such a way as to make it safe and effective for both the employees and members of the public.

Therefore, the Select Board, after a number of public discussions, is moving forward with plans to lease an office building on Rte. 125 owned by Daley Realty Trust. Town employees who normally work out of Town Hall and the Annex would move into this building. The target date for this is September 1st, although that requires a lot to happen in a short amount of time.

We are working with Mr. Daley on a lease agreement and with the NH Department of Transportation to ensure a prudent means of ingress and egress off of Rte. 125. We have received quotes for the modifications that will need to be made to the building in order to provide safe spaces for the public and employees to socially distance from each other. Each department will have its own entrance to the building (these entrances already exist) and each entrance has sufficient parking. The Department of Revenue has approved the Select Board's request for an emergency appropriation, with funds to come out of the unassigned fund balance so that no additional taxpayer dollars will be required for the modification costs and twelve months' lease payments. We are confident that some of these costs will be reimbursed through the Covid-19 Municipal Relief Fund.

The Select Board has been meeting regularly via the Zoom platform and we invite all members of the public to join us as we continue to discuss this plan. Agendas, minutes and videos of the meetings can be found on the town's website www.leenh.org.

NH HOUSING RELIEF PROGRAM

As you know, the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) allocated \$35 million from the \$1.25 billion in federal funds that NH received from the CARES Act State-Local Coronavirus Relief Fund towards a new Housing Relief Program to assist families and individuals facing housing insecurity as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program will have two components: 1) one-time grants for households that suffered a limited short-term loss of household income or increased expenses that threaten the family's ability to maintain its housing; and 2) short-term rental assistance program. The GOFERR office will provide the funds to NH DHHS to be distributed to the state's Community Action Program (CAP) agencies who already administer similar assistance programs. Today, CAP agencies released more information about the program. More details, including how to apply to your local CAP, can be found here.

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

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

YARD SALES AND TREE CUTTING NOTICE

Yard Sales are now allowed, but you may only place a sign on your own property or at a friend's house (be sure to get permission first) and remove the signs promptly after the yard sale is over. Signs are not allowed in the Lee triangle (where George Bennett, Mast and Lee Hill Roads meet) or on any other town-owned property, including on the side of both state and town roads. You must follow the guidance for retail establishments as well as the universal guidelines established by the Governor's office found here https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov

Although it is great to have your trees "removed for free" be sure that the logger follows all of the laws pertaining to tree cutting. As the homeowner, please reach out to Caren Rossi to see what is required, i.e. no-cut buffers, Intent to Cut form, etc. Unfortunately, I have seen many homeowners become a victim of this "offer" and it ends up costing the homeowner more money to fix the problems created by the "free" removal than hiring a company to remove them correctly. Unfortunately, the fault lies with the homeowner and you may have more than just brush to clean up.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

The SBA and Treasury Department have released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application. <u>Click here</u> to view the application and instructions. The SBA 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.

Based on the request of Governor Sununu, the SBA has declared a disaster declaration for the entire State of NH 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 still a developing situation, to keep up to date on all activities effecting NH small businesses, please join our mailing list <u>click here</u>.

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 <u>decrease in referrals</u> 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 <u>Know and Tell</u>, 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 INFORMATON CENTER, 603-223-6169 or jic@dos.nh.gov

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 TRANSFER STATION STICKER IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE ONE Stickers are only good for two years!



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

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 everyone has to maintain the recommended safe distance of 6' while inside. In order for our employees and residents to maintain a safe distance, employees will not be stationed on the wall during this time but will be available to answer questions.

PLEASE KEEP CHILDREN IN YOUR VEHICLE

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

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

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

THINGS TO DO AND SEE AND PLACES TO GO: JULY 19th – 30th 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. As well as posting about outdoor/indoor activities for families and how to enjoy the outdoors while keeping safe during this period of social distancing, Amanda finds things to amuse, comfort and delight. Her work makes our Facebook page a lively, fun, and informative place to visit.

