## TOWN OF ENFIELD E-NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2019

#### TOWN MANAGER WELCOME MESSAGE

#### Greetings!

Municipal officials and staff in the Town of Enfield are dedicated to promoting a high-functioning and closeknit community that appeals to all our residents and visitors. To this end, we are committed to providing accurate information and quality services to members of our community at all times. In the interest of helping to keep residents informed of important "goings on" in town, we have begun producing a town-wide newsletter that is disseminated by email on a monthly basis to all



individuals who subscribe to the mailing list. Our hope is that the number of recipients on this list will continue to grow over time to ensure that most households receive these important updates.

If you have friends or family that may be interested in receiving the electronic newsletter, please forward a copy of this newsletter to them.

Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straightforward. You simply have to:

- Go to the below page on the town's website: <u>www.enfield.nh.us/subscribe</u>
- Enter your email address in the "Your Email" field
- Check the box for "Town News & Announcements" Check the "I am not a robot" box and follow the prompts
- Click the "Subscribe me" navigation button at the bottom of the page

Thank you for being a part of our community. We hope you find this and future newsletters both informative and enjoyable. Please don't hesitate to contact Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager, at 603-442-5405 or

<u>raylesworth@enfield.nh.us</u>, if you have constructive feedback on how the depth and breadth of information provided in the newsletter can be optimized to meet the needs of our residents.

Find us at <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u> and <u>Facebook</u>!

facebook.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT – GROUNDS CREW LEADER

The Town of Enfield is seeking a full-time Grounds Crew Leader. The Grounds Crew Leader position is 40 hours per week, year-round and is available immediately. The position reports to the Director of Public Works. Duties include the general maintenance of town buildings, grounds, parks, cemeteries and on occasion will assist other public works divisions including highways, water/sewer and solid waste and recycling. The position is assigned to the Highway division through the winter maintenance season. The Grounds Crew Leader supervises one to two seasonal grounds crew employees for approximately six months out of the year.

For more information about this professional opportunity, including application instructions, please visit the below link: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/grounds\_crew\_leade</u> r - january 2019.pdf

For an application form and job description visit this link: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/administration-town-manager/pages/employment-information</u>

## PUBLIC WORKS COLLEGE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Town of Enfield, NH, Department of Public Works is offering an internship program to an advanced undergraduate or graduate student that involves assisting the Public Works Director with several important infrastructure

planning, asset management, and geospatial data collection projects. The primary project will be developing a townwide road plan that includes collecting data on surface condition, culverts and drainage structures, vegetative cover, and signage. This inventory will be used in a work management system and for short- and long-term budgeting and capital planning. Other projects include assisting with asset management projects for both the water and sewer systems that are currently underway. The intern will also gain



valuable knowledge by actively collaborating with our Public Works staff, other

municipal departments, and consulting engineers in the course of completing the project. The intern will be exposed to a number of different data collection techniques and analytical tools in the course of the project. As time allows, the intern may also provide direct support to the Planning and Zoning Offices in fulfilling additional community objectives (i.e., master planning). Candidates must be self-motivated and able to work independently and as part of a team. This is a 12-week paid summer internship (rate of pay will be based on the experience of the selected applicant) and the Town is also willing to work with students who are able to achieve college credit for internship work that continues into the fall semester.

## **2019 TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

On February 5, the Board of Selectmen will finalize the 2019 Town Meeting warrant. February 5 is also the deadline for the Board of Selectmen to receive citizen-petitioned warrant articles for placement on the Town Meeting warrant (RSA 39:3). Petitions should be submitted to the Town Clerk's Office so she can verify signatures. All petitioned warrant articles need at least 25 signatures of registered voters in the Town of Enfield.

Once the Town Meeting warrant is finalized and voted on by the Board of Selectmen, it will be posted in multiple locations in town and made available on the Town's website.

#### **2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING APPROACHING**

The Budget Committee and Town Manager have completed their diligent work on the 2019 operating budget, and the Public Budget Hearing will take place on February 6 (6:30 PM, Public Works Facility Conference Room, 74 Lockehaven Road). It has been a successful budget season that will result in a proposed budget that has achieved consensus among members of the Budget Committee and Town Administration.

At present, the proposed 2019 operating budget, including the general government (funded from a combination of property taxes, other local receipts, and state aid) and operation of the municipal water and sewer systems (which are funded from fees assessed to the users of these systems), is \$6,667,183, or an increase of 3.7% above 2018 (\$6,429,592). It is important to note that the 2019 operating budget request includes (for the first time) debt service payments for the NH Route 4A sewer extension project. Although these costs are being 100% offset by revenue collected in the form of betterment assessments from residents of Lakeview Condos and Shaker Landing Condos, these expenses must nonetheless be accounted for in the overall operating

budget. If the debt service payments (totaling \$135,869) on the NH Route 4A sewer extension project were not factored in, the 2019 operating budget request would represent only a 1.58% increase above the 2018 approved budget. The "bottom line" operating budget does not include vehicle replacements, infrastructure projects, or other non-recurring expenses funded from capital reserves.

The 2019 budget projects total revenue to the general fund in the amount of \$1,736,050 from "non property tax" sources (a roughly 1.4% decrease in the \$1,759,850 budgeted in 2018). Although a conservative approach to estimating revenues was used, it should be noted that actual revenues could fall short of estimated revenues for reasons that are beyond the Town's control. This projected decrease would result in the need to raise a total of \$4,283,186 from the municipal property tax levy, and would in turn place the tax rate in 2018 at between \$7.73 and \$7.84 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This represents an estimated increase of roughly 2.65% to 4.12% from the 2019 municipal tax rate of \$7.53 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The range is based on an assumed "net valuation" of between \$546,000,000 (a 1.5% increase in the net valuation) and \$554,000,000 (a 3% increase in net valuation, which is what the Town's assessor is projecting going in to a revaluation year). It is important to emphasize that, if the Town's net valuation increases in the manner forecasted by our assessor, then increases in property valuation will generally be far more significant in the case of lakefront properties (this is where our current assessments appear to be most significantly lagging behind actual market value based on recent sales history). Finally, the property tax rate will ultimately be set lower should actual revenues prove to be on pace to exceed estimated revenues by October 2019. Similarly, the property tax rate will ultimately be set higher than presently estimated should actual revenues fall short of estimated revenues by October 2019.

#### MUNICIPAL FACILITIES OPTIMIZATION STUDY

In 2018 the Town of Enfield solicited proposals from experienced, qualified professional architectural and planning firms to perform a comprehensive assessment of its existing municipal buildings and conduct a space needs analysis to help inform future decisions related to long-term planning, operations and capital investments. The ultimate goal of this effort is to develop a comprehensive facilities plan for both short- and long-term planning. Barrett Architecture and Schaal Engineering were ultimately selected for this study that is both important and long overdue. The project involves an evaluation of our existing municipal buildings (including the likely costs of maintaining and renovating them in the longer-term) and conducting a thorough analysis of alternative approaches that might prove to be more cost-effective as well as enable Town departments to provide an enhanced level of service to residents.

