TOWN OF LEE, NEW HAMPSHIRE 249 Calef Highway Lee, New Hampshire 03861 (603) 659-5414

Lee News & Upcoming
Events
September 3, 2021

TOWN OFFICES CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2021



SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

TUESDAY, September 7th & 20th 6:00 pm Public Safety Complex, 20 George Bennett Road Subject to change, please check the website meeting calendar

Meetings can be seen on YOU Tube at CLICK HERE

LEE FAIR – SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH

Purchase your DINNER tickets now at Lee Town Offices, Lee Library or PD \$10 for Adults \$5 for Kids under 14 years

Due to lack of volunteers and the uncertainty of the pandemic we have scaled down the fair to the following events only:

Bingo 3:00pm - 5:00pm and 6:30 - 8:00pm - Sponsored by Mary's Dogs;

911 Tribute 5:15pm – VFW Post 10676

Pig Roast & Chicken BBQ Dinner 5:30pm - 7:00pm - Sponsored by the Lee Ag Commission;

Live Music 4:30pm - 7:30pm - Gold Plated Door;

Ice Cream Smorgasbord 5:45pm - 8:00pm - Sponsored by the Lee Church;

Fire Works 8:15pm;

The VFW will be selling raffle tickets and the Boy Scouts will have a booth.

There will be horse shoes, corn hole and a GIANT Connect Four Game for people to play.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SET UP, CLEAN UP AND DAY OF THE FAIR CALL CAREN ROSSI FOR MORE INFORMATION AT 659-6783



Insect ID Walk at Little River Park

Saturday, September 18, 2021, 1:00-3:00 PM

Sponsoring Organizations: UNH Extension, Town of Lee Conservation Commission, USDA Forest Service

Join us on Saturday, September 18 from 1-3pm for an educational workshop focused on techniques for finding, collecting, and identifying insects on your property. USFS Entomologist Marc DiGirolomo will demonstrate several collection techniques as we explore a variety of habitat types and discuss the insects that make their home at Little River Park in Lee, NH. Pinned insect specimens will also be on display showcasing some of New Hampshire's diverse insect populations. The workshop will involve an easy walk through the trails and habitats of Little River Park and the adjacent Mills Reserve.

Marc is an entomologist with the USDA Forest Service's Forest Health Protection group in Durham, NH serving all of New England and New York. Marc specializes in the detection, monitoring, and identification of forest insect pests, with an emphasis on woodboring and bark beetles.

This walk is being held as part of the 2021 NH BioBlitz, an effort to get community members out exploring species on town-owned lands all over New Hampshire during the month of September. Attendees are invited to participate in the BioBlitz effort by submitting their insect species observations to iNaturalist. To learn more about the NH BioBlitz, visit extension.unh.edu/nhbioblitz.

This event is free, but space is limited due to current UNH COVID-related policies. Registration is required.

COVID-19 Safety Precautions: Group size is limited, and the entire program will be held outdoors. Participants will be required to complete a simple online health screening before leaving home. Additional information will be sent upon registration.

What to Bring: Sturdy footwear, comfortable clothing, water, and snacks. A hand lens is recommended but is not required. Please dress appropriately as we will be outdoors and walking on and off trail in open fields and woods.

Contact Person for Questions: Rebecca DiGirolomo, rebecca.digirolomo@unh.edu, 603-862-1520

Location: Little River Park, 28 North River Road, Lee, NH

Registration Link:

https://learnforlife.unh.edu/portal/events/reg/participantTypeSelection.do?method=load&entityId=152734057

USING MANURE IN THE GARDEN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2021 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Wagon Hill Community Garden, 156 Piscataqua Road, Durham, NH

Cost: \$10 / Register by September 23rd

CLICK HERE for more information

SPONSORED BY UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Conservation Commission Easement Monitoring Notes from 8-18-2021

Two weeks ago we monitored the Old Mill Reserve, a 156 acre conservation easement abutting several other conserved properties. It is an important part of the mosaic of conserved properties that will one day provide habitat for the endangered New England cottontail rabbit.

The reserve encompasses two played-out gravel pits that were converted, in 2006, to wetland habitat by the Wetland Reserve Program of the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). In addition to the wetlands created by NRCS, the property has riverine habitat formed by the Oyster River which flows along the eastern boundary of a section of the property.

The sand and gravel that forms the substrate here was deposited thousands of years ago by the retreating Laurentide ice sheet. For eons, this massive glacier covered most of Canada and much of the Northern United States. Ten thousand years ago, as Earth's climate began to warm, rivers of melt water flowed through and beneath the ice, depositing layers of sand, gravel and silt. These materials were mined decades ago; during the 1960's, sand and gravel excavated here was used in the construction of the Route 4 bypass.