Anytime: Take a Walk on one of Lee's trails - There are public trails in Little River Park (and upland trail as well as a bifurcated trail to the Little River); Maud Jones Memorial Forest (a relaxing loop trail); and the Town Forest (a Red Triangle Trail and a more challenging Yellow Rectangle trail - both about 1.5 miles - or you can do a 1.8 miles loop that combines parts of both trails. You can find maps for all of these at the AllTrails website: https://www.alltrails.com/?ref=header

Anytime: Fire Tower Quest Challenge - This activity was part of the Mast Way nature walk newsletters last fall, and it went out to the school district in March, but it's such a great idea for a seasonal, or yearlong, outside activity, that it deserves another mention. This is a great time to begin to explore some of NH's fire towers. Did you know that there are 16 fire towers managed by the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands? With at least one located in each county, these structures are staffed when danger of forest fires is high and are part of an early detection system to protect forests and communities from catastrophic wildfires. Visit 5 of these towers, document your visits, send in your information to NH Division of forests and lands, and your child will receive a Tower Quest patch, certificate and a letter in recognition of her/his accomplishment. Even better, the family gets to have adventures hiking up to some beautiful locations, with magnificent views at the end of the trail! Get more information about the program, as well as a printable brochure, at their website:

https://www.nh.gov/nhdfl/natural-heritage/fire-towers/index.htm

Critter Cards: Mass Audubon's Joppa Flats Education Center has issued a new critter card. 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. Their latest issue is The Eastern Chipmunk: https://www.facebook.com/MassAudubonJoppaFlats/photos/rpp.246535620946/10156994929350947/? type=3&theater

To augment your chipmunk knowledge check these out:

Ever wonder what a chipmunk's burrow looks like? It's pretty impressive: https://msodanoillustration.com/2015/03/19/a-peek-inside-a-chipmunk-burrow/

Mass Audobon's chipmunk page gives information about chipmunk natural history: https://www.massaudubon.org/learn/nature-wildlife/mammals/chipmunks/about

Been noticing a LOT of chipmunks this year? Here's why: https://www.vnews.com/Chipmunks-abound-this-spring-in-the-Upper-Valley-34472951

A short audio guide to chipmunk sounds: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ESJaPmfbius&feature=youtu.be

Did you know chipmunks sleep 15 hours a day? Here are ten facts about these rodents that you maybe didn't know: https://www.treehugger.com/things-you-dont-know-about-chipmunks-4864283

Bird of the Week:

Common Yellowthroat, Geothlypis trichas

By Catherine Fisher

For bird-watchers, particularly those newly interested in learning about the bird species inhabiting our part of the planet, members of the family Parulidae, the New World Warblers, can be extremely frustrating to identify. Small, active birds, many of whom prefer the upper reaches of the canopy, most warbler species make you work to nail an i.d. Trying to get a bead on a tiny, flitting bird high above you can be maddening: no sooner do you get your binoculars focused on the right spot, than the little bugger flits off - usually to another, more distant tree. Spring bird-watching expeditions with my Dad during a warbler fallout often ended in explosive execrations, during which my bird-loving father cast



Male Common Yellowthroat, Photo by Debra M. Powers

aspersions on the dubious parentage of particularly uncooperative warblers. The common yellowthroat is, by contrast, an "easy" warbler. It prefers brushy habitats and grasslands, particularly wetland areas, so you're not going to give yourself a case of "warbler neck" trying to find its way up in the canopy. With his bright yellow underparts, black mask, thin white "headband" and olive upperparts, the male common yellowthroat's plumage is striking and unlike that of any other warbler. His song is equally unique. Visit a marsh, pond, or shrubby shoreline any morning at this time of year, and you're almost guaranteed to hear a singing yellowthroat. Even if the idea of learning to identify a bird species by its song seems far beyond your ears' capability, the common yellowthroat's distinctive "wichety-wichety-wichety" is an easy one to learn and remember: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICm5611HEDs