At the present time, the findings and recommendations that the architect will ultimately present for this study are still in a preliminary state. However, we anticipate that work will be largely completed within the next couple of months and the findings and recommendations offered by the architecture and engineering firms will then be published both in written form and orally at duly noticed public meetings. Additional study will likely be needed in 2019 before the Board of Selectmen and other municipal officials commit to a particular direction. It goes without saying that any significant capital investments proposed will be thoroughly deliberated and dissected by municipal officials and pertinent boards/committees moving forward, and public feedback is an important component of this process as well. We have been very candid with Barrett Architecture and Schaal Engineering about the fiscal constraints we face, and have impressed upon them the importance of developing costeffective strategies that will meet our needs in both the mid- and long-term while still allowing the Town to live within its financial means and remain affordable to working individuals and families.

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

#### Public Informational Meeting with Casella (Waste Management)

A public forum with representatives from Casella will be held in the Enfield Community Building (308 US Route 4) beginning at 6:00 PM on February 11 (Monday). The purpose of this informational session is provide Casella representatives an opportunity to share important information about their curbside rubbish and recyclables collection practices, and also give Enfield residents an opportunity to pose questions or concerns that could help Casella improve the quality of their service to our community. A survey will likely also be prepared and made available to all residents who are unable to attend the informational meeting. The Town is committed to providing high-quality services and meeting the needs and expectations of Enfield residents.

#### Freezing and Bursting Pipes

If you are interested in learning more about how pipes freeze and burst, and what to do to prevent this sort of damage in your own home or business, please visit the below resource published by the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety: <u>http://disastersafety.org/wp-content/uploads/Freezing-Bursting-Pipes\_IBHS-White.pdf</u>

#### 2019 Transfer Station Stickers Available

The 2019 Transfer Station window stickers are available, free of charge, at the Town Office and the Transfer Station. Proof of residency or property ownership

is required. <u>An Enfield vehicle permit sticker must be affixed to the side</u> window of your vehicle behind the front passenger's seat, or with regular cab pick-ups in the lower corner of the rear window behind the passenger.

Enfield permit stickers also permit you to use the Town's upper beach parking lot on Mascoma Lake.

## **Driveway Sand**

Driveway sand is available at the DPW during their business hours (Monday-Friday from 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM) and is located at the top of the driveway in the bin on the right. It is open to Enfield residents with a current Transfer Station Sticker. It is not intended for commercial applicators or to be taken in commercial volumes. Salt, ledge sand and materials in the shed, and sand from the large pile to the left of Public Works building, are NOT available.

## Winter Parking Ban

The Enfield Board of Selectmen wishes to remind citizens of Enfield that the Winter Parking Ban is in effect from November 1 through April 1. No vehicle shall at any time be parked on any public or publicly maintained street, alley, roadway or way open to the public, in a manner that hinders in any fashion the maintenance of the way.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Public Works at 603-632-4605 or <u>jtaylor@enfield.nh.us</u> with any questions or concerns.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

As winter keeps giving us snow and ice, we would like to remind everybody that you are required to remove all snow and ice from the entire vehicle. Failure to remove snow and ice from your vehicle can lead to objects coming off of your vehicle in transit, and such objects could cause injury or damage to another vehicle. The fine for not removing the snow and ice is \$250.

On February 24, officers of the department will be participating in a community sledding event located at La Salette hill off of NH Route 4A. Come and bring your sled and see how fast you can make it to the bottom.

It is that time of year when all dogs in Enfield need to be (re)registered. If you are not sure of the requirements, please contact Wendy Huntley,



Deputy Town Clerk, at the Town office or call the Police Department. Renewal of dog licenses can be done on-line at https://www.enfield.nh.us/home/pages/online-payments

As always, if you see something, say something. Please do not hesitate to contact the Enfield Police Department at any time at 603-632-7501 or through Hanover dispatch at 603-643-2222.

## RECREATION

## **Enfield Recreation**



Chair Yoga & Exercise Weekly on M, W, F

The Enfield Recreation Department continues to offer the highly attended Chair Yoga/Exercise classes on Mondays 9:30 – 10:30, Wednesdays 9:00 – 10:00, and Fridays 9:30 – 10:30 at The Enfield Community Building.

These classes are low impact and focus on stretching, balance, strength and meditation. The classes are only \$3.00 and open to ALL levels!! No RSVP required.



<u>Family Game Night</u> Friday, February 8, 2019 6:30PM – 8:00PM

Please join us for our First Monthly Game Night at the Enfield Community Building. Black Moon Games of Lebanon, NH, will be bringing along many exciting and fun games for all ages to enjoy! \$3.00 per person, \$10 max per family. Light snacks and refreshments provided.



<u>3rd Annual Mascoma Lake Winter Wingding</u> Saturday, February 9, 2019 12:00 – 4:00

The Mascoma Sailing Club, Enfield Village Association, and the Enfield Recreation Department would like to invite all to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Mascoma Lake Winter Wingding. Activities will include (dependent on Mascoma's ice conditions) fat bike demos from Omer and Bob's, Nordic Skiing and or Skating, kitewing demos, broomball games, snow village building, and a fire pit to warm up and enjoy cocoa and s'mores!



THE FATHER-DAUGHTER DANCE WILL BE RESCHULEDED INTO MARCH

**OR APRIL.** The Enfield Recreation department will again be hosting the Annual Father and Daughter. This dance is for all (e.g. Dad's, Step-Dads, Uncles, Big Brothers, Grandfathers, etc.) and is for all generations! Stay tuned!



Canaan Recreation and Enfield Recreation will be partnering with local community groups and organizations to host our First Annual Community Science Fair! Entry forms will be available at the Enfield and Canaan town offices, libraries and websites soon. Entry forms are due no later than Friday, March 8, 2019. Finished exhibits will be due on March 30, 2019, the day of the Science Fair, between 8:30-9:30 A.M. in the MVRHS Gym

If you are interested in volunteering, or otherwise being involved in this event please contact Chelsea Martin at <u>Canaanrec@gmail.com</u> and Joel King at <u>Recreation@enfield.nh.us</u>



<u>Mother & Son Dance</u> Mother's Day Weekend 2019

We are looking to put together a fantastic Mother and Son dance on Mother's Day weekend this year. Be on the lookout for further details as it gets closer to May! If you would like to join the planning group, please do let me know!

If you have questions, or are interested in these events, have other ideas, or would like to be involved please email <u>recreation@enfield.nh.us</u>.

Kindly,

Joel King (Recreation Director)

P.S. Would you like to help with future Enfield Recreation events? Do you have a passion, skill, talent, or craft you would like to share? Would you like to become a member of the Recreation Commission? Do you have a Recreation related idea? I'd love to hear from you (<u>recreation@enfield.nh.us</u>)!

