TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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

August 7, 2020



REGISTER TO VOTE NOW!

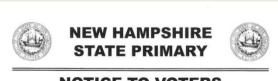
Although NH citizens are allowed to register to vote at the polls, it is strongly recommended that you register as soon as possible. How?

- 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 (driver's license, passport, car registration, etc.). Wear a mask.
- Request that a voter registration packet be mailed to you using the same contact information as above.
- **NEW!** The Supervisors of the Checklist will hold outdoor walk-up voter registration sessions in the Town Hall parking lot on the following Tuesdays from 1-4pm: August 11th, August 18th & August 25th. **Be sure to bring your own pen and proof of age, identity, citizenship, and your domicile in Lee. Wear a mask.**
- The Supervisors of the Checklist will also hold another walk-up session on Wednesday, September 2nd from 6:30-7:30pm in the Town Hall parking lot. **This will be the last opportunity to register to vote before the State Primary on September 8th.**

HOW TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

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 CLICK HERE for an absentee ballot application.
- Four ways to return your absentee ballot application:
 - 1. Mail application to Town Clerk at 7 Mast Rd., Lee NH 03861
 - 2. Drop in locked box outside rear door of Town Hall
 - 3. Fax to 603-659-7202
 - 4. Email to lreinhold@leenh.org or estone@leenh.org



NOTICE TO VOTERS

THE STATE PRIMARY VOTING WILL BE HELD AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION SAFETY COMPLEX

Tuesday, September 8, 2020 Beginning at 7:00 AM. o'clock

Closing no earlier than 7:00 PM. o'clock

For the nomination of Candidates for the following Offices:

Declarations of Candidacy to be filed with Secretary of State

Governor United States Senator Representative in Congress **Executive Councilor** State Senator County Officer

Declarations of Candidacy to be filed with Town or City State Representative Delegate to the Republican State Convention (Election)

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE NOTICE COVID-19 HOURS: MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY 8-4 (Closed 12-1)

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 lreinhold@leenh.org or 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.

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting Monday, August 10th from 9:10am - 9:30am 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 / TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE COVID-19 PROCEDURES

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:

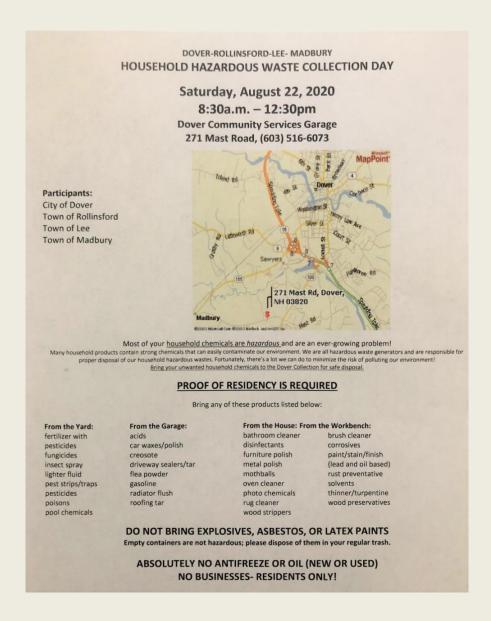
- If your dog was registered for 2019-2020 and the rabies is still up-to-date, you can renew the registration online.
- If the rabies is not up-to-date, then we need proof from the vet. You can mail it, email it (estone@leenh.org) or fax it (603-659-7202) to us and then you can do it online or through 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

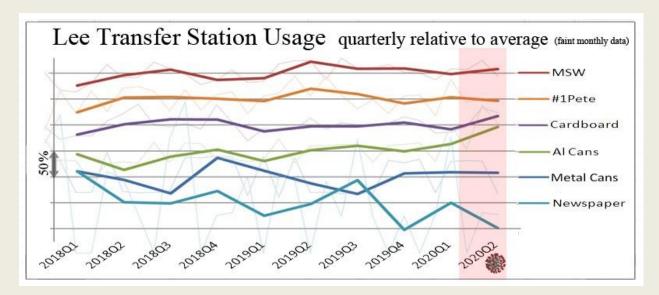
The Stay at Home 2.0 order has been replaced by Safer at Home. Guidelines still must be followed and can be found at https://www.covidguidance.nh.gov/

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.