To the above characteristics facilitating seeing and identifying a common yellowthroat, add the fact that this species is very responsive to pishing, which is using your mouth to make sounds that trigger a response by many bird species. To pish, just say the word, but draw out the "shhh" part and make it just a little harsh-sounding. The resultant sound may resemble a bird species' alarm call or the begging sounds of a fledgling. Keep in mind that once you've succeeded in getting a bird species,, such as a yellowthroat, to respond, enjoy the view, but don't keep pishing at it - it is distracting to a bird, busy guarding its nest or searching for food, to be put on red alert by what sounds like an alarm call. As birds are constantly distracted by sounds in the environment, one or two occasions of pishing do no harm, but do try to limit your pishing. Here's an example of pishing to attract fall migrating warblers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zbqp4LmWDPU

Spending the winters in the Caribbean, southern United States, Mexico, and Central America, the common yellowthroat is a short- to long-distance seasonal traveler. It is a nocturnal migrant, using the stars and the earth's magnetic field to navigate on its journeys north and south. Male common

yellowthroats begin to appear in New Hampshire in late April to early May. A newly arrived male will immediately set about establishing his territory, selecting a site that is thickly vegetated such as a grassland, forest or wetland habitat. Prime common yellowthroat real estate is a site with thick undergrowth. Though they are often found in wetlands, it is the dense vegetation associated with wetlands that is the attractant to this species, not the watery aspect. The common yellowthroat is entirely insectivorous, and feeds on adult insects, larvae, spiders, and other invertebrates associated with thickly vegetated habitats.

About a week after the male's arrival the female appears. Her plumage lacks the striking contrasts of the

male's coloring and everything about her plumage is more subdued: brownish-olive upper pars, pale yellow throat and under tail and buff-to-yellow breast and belly.

Within a day or two of reaching her breeding grounds, the female chooses a mate and sets about selecting a nest site. Nests are often located on the ground,, but in wetlands may be elevated and built using surrounding vegetation such as reeds and cattails to support the structure as well to provide shelter and concealment. The nest is a loose cup composed of two or three layers, with the outermost layer constructed of the coarsest materials including deciduous leaves and the stems of cattails, reeds and rushes. Occasionally, a roof is formed over the top of the nest. For the innermost layer, the female uses fine rootlets, grasses and hair.



Female common yellowthroat, photo by D. Gordon E. Robertson Wikimedia, Creative Commons license

Clutch size varies from one to six small, creamy white eggs that are blotched, spotted, and lined with markings that may be in grey, lilac, rust, or black. Incubation begins when the last egg is laid and continues for twelve days when the nestlings emerge.

Both male and female share the feeding of the nestlings. During the first few days, when the female spends time brooding the nearly-naked chicks, the male does the bulk of the work of food foraging for the nestlings, bringing captured larvae to the female who then feeds the chicks.



Common Yellowthroat nest, photo by Kent McFarland on Flickr, Creative Commons license

The young fled within twelve days of hatching and generally stay in the vicinity for the nest. Twenty days after hatching their flying ability is quite proficient, but they largely remain close to where they were hatched. They continue to beg for food from their parents, and are occasionally fed, but at this point they begin to hunt for themselves. A month after hatching they are on their own.

Common yellowthroats are among the 220 species known to be parasitized by the brown-headed cowbird. A brood parasite, the female brown-headed cowbird relies on other bird species to rear her young. This adaptive strategy rose in response to the brown-headed cowbird's need to follow the buffalo herds, making incubation impossible. Seeking out the nest of another species, the cowbird will wait until the female of the nesting species leaves her nest and then dart in, remove one (or more) eggs and lay one

(or more) of her own. The cowbird eggs are generally larger and develop faster than the legitimate eggs, giving the hatchling cowbirds an advantage over its nest mates. Common yellow throats have several ways of defending against brood parasitism. Finding a foreign egg in their nest, the common yellowthroat may abandon the nest completely or build an entirely new nest on top of the old nest with its offending strange egg. If another cowbird egg appears in the 2nd story nest, occasionally a third nest is built on top of the second nest! Sometimes, however, the common yellowthroats seem not to notice the strange large egg crowding their nest, and end up raising a cowbird more than twice their size, as seen in this photograph by Debra M. Powers.