#### Mascoma Valley Parks & Recreation

The New Year is off to a great start - we have recently opened registration for a woodworking class with professional furniture maker, wood turner and finisher, Gary Wood. Gary will be instructing a "Candle Stand Workshop" in March and participants will learn to make an *Early American* or *Shaker Style* Candle Stand table in six separate sessions. Materials are included in the registration fee and participants will leave with their completed Candle Stand.

The class is taking place at Mascoma High School in the school's wood shop, where Gary has been a visiting instructor for the last few years. Go to our website for more details and to register. Website: https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home



**Candle Stands** 

Line Dancing continues on Mondays at MVRHS and on Thursdays at the Enfield Community Building. Bring a friend and drop-in to one or both of these great classes. Participants will learn to line dance to all types of music – country, pop, Irish and more!

Registration remains open for painting classes in 2019, and the Friday classes are now "pick your own painting" – simply comment on our "Friday Night Fun" Facebook event and tell us your painting of choice. Class dates are restricted to the ones already listed. Our instructor is also available for private events – contact <u>mvalleyrec@gmail.com</u> to arrange a private group class (minimum of 3).

MVPR Board Game Afternoons for adults continues on Friday afternoons. Join other members of the community on Fridays from 3:30-5:30pm at the Enfield Community Building. The cost is only \$3 and participants are encouraged to BYO Board Game!

For the painting classes, please follow and like our events on Facebook to see all the painting options for February and March. Paintings for each Friday class will be selected based on input. Please let us know what you want to paint!

https://www.facebook.com/mvalleyrec

Save time and paper with online registration for our various programs. If you have not already created an account with Mascoma Valley Parks & Recreation, please check out our new site and make an account for you and your family.

## Recreation Website: <u>https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home</u>

#### Upcoming & Ongoing Recreation Events, Programs and Activities:

- Candle Stand Workshop
  - Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 5 21, 2019 in the MVRHS Wood Shop Classroom
  - \$290/person; all materials provided and participants leave with a completed Candle Stand
  - Register Online: <u>https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home</u>
- After School Ski & Ride Program at Whaleback Mountain
  - o Grades K-12; January 8 February 13, 2019
  - o 60 participating students in 2019
- Il Circolo Italiano Italian Conversation Club
  - Saturdays at 10:00am at Mickey's Roadside Café
  - Breakfast is not provided, but attendees are welcome to purchase food at their own expense
- *Mascoma Valley Guitar Orchestra*, weekly rehearsals on Sundays at the Department of Public Works starting at 6:30pm. \$3/session (Registration not required)
- *Adult Volleyball*, on Sundays from 6:00-8:00pm at MVRHS (Contact <u>mvalleyrec@gmail.com</u> for more details)
- *Adult Basketball*, on Sundays from 10:00am-12:00pm starting October 14th at MVRHS
- *Line Dancing*, on Thursdays at the Enfield Community Building from 5:00-6:00pm (*NEW TIME*). Mondays in the CPL Room at MVRHS from 4:30-5:30pm. Drop-ins allowed, no advance registration required.
- *Painting Classes* Classes are Fridays, Saturdays or Sundays at the Enfield Community Building.
  - 2019 Dates are now online! <u>https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home</u>
  - Landscapes, florals and wildlife
  - Classes are \$45 and all materials are included; you will leave with a completed painting at the end of the class
- *MVPR Board Game Club* contact <u>mvalleyrec@gmail.com</u> to be added to the email roster!
  - Fridays in January and February from 3:30-5:30pm
  - \$3/night (adults only please)
  - BYO Board Game
- Youth Cross Country Ski Program at Canaan Elementary School
  - Grades 1-4 from 3:30-4:30pm
  - Meets on Wednesdays at CES

For details about programs listed below and/or to register, please go to: <u>https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home</u>

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE INSPECTOR



When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

#### HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

#### Types of electric space heaters

Oil or water-filled radiator Heated oil or water travels through the heater.

Fan-forced heater A fan blows warm air over metal coils.

Ceramic heater Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.

Infrared heaters Heat is created by infrared bulbs.

# Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2018

AT ANY AN AN A	Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create in emergency supplies kit, your family will be prepared in the event of a disaster. The it also helps children feel more secure mowing it is there in case of an emergency. The supplies can be kept in a plastic tub, small suitcase, trash can, backpack or other		
	ner. To learn what else you need in an ency supplies kit, go to ready.gov.		
<ul> <li>Water – one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation — store 3-day supply</li> <li>Ready-to-eat food, canned juices, comfort/stress</li> </ul>	A complete change of clothing including long pants, long sleeve shirt, and sturdy shoes stored in a waterproof container.		
foods — at least a 3-day supply Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and a	<ul> <li>Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person</li> <li>Rain gear</li> </ul>		
NOAA weather radio, and extra batteries for both	Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils		
Flashlights and extra batteries	Cash or traveler's checks, change		
First aid kit	Paper towels		
<ul> <li>Non-prescription drugs such as pain reliever, anti- diarrhea medication, antacid, laxative</li> </ul>	Tent Tent		
Prescription medications, contact lenses and	Compass		
supplies, denture needs	Matches in a waterproof container		
Whistle to signal for help	Signal flare		
Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant	<ul> <li>Paper, pencil</li> <li>Personal hygiene items</li> </ul>		
Water and pet food if you have pets			
Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties	Soap		
for personal sanitation	Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach		
Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to filter the air	Important family documents such as copies of		
Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place	insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container.		
Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities	Remember to include emergency contact numbers.		
Can opener for food	Passport, bank account numbers, credit card		
Aluminum foil	account numbers and companies		
A jacket or coat, hat and gloves	Books, games puzzles, portable music device		
NOTE: Replace food every six months. Re-think your kit and fan	nily needs once a year. Replace batteries and update clothes, etc.		
My Personal I	Pack Checklist		
Have children create their personal pack. Have the like their favorite book or stuffed animal. These familiar thi keep them comfortable during an emergency.			
<ul> <li>Change of clothes</li> </ul>			
✓ Blanket ✓ Books			
<ul> <li>Favorite toy</li> </ul>			
Paper, pencils and crayons			

#### PLANNING & ZONING OFFICES

The Planning Board held a public hearing on January 21 to finalize the proposed changes to the Town's Zoning Ordinance that will be voted on (official ballot) during the Town elections on March 12. The proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance are as follows:

**Article 2:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend definition of "Setback" in Appendix A:

"The distance between a building or structure and the nearest property line, wetland, or sewage disposal system. Setbacks are to be measured from the drip line and include but are not limited to decks, roof overhangs, fireplaces, and any bump-outs on the structure."

**Article 3:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 413 Non-Conforming Lots and Uses:

- 2. Any non-conforming uses existing on the effective date of this Ordinance shall be considered a lawful lot use and may be continued. Even though the lot where the use is located does not comply with the minimum lot size or frontage requirements, the lot use may be continued built upon provided all other standards of the district in which it is located are met.
- Last two sentences: The replacement uses (or buildings and structures, if applicable) must be in the same location, and the same or less dimensions as before the damage. The dimensions include length, width, and height of the original structure.