Dry and sun-baked, this is a demanding habitat, and many drought- and poor-soils-tolerant trees, grasses and forbs were planted during its restoration. Fifteen years after being planted, there still isn't a lot of organic matter present on the ground's surface, and the sand and gravel deposited thousands of years ago is everywhere visible. In our climate, it takes anywhere from 200-400 years to form 1 cm of soil. Fertile soil requires even more time - about 3000 years. A decade and a half is but a moment in soil-time. This is a place where, despite the work done to help move the process along, and despite the young trees that require cutting back to keep the habitat shrubby, succession is still, in some ways, in its early stages.

The evidence of this is found throughout the reserve, you just need to lower your sights to see it. As you walk this property, look between the clumps of tall grasses and in the bare areas around shrubs and young trees. Everywhere, you'll find lichens and mosses forming lilliput gardens such as the one pictured above. These are the pioneers in the process of succession. Both these organisms reproduce by tiny spores that are easily carried by the wind; hence, they are the first to arrive in any area that has been stripped of life by glaciers, eruptions, fire, or human activities such as pit mining.

Lichens are really two organisms: a unicellular plant, such as a cyanobacteria or an alga, living within the filaments of a fungus. The two organisms live symbiotically; the cyanobacteria or alga provides the fungus with sugars produced by photosynthesis, while the fungus provides minerals absorbed by the filaments and also provides protection from UV radiation and desiccation. As they grow and form colonies, lichens break down rock and begin the long process of soil formation.

Hard on the heels of the lichens are the mosses, low-growing plants that form thick clumps. By going dormant during prolonged periods of drought, mosses are able to withstand total dehydration - a useful trick when you're colonizing an old gravel pit. When rain or dew rehydrates them, mosses resume photosynthesis. Mosses, too, break down rock and, as their lower leaves drop off, their colonies slowly accumulate a thin layer of dead plant matter.

Together, various species of lichens and mosses create, over time, enough mineral and organic matter to enable other plants to survive.



The picture here shows British soldier and pixie cup lichens growing with club mosses provide shade and retain enough moisture for the young plant on the left to survive. Take a walk through Old Mill Reserve, and you'll see many of these colonies of early succession organisms. Each tiny garden gives you a glimpse of what our part of the planet looked like 10,000 years ago, when lichens and mosses such as these were the tallest organisms around, covering the surface of the earth with carpet of living beings for the first time in thousands of years.

CONSERVATION MONITORING IN LEE

From now until early fall, join the Conservation Commission on Wednesday mornings as they conduct site walks on the Town's conserved properties. Some of these lands are owned by the Town, but most of them are privately owned and protected in perpetuity with a conservation easement. If you'd like to walk along, go to https://www.leenh.org/conservation-commission and email the Conservation Commission Chair Dawn Genes by clicking on her name. Monitoring begins at 9:00 am and generally takes 1½-2 hrs. Most outings require traversing through thick brush. Standard precautions for COVID, ticks & mosquitoes are advised.



STRAFFORD COUNTY FARM BUREAU 8TH ANNUAL FARM STYLE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER – Sunday, October 17, 2021

CO- SPONSORED BY LEE AND DURHAM AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONS
TO BENEFIT AGRICULTURAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS AND YOUTH GRANTS

THE TOWN OF LEE SEEKING ITS NEXT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

The Town Administrator reports to a 3 member Select Board and works with a staff of 26 full-time and 15 part-time employees with an annual operating budget of \$4.6 million. A Bachelor's degree and sufficient experience to understand the principles relevant to the major duties of the position, usually associated with a minimum of five years' experience in the field, preferably in a municipal setting, or any equivalent combination of education and experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skills and abilities. Competitive salary and benefit package is offered DOQ/DOE. Submit letter of interest and resume to the Lee Town Administrator Search, 249 Calef Hwy., Lee, NH 03861 or dduval@leenh.org. Reviews will begin upon receipt of Application. The Town of Lee is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

BILL HUMM HONORED FOR CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

Conservation members and former members met on Tuesday, August 31st at Little River Park to recognize and thank Bill Humm for his 15 years as Chair of the Conservation Commission. Bill stepped down in 2020, but social distancing during that time necessitated postponing the celebration. Commission members and Select Board representative Scott Bugbee presented Bill with an engraved compass to thank him for setting a steady course for the Commission during his tenure. Photos by Selectman Scott Bugbee







SAVE THE DATES!!!

The Lee Trails Committee will be hosting two trail work days at the Lee Town Forest:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 23 AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6
9am - 1pm

Stay tuned for more information!!

If you are interested in helping out, contact Deb Sugerman at debsugerman@gmail.com

Our motto is "Have fun and get things done!"