How Has Stay-At-Home Affected Solid Waste in Lee? Dean Rubine, Lee Sustainability Committee

We've all been cooped up for more than three months, which leads us to wonder how our transfer station use has changed. Is there a deluge of cardboard boxes from the massive shift to online shopping? Is there more trash because things normally thrown away out of town are now brought to the transfer station? Are people using more cans and bottles or fewer? Are they still recycling? Are folks hoarding their trash until this is over? Enquiring minds want to know.



Here are the graphs of the last ten quarters of some of our waste streams. I've highlighted 2020Q2 in pink. That's April through June of 2020, approximately the stay-at-home period, each stream has a baseline indicating its average over the ten quarters; a move up or down a line indicates a 50% increase or decrease. The noisier monthly data is lightly overlaid. Thanks to Public Works Manager Steve Bullek for the raw data.

The biggest changes in the recent quarter when we were at home were a decrease in newspaper (ending at 49% below average) and an increase in aluminum cans (+46%). The newspaper data is noisy, even with the three month long bins, but the downtrend seems to have started in 2019Q4, presumably unrelated to stay-at-home.

The aluminum can increase is a surprise. It seems real, starting in March. I don't know why, beer? Cardboard was also up last quarter, 17% above average. The Amazon effect?

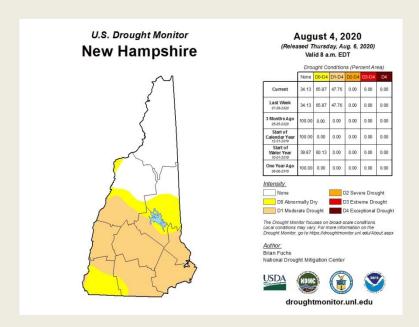
The MSW (municipal solid waste, i.e. landfill trash) seems unchanged as does #1 Pete (clear plastic) and the metal cans. All in all, except for beer cans and some cardboard the effect of the crisis on the transfer station is subtle, with folks discarding pretty much as before.



In these difficult times, we want you to know that help is available. Additional funds were recently allocated to The New Hampshire Housing Relief Program to help customers experiencing financial hardship during the pandemic.

- Even if you have never applied before, if you have been laid off or had your hours reduced because of the pandemic, you may be eligible now for a one-time grant of up to \$2,500 or assistance over the course of several months.
- These funds can be used to pay housing or utility costs and will be sent on your behalf direction to your landlord or utility company.
- There is no income limit to qualify.
- This is not a loan and does not need to be paid back.

Apply online, or through your local community action agency. To find an agency nearest you, call 211. Please have copies of your utility bill handy for reference. CLICK HERE for more details.



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.

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.

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.

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 now permitted in Little River Park.

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.

For Immediate Release
August 6, 2020
Kate Giaquinto
Info@goferr.nh.gov



New Hampshire Agriculture COVID-19 Relief Program Expansion and Additional Funding Round Application Available Application Deadline: August 31, 2020

Concord, NH -- The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery and the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets & Food announce that the New Hampshire Agriculture COVID-19 Relief Program has been expanded to include farms that did not qualify initially, or missed the registration deadline ("Expanded Farm Program"). The Expanded Farm Program supports smaller farms with less than \$50,000 of 2019 gross sales which were ineligible initially.

Governor Chris Sununu has authorized the allocation and expenditure of \$2.5 million from the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund ("flex funds") to support non-dairy farms, in order to ease the burden of substantial new COVID-19-related costs like extra cleaning and sanitizing, ensuring social distancing, and lost sales. This includes \$1.5 million previously allocated to specialty crop producers that had at least \$50,000 of 2019 gross sales and registered for the program by June 22, 2020, and an additional \$1 million to allow the Expanded Farm Program.