**Article 4:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend the definition of "Accessory Dwelling Unit" in Appendix A: A single apartment of no more than 800 square feet, containing no more than **two** one bedrooms and one bathroom, must be connected to a single family dwelling as defined in RSA 674:71-73 by enclosed weathertight space with continuous roof and continuous foundation. The apartment accessory dwelling unit and main dwelling are exempt from district acreage density requirements and must remain under one ownership.

**Article 5:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 4 for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend section 403 Special Exceptions to add "Kennels" to the following

lists for provision of that use by special exception: Section 4. CB (Community Business District) and Section 6. Route 4 District.

**Article 6:** Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 5 for the Town of Enfield Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amend Section 408 Signs, paragraph C:

C. Signs shall refer only to a use, activity or business carried on the lot upon which they are situated, except that the Zoning **Administrator** Board of Adjustment may grant permission as a Special Exception for erection, off the premises, of a limited number of non-illuminated signs, providing the following conditions are met:

1. Each sign not exceeding three square feet.

2. Intended solely to give directional information.

3. No more than three signs for any one business townwide.

If you have any questions about planning or zoning activities, please don't hesitate to contact our interim Planning & Zoning Administrator, Vickie Davis (<u>planning@enfield.nh.us</u> or 603-632-4067). Her office hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

## ENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

February is "Take Your Child to the Library Month." We have cards at the desk that have pictures of six things you can find in the library. Find all of the items and enter the raffle to win a prize! Other special events include:

**Wednesday February 6**: Join the Enfield Library and the Historical Society for a joint talk: "Cruising New Hampshire History" with speaker and author Michael Bruno. This program will be at **7:00pm at the Community Building** (308 US Route 4). Free and open to all, details on our website!

**Friday February 22**: We will be hosting the EVA Coffee Breakfast meeting at 8:00am.

Also happening in February:

- **Make It Take It Monday** will happen on February 4<sup>th</sup>. This will be another "Build a Better World" project: we'll be making Valentine's for Veterans and Venerable Citizens. Drop in anytime between 3:30 and 5:00pm, all ages welcome!
- **Saturday My First Story Time**: February 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am. Babies to age 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> on a caregiver's lap will enjoy books, songs, and rhymes supporting

early literacy, lots of movement, and socializing.

• Our **book group** will be reading *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng. The discussion will be held Thursday February 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

## What happened in January:

• We circulated 2,277 items and had 24 programs with 269 participants.

Have questions about the public library? If so, please visit the library's website (<u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/enfield-public-library</u>) or contact the Library Director at 603-632-7145 or <u>mhutson@enfield.nh.us</u> for assistance.

## HUMAN SERVICES

It's the time of year for increased activities in the office, community and surrounding agencies.

With the upcoming busy season, donations of supermarket gift cards would be greatly appreciated. Drop by the Town Office or feel free to use the drop box.

#### Want to Donate to the Town's Fuel Assistance Fund?

The Town of Enfield's Human Services Department provides financial support

for fuel to Enfield residents in need. The funds we redistribute come from private donations made to a dedicated trust fund set up for this specific purpose. Our ability to help needy families with their fuel needs is, in large part, dependent on the monies available in the fuel



fund. We strongly encourage residents to consider making a donation to the fuel fund to help others in the community. Donations are tax deductible! For more information, please contact Diane Heed, Human Services Director, at 603-442-5429 or <u>dheed@enfield.nh.us</u>.

*Tri-County Fuel, Electrical and Weatherization Assistance Programs:* These are now open and you can contact the Ashland office at 603-968-3560 for your application. Weekly appointments are available in Lebanon, NH.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Human Services Director any time at 603-442-5429 or <u>dheed@enfield.nh.us</u>.

## **OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK & TAX COLLECTOR**

### **Town Clerk**

One month into the New Year already...WOW! Eleven more months until Christmas. Hope you're all doing great.

We have some good news. You may now renew your vehicle registrations online, day or night. For all of you insomniacs out there, AM or PM, just go to <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u> and look for online payments. You may pay by credit/debit card or by e-check. Once I get your information, I will send you your car registration along with your decals. You can also renew your dog license(s) online and if you need a marriage, birth, or death certificate, this too can be done online. I almost forgot; we also do divorce decrees (not that we're advocating for divorce!)

Please don't hesitate to contact the Town Clerk at 603-632-5001 Ext. 5403 with any questions about motor vehicle registrations, boat registrations, voter registrations, dog licenses, marriage licenses, or other matters handled by the Town Clerk's office.

#### **Tax Collector**

Greetings all! Things are pretty quiet in the tax office right now. The last quarter of 2018 utility bills have been mailed and are due February 15.

If anyone has any questions on outstanding balances due, please do not hesitate to contact me. You may also review your accounts for utilities and taxes on line thru the Town's website; enfield.nh.us. From the home page, click on the online payments button and this will transfer to a new screen of options. Just follow the online instructions from there. As a helpful suggestion, when searching, use as few words as possible (such as house number and road name) and refrain from using abbreviations such as St, Rd, Ave, Lane, etc.). If you enter your last name a list of possible answers will show on the right of the screen. If you want to be walked thru this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My email address is <u>whuntley@enfield.nh.us</u> or to reach me by phone call 603-632-4201 x 5404.

As a reminder, payments for taxes or utilities over the counter may be made by cash or check only.

For scheduling purposes, I would like to remind you the Tax Collector's office will be closed on Monday, February 18th in observance of President's Day.

#### 

#### **UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**

- February 5 @ 3:30 PM (Town Hall) Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee
- February 5 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) Board of Selectmen
- February 6 @ 5:30 PM (Town Hall) Old Home Days Committee
- February 6 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) Public Budget Hearing
- February 7 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) Public Budget Hearing (Snow Date)
- February 7 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Conservation Commission (tentative)
- February 11 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) Library Trustees
- February 11 @ 6:00 PM (Community Building) Casella Curbside Collection Informational Session
- February 11 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Zoning Board of Adjustment (tentative)
- February 18 Presidents Day Town Offices Closed
- February 19 @ 3:30 PM (Town Hall) Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee
- February 19 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) Recreation Commission
- February 19 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) Board of Selectmen
- February 21 @ 7:00 PM (Community Building) Water & Sewer Level of Service Workshop
- February 27 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Planning Board
- February 28 @ 4:30 PM (Town Hall) Heritage Commission
- March 4 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) Board of Selectmen
- March 5 @ 3:30 PM (Town Hall) Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee
- March 6 @ 5:30 PM (Town Hall) Old Home Days Committee
- March 7 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Conservation Commission
- March 11 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) Library Trustees
- March 11 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Zoning Board of Adjustment
- March 12, Polls open 8:00 AM 7:00 PM, Town Meeting Elections and voting by ballot on amendments to the Zoning Ordinance (Whitney Hall Auditorium top floor of Town Hall)
- March 13 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Planning Board (tentative)
- March 16 @ 9:00 AM (Enfield Village School Gym, 271 US Route 4) Second session of Town Meeting with discussion and voting on all remaining articles on the Town Warrant

#### 

In lieu of the Community Bulletin Board on the Town's website we are now using a Community & Business Calendar of Events which you'll find on the Community & Business main page: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/communitybusinesses</u>. Previous posts on the Community Bulletin Board that were informational in nature, but not events, can be found under the appropriate department page. For instance, Friends of Mascoma Food Pantry information can be found on the Human Services page under Food Assistance and information on how to recycle those hard to recycle items can be found on the Public Works Department, Solid Waste & Recycling page.