This week I've visited the bog nearly every morning, and been treated to the sights and sounds of common yellowthroats. By my reckoning there are at least three breeding pairs in the bog this season, and there's one male along the trail that runs between the small and large bogs, who almost always scolds me if I pause too long in his territory. The temerity of this tiny bird always makes me smile, and I pause each day to say hello.

By the second week of August, just three weeks or so from now, the common yellowthroats will begin to make their way south, tanking up on invertebrates during the day, and often flying more than a hundred miles each night. Throughout the fall, as the birds that nested in northern Canada make their way south, I get occasional "last glimpses" of this species. It's the only time I have them in the yard - which isn't very grassy, but does have shrubs and abundant insect life. For some reason, it is usually the females that I see - the opposite of my wetland encounters. Whether my migrant visitor is male or female, these last glimpses are something to treasure, and I always stop whatever I'm doing and watch this dapper little bird busily foraging for fuel for its journey. It makes me happy that this place I call home is on this yellowthroat's travel map, a good place to stop and have a bite as it makes its long way south.



Male common yellowthroat bringing food to young, photo by Debra M. Powers



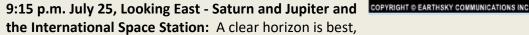


Male Common Yellowthroat, photo by Debra M. Powers

CELESTIAL

Northeast horizon, all week, after dark - Jupiter and Saturn: These two gas giants are a delight to see on a warm summer evening, so enjoy! Everything else this week requires staying up late or getting up early. Things just happen that way in sometimes in the heavenly spheres.....

Midnight-dawn, July 24-early August - Delta Aquariid meteor shower: These meteors don't have a peak night, although the night of the 28th may be the most active night with 10 meteors/hour predicted. If you're a night owl, or just having a bad night's sleep, step outside and look for a delta aquariid meteor. They sometimes have tails and are reported to be very beautiful. If you're lucky enough to see one, don't forget to make a wish.



"Great Square of Pegasus"

Radiant

Delta Aquarii (Skat)

Fomalhaut

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but Saturn and Jupiter are easy to spot in the southeast. Try to get out at 9:15 and enjoy them, but start to look to the Northeast just before 9:20, because the International Space Station will start to drift in from the left at around at that time. It will stay in view for about seven minutes before it sinks below the eastern horizon.

Looking east, July 30, 4:15 a.m. - Orion and Venus: Orion, the dominant constellation of winter, has been seen hanging around behind the sun lately, but is now rising in the east ahead of the sun. He'll be lying on his side, apparently gazing up admiringly at Venus, shining just a small way above him.

As always, these two online resources are a wonderful asset 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

East, July 2020
75 Minutes before Sunrise

• Venus

• Vorion's Belt"

Betelgeuse

• Rigel

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.

SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM - MONDAY, July 27th 6:00 pm

Meeting ID 845 7220 7110 Password 534667

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 YOU Tube at CLICK HERE



CLICK HERE for Lee Farmers Market
Facebook Page
CLICK HERE for the Lee Farms and
Agricultural Brochure

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

WILKINSON FOOD PANTRY Lee Church Congregational, 17 Mast Rd

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

LEE TOWN COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION VACANCIES

The Planning Board, Energy, 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



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 <u>Community</u> <u>Transportation Directory</u>.

LEE FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Scott M. Nemet Fire Chief 20 George Bennett Road Lee, New Hampshire 03861 (P): 603.659.5411 (F): 603.659.9611



Jeffery S. Liporto Deputy Chief

TIMELY TOPICS FOR THE SUMMER SEASON

We are still in the midst of the COVID-19 and therefore still have to operate as such to protect our personnel and the public. We are still fully staffed and operating to protect our community but have had to put a hold on or adjust the way we provide some of our services. The fire department remains closed to all visitors but are working with town officials and the State for recommendations. All official business will continue to be conducted by phone or via email for now. Phone numbers and email addresses are provided on the Fire Department's web page.