The Expanded Farm Program offers financial assistance to farms that cannot apply through the existing program specifically for specialty crop producers, whether because they had less than \$50,000 of 2019 gross sales, or missed the registration deadline. Instead of the \$50,000 threshold, the Expanded Farm Program has a much lower, application period-specific threshold based on COVID-19-related losses. Specifically, a farm is eligible to apply for relief funding, if, during the applicable time period, the farm had average COVID-19-related expenses of at least \$500 per month, or average COVID-19-related lost sales of at least \$1,000 per month (as compared to 2019). The significantly lower threshold makes agriculture relief available to smaller farms, while ensuring it still helps those most in need of financial assistance. This funding opportunity is available to all agricultural producers, rather than specialty crop producers only.

An eligible farm under the Expanded Farm Program, like registered specialty crop producer, can submit up to three applications, but without having to register ahead of time.

The Expanded Farm Program application period for COVID-19-related expenses and/or lost sales incurred during the period from March 1, 2020 to June 30, 2020 is NOW OPEN and available here: https://nhpublichealth.force.com/nhgoferr/Proposal Core Listing Page. The deadline is August 31, 2020 at 11:59 PM.

The next application deadlines for both registered specialty crop producers and expanded farms are:

- October 15, 2020, for July 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020
- December 10, 2020, for October 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020

For more information, visit https://www.goferr.nh.gov/covid-expenditures/nh-agriculture-grants, or contact Gail McWilliam Jellie at gail.d.mcwilliamjellie@agr.nh.gov, or 603-271-3551.

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.

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.

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

The SBA and Treasury Department 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 is 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.

Update: The Paycheck Protection Program is excepting new applications from businesses that have not already received a loan until August 8th. Please share with your business community so that anyone that hasn't already taken advantage of the program will consider it. With the recent changes of the PPP Flexibility Act most if not all businesses can benefit and receive forgiveness on most if not all of the funds.

Are you interesting in learning more about government contracting? You may be eligible for some FREE training! See our latest newsletter.

Additional information available on the State of NH GAP Fund and applications are now available.

SBA NH – Webinar Wednesdays are being held a 9am each week and the link is available on our latest email newsletter.

August online learning opportunities are Heating Up!

See more details in our latest <u>email newsletter</u> that also gives registration info for lots of online learning happening in August.

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 iic@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: AUGUST 7th - AUGUST 20th

Ideas from the Conservation Commission Terrestrial

Anytime: Take a Walk on one of Lee's trails - There are public trails in Little River Park (an 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 mile 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

Family Walk: Take a weekly walk with your child/children and talk about what you see. What animals are living in the habitats you walk through? What do they eat? Why are some animals, like squirrels, easy to see, but others, like foxes, not so easy? What trees do you pass along the way how are they different from one another? Be curious, ask your child/children what they think. If you manage a weekly walk, keep track of the changes as summer gives way to Autumn.

Just Listen: Do this yourself or as a family activity. Take a walk and make note of how many different sounds you hear. The insect chorus is winding up now, just as the avian chorus is winding down. Note how many different bird songs can you hear - you don't need to identify who's singing, just notice the different singers. Likewise with insects (although as the chorus intensifies, it's hard to separate one sound from the other), notice how many different sounds the different insect singers are producing. Humans are part of nature, too, so do include the different sounds that are human-made.

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

This week's critter card features chimney swifts, perhaps the most aerial of birds. Chimney swifts, eat, drink, mate, and even sleep on the wing!

https://www.facebook.com/MassAudubonJoppaFlats/photos/rpp.246535620946/10157028798565947/?type=3&theater

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. Also posted are weekly Nature Notes (published on Sunday mornings; this week's Nature Notes is the second of a three part series on milkweed. We love having folks share their nature photos, so feel free to post if you have a photo you'd like to share.