Do you have a Community Event to share? Send all of the particulars, and a digital photo or poster to <u>abonnette@enfield.nh.us</u> and we'll post it for you.

#### 

#### **2019 WATER & SEWER RATES AND ONGOING STUDIES**

In December 2018, the Enfield Water & Sewer Commissioners (Board of Selectmen) voted to adjust water and sewer rates in accordance with the formal recommendations offered by the Town Manager and Public Works Director. The new rates became effective January 1, 2019 and will appear in the 2019 first quarter bills arriving in your mailbox the first week in April 2019. The adopted increases include for following:

#### Water Rates

- Fixed charge increased \$2 per quarter for usage <u>under</u> 10,000 gallon per quarter
- Fixed charge increased \$7 per quarter for usage 10,000 gallons and <u>over</u> per quarter
- Consumption charges have been increased 5% for both usage levels

#### Sewer Rates

- No change to fixed charges
- Consumption charges have been increased 8% on both usage levels 2.5% increase on the deficit reduction fee (which is consumption based)

The changes in the rates were approved to ensure that the amount of revenue collected is adequate to cover the annual operating and capital costs associated with these systems. As is widely known, over the course of several years the Town of Enfield's Sewer Fund began operating in a deficit. This was effectively

the result of user fees failing to keep pace with rising operating costs. Unfortunately, significant changes in the rate structure had to be made beginning in 2018 to start remedying this problem and thus improve financial strength/integrity of the Sewer Fund and municipal financial position overall. The adopted changes in the sewer rates in 2019 were necessary to ensure that we remain on a trajectory to eliminate the deficit within the next several years.

Although it is true that the Water Fund does enjoy a healthy surplus, a 5% increase in the consumption rates (and roughly equivalent increases in fixed costs) was needed in order to ensure that the revenue collected in 2019 kept pace with projected operating costs in the same budget year. Although inflation across all segments of the economy (as measured by instruments like the Consumer Price Index) might be +/- 2% in a given year, the reality is that rates of inflation in sectors of the economy related to construction and infrastructure have been appreciably higher (5-7% in many cases). As a result, maintaining the municipal water system at its current level will result in the Town incurring additional expense. Furthermore, given what transpired over time with the Sewer Fund, we must be cognizant of how a surplus in a given fund can erode to a deficit relatively quickly if user fees fail to keep pace with the true costs of operating/maintaining the system.

It is also important to note that multiple projects are presently underway that are helping us better understand the current state of our municipal water and sewer infrastructure, and this information will be of critical importance when it comes to establishing a baseline, undertaking longer-term capital planning, and setting usage rates. One of the projects will include a thorough evaluation of alternative methods of treating Enfield's wastewater and help us evaluate the feasibility (including the financial feasibility) of constructing our own wastewater treatment plant in the interest of reducing operating costs in the long-term. These projects are being completed with funding support from the NH Department of Environmental Services.

The Water & Sewer Commissioners, Town Manager, and Department of Public Works are committed to keeping the Water and Sewer Departments financially sustainable while delivering quality water and sewer services into the future.

# MASCOMA LAKESIDE PARK – MOVING FORWARD WITH FUNDRAISING FOR PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS

As has been previously reported, the Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee has succeeded in raising the funds required to purchase the Mascoma Lake property and begin converting to a community park. Now that title research has been completed and a land survey is almost complete, we are officially in the final stages of acquiring the waterfront property that will become Mascoma

#### Lakeside Park.

Now that we are confident that the land will be secured, we are turning our attention to amenities for the park. This past fall we have actively solicited public input through a series of meetings with local organizations, town committees, and a well-attended public forum held at the Community Building. The top priority for all stakeholders is that the natural beauty of the site be preserved and not over-developed. Some improvements are also needed and desired. They include removing and replacing brush and trash



trees with native shrubs and trees; creating trails and educational signage to enhance recreational use of the property; constructing rainwater gardens and a new retaining wall to protect the water quality of the lake; installing a children's wading/swimming area; improved parking; installing grill boxes, and; building a shelter or pavilion (which may include a fire pit) that can serve as a gathering place and an educational facility.

The Town of Enfield was recently awarded a Northern Borders Regional Commission grant in the amount of roughly \$135,000 to help fund improvements to the park property. This federal grant is a "match' grant, and the total project budget is approximately \$270,000. We have until July, 2019 to raise \$135,000 in matching funds, at which point we will receive whatever portion of the \$135,000 we have matched. The Lakeside Park Committee is thrilled to announce that the Byrne Foundation recently made an additional gift in the amount of \$50,000 for improvements to the park. This combined with other available donations brings our fundraising tally to approximately \$85,000 for funding planned improvements. So, we are well on our way to achieving our \$135,000 goal, but we still have to raise approximately \$60,000 to reach our current fundraising goal. Your generous support is needed!

An online version of the pledge agreement can be accessed here:

#### http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/mlppledgeagreement. pdf

You may enclose a check with your completed pledge agreement, but if you'd rather pay later you may do that. Send in your donation when it's convenient, with the words "Mascoma Lakeside Park" clearly noted in the memo field. Or, you can choose to wait and a member of the Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee will contact you for payment on the date or dates you specify in your pledge. Thank you for your support! This is an incredibly important effort for our community.

#### ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Town Manager at 603-632-5026 or <u>raylesworth@enfield.nh.us</u> if you have related questions or interest in lending your support to this important community project.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING & GOVERNANCE**

In March 2018, with strong community support, Enfield town officials began working with the Center for Strategic Governance (<u>www.strat-gov.com</u>) to adopt strategic governance to help leaders and residents create a desired future.

Strategic governance consists of two related ongoing efforts. The first engages residents and officials in deciding what matters most to their community and in envisioning a desired future that achieves those outcomes. This is strategic thinking; it helps people decide *what* to achieve. The second involves making that vision a reality by achieving strategic initiatives while managing day-to-day operations. This is operational governance; it focuses on *how* to achieve desired outcomes.

## A Framework for Strategic Governance

Engaging Citizens to Envision and Achieve a Desired Future

STRATEGIC Thinking		Operational GOVERNANCE	
Vision	Measurable Goals	Strategic Initiatives	Implementation 8 Oversight
Citizen Ideas Research/Data Department Input Balanced Views	<ul> <li>Defining Success in Citizen Outcomes</li> <li>Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Challenging (SMAC)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Program Plans</li> <li>Costs</li> <li>Roles</li> <li>Timing</li> <li>Dependencies</li> <li>CIP</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Department Plans</li> <li>Board Plans</li> <li>Ongoing Updates</li> <li>Progress Reviews</li> <li>Measurement</li> <li>Plan Adjustments</li> </ul>
	Constituent Con	nmunications	



#### A Proposed Vision:

Retain Enfield's town character, sense of community, environment, and heritage, because residents generally like the town as it is.