Burn permits are still required for all outside burning and all State burning regulations are still in effect. Burning regulations and permits can be obtained at NH Fire Permit. Please check to see what the fire class for the day is prior to lighting any outside fire. Class 3 day or higher, all outside burning is not allowed. You can find out what fire class day it is by visiting the NH Forest and Lands website or look at the road side board at the Lee Public Safety Complex.

All station tours continue to be 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.

Hopefully the virus emergency will be over soon and we can slowly return our operations to a normal level. All inquiries regarding the Town's response and current status for the virus should be made to the Town's Health Officer, Caren Rossi at the Planning Department.

With summer come thunder storms. Some storms can be severe and contain lightning, hail and wind. When lightning is in the area you should seek shelter indoors and away from windows. Do not shelter under trees or near tall objects. Be aware during high winds of trees, branches, power lines and debris being blown down. Occasionally these storms can cause downed power lines and power outages. We would like to remind everyone that we consider all downed lines as "energized" and should never be touched, moved or driven over. That includes cable and phone lines as they could be in contact with power lines at some point in the system. Call the fire department immediately and keep everyone away from the lines until the fire department arrives. With the power outages several people in our community use portable generators to power their homes. When using a portable generator follow all manufacture's safety guidelines for your generator. They should be run at least twenty-five feet from the residence; exhaust should be point away from the residence and away from anything combustible. Never operate a generator in an enclosed space such as a garage or a shed. Generators emit carbon monoxide and can cause serious injury or death if run in-doors and carbon monoxide is allowed to accumulate.

As the water in rivers, ponds and lakes warm up and people begin swimming and boating, please take care and be safe. Be aware that we have had a colder than usual spring and night time temperatures can still drop into the low 40's. This has kept our water temperatures on the cold side. Please be aware that hypothermia is still possible even though air temperatures can be in the 80's and 90's if the water temperature is in the 50's or 60's. This is especially true for the very young and the older population. Use personal floatation devices while boating, water skiing, tubing etc. Never swim alone even if you are a good swimmer. Follow all NH State Boating Regulations while boating on NH waterways.

Use caution while outdoor grilling. Keep grills at a safe distance from the residence or other structures while cooking. Have a hose or dry chemical extinguisher nearby to extinguish any grill fires before they get out of control. Make sure propane tanks are in date for hydrotesting and the gas lines are in good condition and not leaking. Dispose of burned charcoal in a safe manor, preferably in a metal container until cold throughout. Thank you and have a safe and happy summer.



LEE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT SEEKING CALL FIREFIGHTERS AND EMTS

CLICK HERE for more information

BURN PERMIT

CLICK HERE for NH BURN PERMIT RULES AND REGULATONS

CLICK HERE to get a Burn Permit Online

BACKYARD BURNING QUICK GUIDE
DIVISION OF FORESTS AND LANDS FIRE PERMIT BROCHURE

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> for the Fire Department Fee Schedule

Please <u>CLICK HERE</u> for the Permitting Checklist and Reference Guide

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



Can the Police, Fire, or Ambulance find your home when you need them for assistance with an emergency? Can they find it at night? Can they find it during a snowstorm?

Having your name and number on a mailbox is just not enough. Some mailboxes are clustered together. The numbers are small and the location may not mark the entrance to your driveway.

The Lee Firemen's Association, in a joint effort with the Lee Fire Department, has a program to install reflective house number signs at driveway entrances to assist all

emergency responders in locating your home in a time of need. The cost for each sign with a post is \$35.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association.

CLICK HERE for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form





NEW HOURS FOR THE LIBRARY

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 11am -7pm Thursday and Friday 10am – 5pm Saturday 9am – 12pm

Curbside service remains very popular and will continue as before!

<u>2020 Summer Reading Program</u> - upcoming events



Virtual Drop-In, Meet 'n Greet, Share-a-thon with Judy, Mondays 2:00 Preschool-Kindergarten, 3:00 Elementary, 4:00 Middle School. Stop in; say "hi", share your craft project or special fun thing you have been doing this summer! We will need an email address to send an invitation to this Drop-in. Send your email to Judy at childrenservices@comcast.net. Sessions will run for 30 minutes.