Winged Creature of the Week:

Hummingbird Clearwing - The Moth that Looks Like a Tiny Bird: Monarda, or bee balm, was one of the first perennials I planted



Hummingbird clearwing feeding on monarda, photo by Andrea LeBlanc

in the gardens we made when we first moved to Lee. It's been 37 years since that first clump was planted, and like many members of the mint family, it has, like a botanical Vulcan, lived long and prospered. From mid-July through much of August there are drifts of monarda blooming in various places in the yard. They are beautiful in their own right, but they have the added value of bringing in lots of nectar feeders. Their shaggy flower heads, adorned with tubular petals are a magnet for hummingbirds and their insect look-alikes, hummingbird moths.

Hummingbird moths are members of the *Sphingidae* - the sphinx, or hawk moths, a family of medium to large moths who produce correspondingly large caterpillars. This is the family of the hornworms - large, cylindrical caterpillars with a middorsal horn; when threatened, the larvae raise their heads and upper thoraxes in a sphinxlike position. The often brightly colored and strikingly patterned aduthat are narrow and much longer than the hindwings. They are strong, fast and *Sphingidae* have large, heavy bodies with forewings flyers with very rapid wingbeats; some, such as the hummingbird moths can hover in midair while feeding on nectar. They are long-tongued moths, with proboscices that are kept curled when not in use. It is reported that Sphingids are possessed of greater color vision than any animal on the planet, and at starlight intensities that leave humans in a black and white world, nocturnal Sphingids are able to distinguish colors in flowers.

The more than thirty species of hawk moths native to NH are mostly nocturnal, but several are active during the day, including the clearwings. With their rapidly beating wings and bold patterns these insects are a treat to encounter in the garden as they hover from flower to flower. The two species of hummingbird-like clearwings you're most apt to see are the hummingbird clearwing (Hemaris thysbe) a hummingbird mimic and the snowberry clearwing (Hemaris diffinis) a bumblebee mimic. Though the coloring of the latter species is similar to that of a bumblebee, both species resemble hummingbirds in form and behavior and provide a wonderful example of convergent evolution.

Convergent evolution happens when two unrelated species evolve, independent of one and other, similar traits in response to similar environmental challenges. The streamlined bodies of fish, dolphins and penguins that adapt them for a life of moving underwater is a good example of convergent evolution; the wings of bats, birds, and insects, enabling them to fly is another. Once in a while convergent evolution really, really converges, and produces species that bear a remarkable resemblance to each other, which is the case with hummingbirds and the clearwing hawk moths.

Like other nectar feeders such as hummingbirds, bats, and hover flies, hummingbird moths move their wings in a figure-eight pattern enabling them to hover in place, beating their wings rapidly. At 85 wingbeats per second, hummingbirds, with their more flexible wings, are the champions of the hover; hummingbird moths hover with about 35 wingbeats per second - still amazingly fast, and enough to make their wings a blur and produce a hum when you're standing nearby.



Snowberry clearwing, photo by Andy Reago and Chrissy McClarren, Creative Commons License

As larvae, both species of clearwings feed on snowberry and honeysuckle. The snowberry clearwing also feeds on dogbane, while the hummingbird clearwing larvae feeds on cherry, hawthorn, and plum. They spend the summer eating the leaves of their host plants, and at the end of the summer, when they've finished growing, drop to the ground. There, among the leaf litter, they spin their hard dark cocoons and spend the winter as pupa, emerging as adults in early summer.

Right now, if you're a clearwing, romance is in the air, literally. Using glands located at the tip of her abdomen, the female sends out pheromones that are intoxicatingly attractive to the males.

Not much is known about the mating habits of this species. However, soon after mating the female will seek out host plants and there will lay her round green eggs. At that point her life is done, and the short season of the hummingbird moths will come to an end. Now, while they hover in the garden, is the time to take a moment and appreciate these unique and beautiful creatures.