## Priorities

Improve the following aspects that shape our quality of life:

- Financial Condition/Affordability Strengthen Enfield's finances (build reserves, eliminate operating deficits, smooth tax rates; improve cash flow, release more TIF District funds for TIF projects; secure \$1million by 2022 in external grant funding, and increase the amount of non-property tax revenue (NPTR) by at least 2% annually through 2023.
- 2. **Public Health & Safety** Fire and EMS are not functioning as effectively or efficiently as they should or could. Issues seem to fall under the categories of staffing and management. Explore whether Enfield might benefit from a merger of the two into a Fire-Rescue department.
- 3. Infrastructure, Facilities and Technology
  - a. *Buildings/Facilities* Most departments cite that substandard buildings/facilities limit fulfilling their mission. They have asked for \$296,500 in upgrades over the next five years that still won't create truly effective space. Through a Municipal Facilities Optimization Study to be completed by January, we are identifying costs for either building a new municipal complex with enough shared space to serve all departments or completing major designs and renovations to existing Town buildings.
  - b. *Water System* A Water Asset Planning/Management Study funded with a DES matching grant will tell us by December

whether DPW will need to rebuild some or all of the 10-mile long water supply system originally built in 1903. The effort could cost \$3 million in today's dollars. We're also analyzing the existing water rate structure to ensure that the Town's fees are fair, equitable, and financially sustainable.

- c. Wastewater System We are launching an analysis of our wastewater assets (including ways to reduce stormwater/groundwater infiltration), a rate study to ensure that user fees are promoting financial sustainability within the Sewer Fund, and a feasibility analysis of constructing and operating our own municipal wastewater treatment plant. This should be completed by Spring 2019.
- 4. **Community/Economic Development and Housing** Enfield has been slow to create or adequately explore the viability of many community/economic development ideas that have been raised over the past years. The Community/Economic Development function needs to provide leadership at the municipal level; engage the Enfield Village Association and others interested in making progress; and increase the level of effective support for the Planning Board as it works on the Master Plan and any proposed updates to the Town's Zoning Ordinance.

Starting in November, we began engaging with residents to shape Enfield's goals and related investments thru 2023. Learn more about strategic governance, the state-of-the-town, proposed departmental plans, etc. at: <a href="https://www.enfield.nh.us/strategic-governance-enfield.">www.enfield.nh.us/strategic-governance-enfield.</a>

For more information on Enfield's strategic planning and governance efforts, please contact the Town Manager at 603-442-5405 or <u>raylesworth@enfield.nh.us</u>.

#### **PLANNING & ZONING OFFICES**

After approximately six years of service to the Town of Enfield as our Planning and Zoning Administrator, Scott Osgood said good bye to us in late-December and has started a new job with the City of Claremont.

Subsequent to Scott's departure, the Planning & Zoning Administrator position has been reconfigured and titled "Land Use & Community Development Administrator." The position will continue to be full-time, but will have added focus on economic and community development functions (including playing a more active role in promoting the growth of new/desired businesses and marketing the Town of Enfield to would-be residents and entrepreneurs. For more information regarding the responsibilities of this reconfigured position, a detailed job announcement can be accessed here:

#### https://www.nhmunicipal.org/Resources/ViewAd/12153

While we search for the right professional to fill this important vacancy, the Town of Enfield has contracted with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission to retain the services of a "circuit rider" to perform the core duties of the position relative to planning and zoning. The circuit rider is Vickie Davis, who has ample experience in the field (having served as a municipal planning and zoning administrator in the past). Vickie officially started her temporary appointment with the Town on January 2, and her email address is <u>planning@enfield.nh.us</u>. She can also be reached by phone at 603-632-4067. Her office hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

#### **2019 TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE - IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

The Town Elections and Second Session for the 2019 Town Meeting will be held on March 12 (Tuesday) and March 16 (Saturday), respectively. The following are important filing deadlines pertaining to this year's Town Meeting.



• Wednesday, December 12, 2018 Last day

to accept petitions to amend zoning ordinance, historic district ordinance or building code for consideration at the 2019 town meeting. [RSA 675:4-90 days before town meeting]

- Wednesday, January 23, 2019
   First day for candidates in towns with non partisan official ballot system to file declarations of candidacy with town clerk. [RSA 669:19; 652:20 – seventh Wednesday before town meeting]
- Friday, February 1, 2019 Last day for filing declarations of candidacy with town clerk in towns with non-partisan official ballot system. Town clerk's office must be open at least from 3 to 5 p.m. [RSA 669:19; 652:20 – the Friday next following the first day for candidates to file declarations of candidacy on 1/23/19]
- Tuesday, February 5, 2019 Last day for 25 or more voters or 2% of the total, whichever is less, but in no case fewer than 10 voters, to petition select board to include an article in the warrant. [RSA 39:3 – fifth Tuesday before town meeting]
- Saturday, March 2, 2019
   Last day for town clerk to accept voter registration applications for town meeting day (Voters may register on election day for all town elections).
   [RSA 64:8; RSA 654:27, deadline for town clerk to accept voter registration is the same date as the date for the last checklist session correction the Saturday no less than 6 and no more than 13 days

before town meeting]

- Saturday, March 2, 2019 Supervisors to hold session for correction of checklist prior to annual meeting for no fewer than 30 minutes. No corrections or additions may be made after this session until election day, except as provided in RSA 659:12. [RSA 654:27; 654:28; 669:5; 40:13, II-d, VII]
- Tuesday, March 5, 2019 Last day to submit zoning ordinance protest petition to require 2/3 vote at town meeting. [RSA 675:5- at least 7 days before town meeting]
- Monday, March 11, 2019
   The town clerk's office shall be open to receive applications for absentee ballots, to provide voters the opportunity to complete absentee ballots, and to receive returned ballots on the Monday immediately prior to an election at a minimum from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The clerk may designate a deputy clerk or assistant to provide this service, provided the individual has taken the oath of office and has been trained in the requirements for using an absentee ballot and the procedures for issuing and receiving absentee ballots. [RSA 657:1, II (c)]
- Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Last day for town clerk to accept completed absentee ballots; clerk, or clerk's designee, must be available at least between 3 and 5 p.m. No absentee ballots may be accepted after 5 p.m. [RSA 669:29; 657:22; 652:20]
- Tuesday, March 12, 2019 Town Meeting Election of Local Officials and Voting on any Zoning amendments. Voting will take place in the Whitney Hall Auditorium, 23 Main Street, from 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- Friday, March 15, 2019 Last day for any person for whom a vote was cast to apply to town clerk for a recount (to be conducted not earlier than 5 nor later than 10 days after receipt of the application). Town clerk must be available at least between 3 and 5 p.m. to receive application, and must provide at least 3 days' notice of recount date to candidates for that office. [RSA 669:30-:31; 652:20 – Friday next following town meeting/election]
- Saturday, March 16, 2019 Second session of Town Meeting All other articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon. The second session of Town Meeting takes place in the Enfield Village School Gymnasium, 271 US Route 4, beginning at 9:00 AM.