THE LEE SWAP SHOP STILL NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!!!

If you are interested, please email swapshopleenh@gmail.com.



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 **5:30pm** - **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

Various Committees have openings to be filled. If you are interested contact the Office Manager Denise Duval at 603-659-5414 or email dduval@leenh.org. **CLICK HERE** for Application.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION & BOARD MEETING CALENDAR
LIBRARY CALENDAR

READY RIDES

Ready Rides provides transportation at no charge for the elderly & disabled residents living in: Barrington, Durham, Lee, Madury, Newfields, Newmarket, Northwood, Nottingham and Strafford NH. 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 info@readyrides.org or call (603) 244-8719. You can find an Application for riders and a Volunteer Application on this website. Email or mail it to Ready Rides P.O. Box 272 Northwood, NH 03261. For other transportation options available in the region, please visit ACT's Community Transportation Directory.

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. 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 \$50.00 and it will be installed by the Lee Firemen's Association. CLICK HERE for Reflective House Number Sign Request Form

RECENT COVID-RELATED INFORMATION

NH COVID-19 WEBSITE

NH DHHS HEALTH ALERT

Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak, Update # 44 mRNA COVID-19 Vaccine 3rd Dose Recommendations – CLICK HERE

UNIVERSAL BEST PRACTICES

The Governor's Office released the "<u>Universal Best Practices</u>" guidance document which replaced the "Safer at Home Business Guidance" documents as of May 7th.

These "Universal Best Practices" are recommendations related to COVID-19 practices for all individuals, businesses, and organizations to consider and implement for the operation of their business. Nothing in this document or other guidance precludes any business, organization, or individual business operators from taking additional precautions for the health and safety of its employees and consumers. Additionally, a set of stand-alone guidance for "Overnight Congregate Settings for Children" has been released.



Federal Eviction Moratorium Extended To October 3 Do You Know Someone Who Needs Help Paying Their Rent And Utilities Because Of COVID-19?

Whether or not they qualify for the new eviction moratorium, they may be eligible for assistance from the **NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program**. It provides funds to renters who cannot pay their rent and utilities due to the impact of COVID-19. The program works with landlords and tenants. Eligibility details and applications are at **CAPNH.org**, through the NH Community Action Partnership (CAP) agencies.

WHAT THE PROGRAM COVERS

- Past-due rent including reasonable late and legal fees.
- Three months of future rent payments if needed for housing stability.
- Utilities, such as electricity, home heating costs, water, sewer, trash.
- Other housing-related costs such as internet and relocation expenses associated directly or indirectly with COVID-19.
- Relocation expenses including rental application fees, utility hook-up fees, and security deposits.
- Households may qualify for utility assistance even if they do not receive or need rental assistance.

PROGRAM ELIGBILITY

- At least one person in the household must have qualified for unemployment benefits, had their income reduced, had significant costs, or had other financial hardship due to COVID-19. Certain income requirements must be met.
- Households do not need to be receiving unemployment benefit payments.
- The CAP agency will assist in identifying information needed.
- Households may qualify for assistance for past-due and future rent and utility payments for a period not to exceed 15 months.

General questions about the <u>NH Emergency Rental Assistance Program</u>? Email <u>renthelp@nhhfa.org</u>

This program is for renters and landlords, not homeowners. The federal Homeowner Assistance Fund Program (HAF), which will provide assistance to homeowners impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, will launch later this year. If you are at risk of foreclosure or are having difficulty paying your home mortgage, utilities, home insurance or property taxes, please call 2-1-1. This is a free service offered by Granite United Way.

NHERAP is a federally funded rental assistance program through the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR). It is administered by New Hampshire Housing, in collaboration with GOFERR and the Community Action Partnership agencies.



For small businesses in the SRPC region

The Strafford Regional Planning
Commission (SRPC) is launching a new
Consultant Technical Assistance
program to support small businesses as
they work to recover from the impacts
of COVID-19. We have partnered with
private consultants to provide FREE
technical support to small businesses
in several different areas.

SERVICE MENU













PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Businesses can request anything between 1 to 3 hours of technical assistance in any of the categories listed in the service menu, which will be offered at NO COST to small business owners.



Due to limited capacity and resources, we are currently offering assistance in up to 1 of the service menu categories per business. However, in the survey, you will have the ability to select up to 3 categories that you wish to receive assistance in and we will reach out to provide additional assistance, depending on availability.



Services will be provided on a first come, first serve basis.

NEXT STEPS

If you are a small business owner, navigate to our <u>online</u> <u>survey</u> where you can sign up to receive assistance in any of the categories listed above.

You will then be contacted by an SRPC staff member who will help you coordinate the details of your request, including scheduling of the initial consultation with a service provider.