Chapter Book reading with Judy. Every weekday at 9:00 am. We will continue reading the Unicorn Rescue Society, Book 4. Look for the posts on Facebook.

Online story time on Facebook with Judy, Wednesday, July 29, 10:30 am.

Summer Reading Finale with Simon Brooks - VIRTUAL program, Friday, **July 31, 10:30 am.** Register www.durhampubliclibrary.org

<u>Craft Pickup Tuesdays starting at 2:00.</u> Only a couple more weeks of regular crafts while supplies last.

Discount Museum Passes

The museums are starting to reopen so time to request your passes! Here is the list of passes available and their scheduled reopening dates. Please check the museum websites for details on how to visit them. Graciously sponsored by the Friends of the Lee Public Library



Currier – August 13 www.currier.org



New England Aquarium – July 16, by timed appointment only www.neaq.org



Strawbery Banke – open now, exterior of buildings and gardens only, recommend reservations www.strawberybanke.org



Museum of Science — July 26, recommend advanced ticket purchase www.mos.org



Museum Peabody Essex Museum – July 18, Thursday-Sunday only, recommend timed admission www.pem.org



Children's Museum of NH – no date yet www.childrens-museum.org



Museum of Fine Arts – no date yet, possibly in the Fall 2020 www.mfa.org





Woodman Museum – opens July 1, our pass expired www.woodmanmuseum.org



GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, July 15, 2020

CLICK HERE for the 7/15/2020 Minutes

There is a typo in these minutes; the next meeting is not August 8th but August 5th.

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the State House in Concord, NH

NHDOT BEGINS PLANNING FOR 5-DAY SHUTDOWN OF ROUTE 4 AT BUNKER CREEK

Attached below is the US Route 4 detour route for the scheduled road closure commencing Sunday, July 19th at 11 pm, with an anticipated closure duration of 5 days. The signed detour route will be via NH Route 108 and the Spaulding Turnpike. Truck traffic will be encouraged to use NH Route 155 and the Spaulding Turnpike. Only local traffic will be permitted between NH Route 108 (west of Bunker Creek) and Back River Road (east of Bunker Creek) on US Route 4.

Upcoming work:

Road closure and bridge replacement schedule to start Sunday Evening July 19th – Friday evening July 24th CLICK HERE for map

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

Facebook - NHDOTRte4Durham

Twitter - @NHDOTRte4Durham

Email - mailto:nhdotrte4durham@gmail.com

For project history or background information you can also visit the NHDOT's Webpage

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS - July 8, 2020

The Superintendent is organizing an ORCSD Antiracism committee. The committee is still being formed, but will include district administrators, 2 school board members, parents, and community members.

The District is developing plans for 3 possible models for the start of school in the fall: Fully remote, hybrid model with some remote and some in-person content, and traditional in-person school. The School Board will be discussing these options with Administrators in a Workshop on July 14th at 7:00pm, which will be live-streamed and recorded (www.orcsd.org/stream). The School Board is expecting to make a decision about how to begin the school year at its August 5th meeting.

The High School schedule will be adjusted so that September 8th will be a fully Remote learning day (regardless of the in person, remote, or hybrid model school begins with), in order for the Town of Durham to utilize the High School gym and adjacent hallways for the primary election that day.

For the 2nd year in a row, Oyster River has been awarded the NHIAA Sportsmanship Award for Division II schools. Congratulations to the student-athletes and coaches across all sports for this recognition!



LAMPREY RIVER ADVISORY COMMITTEE CLICK HERE for Summer Newsletter

McGregor EMS Volunteers Needed

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

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.

ATTENTION!

To receive the E-CRIER via email every week go to <u>www.leenh.org</u>, click on the <u>Subscribe</u> 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 **<u>printed copy</u>** or go to the Library to view it there. If you cannot leave your home please call Town Secretay Denise Duval at 659-5414 to have it mailed!