## **ONLINE BILL PAY IS NOW AVAILABLE!**

We are very excited to announce that Enfield residents now have the ability to <u>securely pay</u> their property taxes online via the town's official website - <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>. Similarly, residents are able to pay their water/sewer bills. This new payment method serves to accommodate those Enfield residents who

want the convenience of paying their taxes and fees online, anytime day or night. It also benefits the town in that payments are processed automatically, allowing town employees faster balance reconciliation and more time to work on other town issues.

Local officials realize the importance of keeping with the times and offering this new online payment option. The Town of Enfield is fortunate to have found a financial services partner, InvoiceCloud, who has years of experience helping municipalities and other government entities administer online payments in a manner that protects a customer's personal information. In fact, InvoiceCloud uses state-of-the industry encryption methods to safely handle these transactions so bank account information remains completely confidential (not even being shared with municipal employees).

The process for residents to pay online is simple: with your bill and checkbook in hand, 1) Go to: <u>www.enfield.nh.us</u>; 2) Click on the "Online Bill Payment" Button; and 3) Complete each screen to process your payment.

Residents are able to make payments via "e-check" (applicable check routing number and account numbers will need to be provided) or Master Card, Visa Card, Discover Card, or American Express. Payments by e-check will be assessed a flat fee of \$0.95, and payments by credit card will be assessed a fee of 2.95% of the total amount due. In all cases, e-check and credit card transaction fees will be retained by InvoiceCloud and not the Town. Online payment is highly encouraged, but the town will continue to accept physical checks. Please note that tax payments cannot be made by credit or debit cards in Town Hall.

If you have specific questions about online bill pay, please contact the Town Manager's Office, at 603-632-5026 or <u>raylesworth@enfield.nh.us</u>.

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

#### **Driveway Snow Placement**

A reminder that it is unlawful to plow snow across any and all Town roads or to deposit snow within the traveled portion of a Town road pursuant to RSA 236:20, Paragraph VII, and RSA 41:11.

#### Toters

The trash and recycling toters are part of the Enfield trash and recycling collection program and must remain with the property upon a property

transfer. The Town has had to replace many of these containers that people have taken with them after selling their properties.

## **Recycling Fees**

The Town of Enfield charges fees for items that the Town gets charged for to dispose of including CFC units, tires, TVs, computers, tires, electronics, fire extinguishers, propane tanks and microwave ovens. Lately a number of people have been trying to "sneak" items into the Transfer Station to avoid paying these fees. It is very important to dispose of these items properly not only to the health of the Town budget but the safety of the operators and people at the Transfer Station and down the trash and recycling streams. Many of these items contain hazardous materials which is the reason for the fee. Hiding hazardous materials in bags going into a compactor or placing them in the metal container that will be run through a grinder could result in a serious injury. Please follow link below for details.

https://www.enfield.nh.us/solid-waste-recycling/files/solid-waste-recyclingprogram

## Enfield Vegetative Management Facility

The Enfield Vegetative Management Facility closed on November 3, 2018 and will reopen May 1, 2019. Clean brush and yard waste can be recycled at Hammond's Grinding and Recycling just East of Canaan Village on US Route 4. 603-523-4353 and the Lebanon Landfill will take brush and yard waste year round.

## Construction and Demolition Material (C & D)

The Enfield Transfer Station and Enfield Vegetative Management Facility do <u>NOT</u> accept any volumes of C & D at this time. These materials are accepted, for a fee, by the Lebanon Landfill 370 N Plainfield Rd, West Lebanon and Hammond's Grinding and Recycling just East of Canaan Village on US Route 4.

## Water Saving Tips to Help You Save Money on Your Next Water/Sewer Bill

- **1.** *Check faucets and pipes for leaks.* A small drip from a worn faucet washer can waste 20 gallons of water per day. Larger leaks can waste hundreds of gallons.
- **2.** Check your toilets for leaks. Put a little food coloring in your toilet tank. If, without flushing, the color begins to appear in the bowl within 30 minutes, you have a leak that should be repaired immediately. Most replacement parts are inexpensive and easy to install.
- **3.** Use your water meter to check for hidden water leaks. Read the house water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being

used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.

- **4.** Install water-saving shower heads and low-flow faucet aerators. Inexpensive water-saving low-flow shower heads or restrictors are easy for the homeowner to install. Long, hot showers can use five to ten gallons every unneeded minute. "Low-flow" means it uses less than 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm). Also, all household faucets should be fit with low-flow aerators. 2.5 gpm may be needed in a kitchen sink but bathroom faucets and other water outlets should be 1.5 gpm or lower. Check gpm rating on packaging to be sure the advertised "low-flow" is at or below these levels. This single best home water conservation method is also the cheapest!
- **5.** *Insulate your water pipes.* It's easy and inexpensive to insulate your water pipes with pre-slit foam pipe insulation. You'll get hot water faster plus avoid wasting water while it heats up.
- **6.** *Take shorter showers.* One way to cut down on water use is to turn off the shower after soaping up, then turn it back on to rinse. A fourminute shower uses approximately 20 to 40 gallons of water. Limit your showers to the time it takes to soap up, wash down and rinse off.
- **7.** *Turn off the water after you wet your toothbrush.* There is no need to keep the water running while brushing your teeth. Just wet your brush and fill a glass for mouth rinsing.
- **8.** *Rinse your razor in the sink.* Fill the sink with a few inches of warm water. This will rinse your razor just as well as running water, with far less waste of water.
- **9.** Use your dishwasher and clothes washer for only full loads. Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation. Most makers of dishwashing soap recommend not pre-rinsing dishes which is a big water savings. With clothes washers, avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an added 20 liters (5 gallons) for the extra rinse. For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. Replace old clothes washers. New Energy Star rated washers use 35 50% less water and 50% less energy per load. If you're in the market for a new clothes washer, consider buying a water-saving frontload washer.
- **10.** *Keep a bottle of drinking water in the fridge.* Running tap water to cool it off for drinking water is wasteful. Store drinking water in the fridge in a safe drinking bottle.

## How to Improve Recycling

To improve the quality of materials that residents place in their recycling bins, Casella (the Town's contracted solid waste service provider) has created a new video for customers to watch. This video is just one component of a campaign centered on Casella's Recycle Better<sup>TM</sup> campaign.

It is Casella's stated goal to not only invest in recycling technology to improve its outbound materials, but to also educate our customers to do their part to ensure the sustainability of recycling. Consumers, businesses, and municipalities alike must learn to Recycle Better for cleaner, less contaminated material to be delivered to Casella facilities.