LIBRARY HOURS - CLOSED MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH FOR LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Monday – Wednesday 11:00 am – 7:00 pm Thursday & Friday 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Saturday 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FALL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Library programs listed below will REQUIRE pre-registration. Programs limited to 15. Masks are required for all indoor programs. Registration begins Monday August 23. Call the Library 659-2626 to register.

Preschool Story-time - starts Thursday, September 9th

Thursday mornings at 10:30 am – Join Miss Judy for stories, songs, rhymes and a simple craft. This program is designed for children 24 months through 5 years and their caregivers.

*Attendance will be limited to 15. Call the library at 659-2626 to register for this program.

<u>Lap-sit story time – starts Friday, September</u> 10th

Friday mornings at 10:30 am – Join Miss Judy for some fun movement songs and stories. This program is designed for littles 24 months old and younger and their caregivers.

*Attendance will be limited to 15. Call the library at 659-2626 to register for this program.

<u>Afterschool Offerings – starts week of September 7th Grade School Ages - FIRST SESSION</u> FULL as of 8/25/21

We will have afterschool programs on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning September 7th. We will have an **afterschool story time** on Tuesdays from bus drop off until 4:30. We will have an alternating **Lego/Elementary Crafting club** on Thursdays from bus drop off until 4:30.

There will be two 8-week sessions available. Due to expected high demand, you may register your child for 1 session.

Session 1 September 7th through October 29th - FULL **Session 2** November 2nd through December 23rd

* Attendance will be limited to 15. Call the library at 659-2626 to register.

Middle School Crafters - Friday September 10th

This group will meet on the 2nd Friday of each month beginning September 10th from bus drop off until 4:30. We will learn/work on long term projects such as a crochet scarf/hat, macramé bag/planter, cross stich ornament.

* Attendance will be limited to 10. Call the library at 659-2626 to register.

Middle School Book Club - starts Tuesday, September 28th

Our middle school book club meets via ZOOM on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 6-6:45 pm. Contact the library at 659-2626 if you are in grades 5-8 and would like to join us. We have a supply of the books available at the Library.

*No limits on participants. Call the library at 659-2626 to register.

Pajama Story time - Wednesday, September 29th

Wednesday September 29th, at 6:00 p.m. is our monthly pajama story time on Facebook live. Put on your jammies a little early, bring along your blanket and favorite stuffy and listen to some bedtime stories.

* Attendance will be limited to 15. Call the library at 659-2626 to register.



September Adult Book Discussion – Monday, September 13th at 6:00pm.

Copies of the adult book discussion group book are available at the library. We will be reading "The Once and Future King" by T.H. White. Call and reserve your copy today, 659-2626.



REMINDER THAT 10-DIGIT DIALING STARTS OCTOBER 24, 2021

Effective October 24, 2021, MANDATORY 10-digit local dialing is required for all customers in the NH 603 Area Code. Why is the local dialing plan changing? On July 16, 2020, the FCC adopted an Order (FCC 20-100) approving 988 as the 3-digit abbreviated dialing code to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, starting July 16, 2022. Customers must continue to dial 1-800-273-TALK (8255) to reach the Lifeline until July 16, 2022. The Order requires all telecommunications carriers, interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers, and one-way VoIP providers (covered providers) to make any network changes necessary to ensure that users can dial 988 to reach the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline by July 16, 2022.

For 988 to work in the NH 603 area code, 10-digit local dialing must first be implemented.

Does this apply to NH? Yes. Implementation of this Order requires all covered providers to make 10-digit dialing mandatory for all local calls in the entire NH 603 area code.

Why is 10-digit dialing going to be required in this area code? The FCC ordered that any area code that has the 988 prefix and has 7-digit local dialing be transitioned to 10-digit local dialing to ensure everyone is able to reach the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline using the 3-digit 988 code.

Will everyone in the 603 area code have to dial 10 digits for local calls? Yes. Every customer with a number from the 603 area code will change to mandatory 10-digit dialing for local calls. Dialing 7 digits for local calls will be prohibited for all customers in the entire area code.

What will be the new dialing procedure? To complete local calls, the new dialing procedure requires callers to dial the area code + telephone number. This means that all local calls in the entire 603 area code that are currently dialed with 7 digits will need to be dialed using the area code + telephone number.

When will the dialing change begin? Beginning April 24, 2021, you should start dialing 10 digits (area code + telephone number) for all local calls. If you forget and dial just 7 digits, your call will still be completed.



CLICK HERE for 2021 LRAC SUMMER NEWSLETTER

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 Scott Moreau, Commander, VFW Post 10676, at wfwpost10676@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 the Town Offices 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!