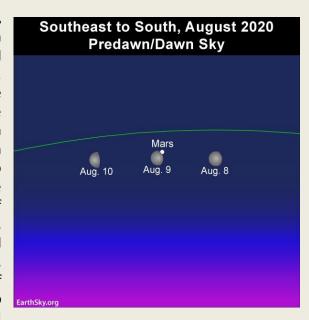
Hummingbird clearwing feeding on white butterfly weed, photo by Andrea LeBlanc



Hummingbird clearwing, photograph by Andrea LeBlanc

Celestial

4:00 a.m., August 8, 9, 10, Looking east - Venus, **Moon and Mars:** Yes, it's early, but perhaps you can consider this as practice for viewing the Persied meteors which will be peaking in the next few days. You'll likely even see a few if you get up early to see Mars and Venus. The most spectacular view will be on the 9th, when the waning gibbous moon passes in front of Mars. This occultation will have begun even as the moon rises above the horizon at 11:55 p.m., so if you're up late, and have a fairly clear view of the southeastern horizon, you can catch a glimpse of these two heavenly bodies hooking up. By 4:00 a.m., Mars will still be peeking out from the moon, and Venus will have risen to join the gathering. At 4:02, the satellite STARLINK-1040 (part of a network of satellites put up to provide low-cost internet access to remote locations by the aerospace manufacturer and



space transport company SpaceX) will drift down from the north, passing between Venus and the moon.

August 11, 12, 13, Looking east between midnight and dawn - Perseid Meteor Shower: Get out the lawn chairs, or lay down the picnic blankets and enjoy the show. Because they occur during the pleasant month of August, the Perseids are one of the best-loved of the earth's annual meteor shower events. Though the glare of a gibbous moon may bleach out the show a bit, the Perseids are bright meteors, and should show up well. The peak night, as far as numbers are concerned will be the 12th, with as many as 40-50 meteors per hour. It's also the night when the moon will be brightest, so the 11th or 13th may give you brighter meteors to enjoy.

These meteors appear to stream out of the constellation Perseus, hence the name. They are caused by debris shed by comet 109P/Swift-Tuttle when it orbits the sun every 133 years. As these cometary bits enter the earth's

Radiant
Perseus

Copyright © Earthsky communications inc.

atmosphere they burn up while streaking across the sky. 109P/Swift-Tuttle is a large comet - 16 miles across (twice the size of the comet/asteroid that wiped out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago). Named after the two American astronomers who discovered it, independent of each other, in1862, this was the 109th periodic comet to be recorded by astronomers.

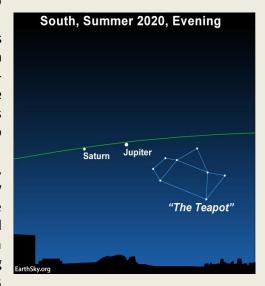
8:45 and later, Looking South, Anytime this month - Find the Teapot and Look into the Center of Our Galaxy: The Teapot is a well-known asterism (distinct pattern of stars) located in the constellation Sagtarius (The Archer) viewable in our hemisphere during summer. It hugs the horizon, and dark skies are best for optimal viewing, but you'll have Saturn and Jupiter, coasting along the ecliptic to help you pick it out.

If binoculars are available, use them to gaze along the right side of the teapot - along the edge of the lid and the spout. You'll see a path littered with starlight. That's our galaxy, The Milkyway, seen edgewise. The path grows wider and brighter as it approaches the center of the galaxy, where a supermassive black hole (and perhaps a companion black hole) lies.

As always, these two online resources tare 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 indepth information about a particular night-sky object. They've very generously given their permission to have their graphics used in this newsletter, and I encourage you and your children to visit their website.

Stellarium (https://stellarium-web.org/), has replaced StarAtlas, but remains an interactive map of the night sky. This new incarnation will set itself to your location. You can change the time and date to coincide with when you'll be star-gazing, and the map scrolls in all directions. If, for instance, in your location the best place for viewing the night sky happens to be facing west, just scroll the map to show the stars, planets and satellites



that will appear in that part of the sky. Once you have the sky set for viewing time and direction, you can click on objects in the sky and an information box will appear giving the object's name plus information about brightness, type of object, etc. This is a fantastic website.