We encourage you to share this video with your friends, family, and colleagues. The video can be accessed here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LdvboQQWUc8

## Please Use Curbside Trash and Recycling Services

Trash and Zero Sort recycling collected at the Transfer Station cost the Town of Enfield significantly more per ton than trash and recycling collected curbside due to extra hauling charges. Trash collected at the Transfer Station costs approximately \$30 per ton more than material collected curbside (when Transfer Station transportation fees are included). Zero-Sort recycling collected at the Transfer Station costs the Town over \$80 per ton more than recycling collected at curbside due to the extra hauling fees (when Transfer Station transportation fees are included).

Please do your part to <u>help keep our solid waste expenses down (and keep property tax rates as low as possible in the process)</u>!

#### The "Don't" of Recycling



#### FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRE INSPECTOR

#### Enfield Fire Department Cautions Residents About Potential Safety Cost of Alternative Heating Equipment

Many Americans are turning to portable electric space heaters and wood-, pellet- coal or kerosene-burning stoves, and other non-traditional heating sources to defray costs. With the increase in use comes an increase in fire risk. **Enfield Fire Department** encourages residents to use caution when using alternative heating equipment this winter.

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), half of all home heating fires occur during the winter months. On average, NFPA research shows that heating equipment is involved in an estimated 56,000 reported U.S. home structure fires per year, with associated loss of 470 civilian deaths, 1,490 civilian injuries and roughly \$1.0 billion in direct property damage per year.

As a leading cause of home fires, heating safety is a concern for every community every winter. This year, with the projected increase in use of alternative heating equipment, families need to be especially vigilant to use all heating appliances properly.

Enfield Fire Department is encouraging residents using pellet stoves, wood stoves, space heaters or any other home heating equipment this winter to follow this advice:

- Space heaters need space. Keep all things that can burn, such as paper, bedding or furniture, at least 3 feet away from heating equipment.
- Turn portable heaters off when you go to bed or leave the room.
- Have your chimney inspected each year by a qualified professional and cleaned if necessary.
- Use a sturdy fireplace screen.
- Wood stoves should bear the label of a qualified testing laboratory.
- In wood stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood. In pellet stoves, burn only dry, seasoned wood pellets.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home. For the best protection interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home — when one sounds, they all sound. Test smoke alarms at least once a month.
- When using a fuel-burning portable heater, always use the proper fuel as specified by the manufacturer. When refueling, allow the appliance to cool and refuel outside.
- Install and maintain a carbon monoxide alarm outside each separate sleeping area, on every level of the home, and other locations as required by laws, codes or standards.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.



There is something about the winter months and curling up with a good book by the fireplace. But did you know that heating equipment is one of the leading causes of home fire deaths? With a few simple safety tips and precautions you can prevent most heating fires from happening.

#### BE WARM AND SAFE THIS WINTER!

 Keep anything that can burn at least three-feet (one metre) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.



- Have a three-foot (one metre) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- Never use your oven to heat your home.
- Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
- Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- Test smoke alarms at least once a month.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

nfpa.org/education CNFPA 2017

## Heating Equipment Smarts

Install wood burning stoves following manufacturer's instructions or have a professional do the installation. All fuel-burning equipment should be vented to the outside to avoid carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning.

Install and maintain CO alarms to avoid the risk of CO poisoning. If you smell gas in your gas heater, do not light the appliance. Leave the home immediately and call your local fire department or gas company.

## FACT

Half of home heating fires are reported during the months of **December**, January, and **February**.

#### molte Alerem at lions SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly. SAFETY TIPS Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should FACTS also be outside each sleeping area and on every (1) A closed door may slow level of the home. Install alarms in the basement. the spread of smoke, heat, Large homes may need extra smoke alarms. and fire. () Smoke alarms should be It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. installed inside every sleeping When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound, room, outside each separate Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working. be connected so when one Current alarms on the market employ different types sounds, they all sound. Most of technology including multi-sensing, which could homes do not have this level include smoke and carbon monoxide combined. of protection. (!) Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically happen in homes with no advanced to respond to a multitude of fire smoke alarms or no working conditions, yet mitigate false alarms. smoke alarms. A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove. People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers. Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 vears old. NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION The leading information and knowledge on fire, electrical and related hazards

nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2018

The National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) "Heating Safety" fact sheet explains what is necessary to help prevent fires and safely operate heating equipment. This is accessible at:

http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/top-causes-offire/heating/heating-safety-tips

## PROPERTY RECORDS AND MAPS

Did you know that property assessment records and GIS maps with various layers, including wetlands, topography, etc., are available on our website? Simply go the Assessing Department page at

http://www.enfield.nh.us/assessing-department and click on GIS Maps & Property Record Cards link.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!**

Do you want to become more involved in your community? Then you're in luck! Several volunteer positions are still open. You can access our Application for Committee Membership here:

http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/membershipapp\_0.pdf

Do you love our wide selection of recreation programs for children and adults alike? Then join our **Recreation Commission**! We currently have one opening. This group works with the Enfield Recreation Director to develop a wide variety of recreation programs for residents of all ages. The Recreation Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Whitney Hall conference room in the Enfield Town Offices. Check our Town Calendar for meeting times as they are trying out a new earlier time – 6:00 PM! You can see what the committee has been up to on their webpage here: http://www.enfield.nh.us/parks-recreation

Do your interests lie in economic development? Then the **Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Committee** may be for you. This committee currently has three openings for a five member committee. Applicants for this committee must live within the Enfield TIF District or immediately adjacent to it or own a business in the TIF District. This committee, advisory to the Board of Selectmen, is charged with maintenance and implementation of the District Plan. The TIF Committee meets on an as needed basis, generally less than once a month, at the convenience of its members.

Or perhaps your interests lean toward Planning and Zoning. They are both judicial bodies that have the responsibility to judge if new Subdivisions and business Site Plans meet the Town Zoning Ordinance. We have one opening for

a **Planning Board alternate** and one opening for **Zoning Board of Adjustment** (**ZBA**) alternates. The Planning Board's regular meeting schedule is the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, however they'll meet just once a month if there is not enough business to warrant two meetings. Meetings of the ZBA are the second Tuesday of each month (as needed).

Release your inner party planner! Join our **Old Home Days Committee**! Many hands make light work! This group organizes our annual Old Home Days Celebration which takes place the last full weekend of July. The Old Home Days Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month from January – July at 5:30 PM, with a couple of additional meetings in June and July as needed to prepare for the festivities. Check out the wide array of entertaining events held in 2018:

http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/2018ohdevents.pdf



If you have friends or family that may be interested in receiving the electronic newsletter, please forward a copy of this newsletter to them.

Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is easy and straightforward. You simply have to:

- Go to the below page on the town's website: http://enfieldnh.vt-s.net/Subscriber
- Enter your email address in the "Your Email" field
- Check the box for "Town News" under the News & Announcements sub-section
- Click the "Send My Request" navigation button at the bottom of the page