SELECT BOARD MEETING VIA ZOOM - MONDAY, August 10th 6:00 pm

Meeting ID 872 4340 0223 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 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



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. Look for the posts on Facebook.

Discount Museum Passes

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. Generously sponsored by the Friends of the Lee Public Library. Call the library to reserve these passes at 659-2626.



Currier – opening August 13 www.currier.org



New England Aquarium – open now, 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 — open now, recommend advanced ticket purchase www.mos.org

 $P|E|M^{\frac{\text{Peabody}}{\text{Essex}}}_{\text{Museum Peabody Essex Museum - open now, Thursday-Sunday only, recommend timed admission }\underline{\text{www.pem.org}}$



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

Seacoast Science Center – open now weekends only. Must make reservation for a day pass for Odiorne State Park with www.NHstateparks.org. Then use discount pass for the museum. www.seacoastsciencecenter.org



Woodman Museum – opens now, www.woodmanmuseum.org



Isabella Stewart Garner Museum, open now, <u>www.gardnermuseum.org</u> shared with Madbury and Durham. Register for this pass with the Durham Library <u>www.durhampubliclibrary.org</u>

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

Boston Children's Museum, open now, www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org shared with Madbury and Durham. Register for this pass with the Durham Library www.durhampubliclibrary.org



OYSTER RIVER SCHOOL BOARD NEWS – AUGUST 5, 2020

The Oyster River School Board met August 5th to select a framework for the start of the school year. The board and administration appreciate the 90+ emails and phone calls, as well as over 1700 parent survey responses that provided significant community input into these decisions.

The 1st day of classes for students is being delayed until September 2nd, to allow teachers and staff additional time to plan for the start of the year.

Mast Way and Moharimet will start the year with students attending for ½ days, 4 days per week. A fully-remote option will also be offered for elementary students.

Middle and High School students will begin the school year with remote classes, though the school buildings will be open and students with specific needs may have some school work in the buildings. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis and may include students who are new to their school buildings, or for whom additional in-person contact is needed for academic or social-emotional learning.

The school district will ask each family to re-enroll for the fall to ensure accurate numbers of students for classes and bus transportation. Parents should watch for more information the week of August 10th.

The school board and administration will monitor and re-evaluate the selected model as the school year gets started, with the possibility of changes 6-9 weeks into the school year (or sooner if circumstances change abruptly).

The NHIAA has delayed the start of any fall sports practices until after Labor Day, and the school board will consider fall athletics options at its next meeting on August 19^{th.}

MARINA'S MILES VIRTUAL 5K RUN/WALK REGISTER FOR THE RACE AND RUN/WALK A 5K ANYTIME AND ANYWHERE BEFORE AUGUST 18, 2020

Marina's Miles 5K Run/Walk will be held virtually starting now through August 18, 2020. To participate, register for the race, run or walk your 5K anywhere, and send us your run/walk race times.

Registration fee for the race is \$15. Participants may register at <u>MarinasMiles.org</u> or via email at <u>MarinasMiles5K@gmail.org</u>. You may also register by sending a registration form and check to Marina's Miles, 10 Burnham Ave, Durham, NH 03824.

We have free t-shirts for the first 100 registrants, and raffle prizes will be awarded via drawing. All virtual race results will be posted on Marina's Miles' website and Facebook pages.

Marina's Miles raises money for college scholarships in memory of Marina Slavin. Scholarships are awarded annually to Oyster River High School students. Marina was an Oyster River High School graduate, UNH student, NH state champion runner, and, most importantly, a person who loved people from all walks of life and loved life. She died from a heart infection (her heart was too big) in 2013 at the age of 20.

GOVERNOR & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, August 5, 2020

CLICK HERE for the 8/5/2020 Minutes

Next Governor & Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 26, 2020 10:00 a.m. at the State House in Concord, NH



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 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 <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!