TOWN OF ENFIELD E-NEWSLETTER JANUARY 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.

2019 WATER & SEWER RATES AND ONGOING STUDIES

On December 17, 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 will be 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.

2019 MUNICIPAL BUDGET - UPDATE

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 \$6,690,233, or an increase

of 4.05% 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 1.94% 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 \$1,725,050 from "non property tax" sources (a roughly 2.0% 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 would result in the need to raise a total of \$4,317,235 from the municipal property tax levy, and would in turn place the tax rate in 2018 at between \$7.79 and \$8.02 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. This represents an estimated increase of roughly 3.41% to 6.51% from the 2018 municipal tax rate of \$7.53 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. The range is based on an assumed "net valuation" of between \$538,000,000 (the net valuation in 2018) 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 Oct. 2019. Similarly, the property tax rate will ultimately be set higher than presently estimated should actual revenues fall short of estimated revenues by Oct. 2019.

I am presenting to you a balanced budget that does not rely on the use of undesignated fund balance or reserves to fund operational costs while maintaining and enhancing the high-quality services Enfield residents expect from town government. A more detailed summary of the recommended 2019 budget is included in the below tables.

Although the operating budget requests submitted by the departments reflected full funding for each of the priorities/initiatives proposed in their recently prepared strategic plans, my budget recommendations unfortunately had to remove (or at least defer to a future budget year) most of the more significant investments. This included the Ambulance Department's request for two full-time AEMTs and the Executive/Finance Department's request for a new full-time finance/administration assistant. Although I still fully support the need for these investments in concept, it is my belief that they need to be – at a minimum – postponed given the current financial constraints and the relevance that the findings of the pending municipal facilities optimization study will have on a number of fronts relative to our business operation.

Stay informed by attending Budget Committee meetings! Meetings in December will be held on December 4 (Tuesday) at 6:30 PM, December 8 (Saturday) at 8:30 AM, and December 18 (Tuesday) at 6:30 PM. All meetings will be held at the Public Works Facility (74 Lockehaven Road).

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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>

Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas trees can be recycled at the Public Works Facility. Please leave trees, free of all decorations, in the area to the right of the driveway sand bin just before entering the main yard. Trees will be accepted through January 30, 2019.

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 window of your car or truck on the side window behind the front passenger's seat, or with regular cab pick-ups in the lower corner of the rear window behind the passenger.</u>

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. the Public Works Facility.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

We hope that everybody had a safe holiday and welcome to 2019.

The Police Department took reports that The Grinch was seen in town trying to steal Christmas in Enfield. He was even was seen at the school trying to take over Carl's job as Crossing Guard. Fortunately, after an extensive search, the Grinch was apprehended and Christmas was saved (until next year...).



The department would like to remind everybody that it gets dark early during the winter months and to please be safe when walking, running or biking along the roadside. Please wear bright reflective clothing and carry a light during the dark hours.

We have had several complaints of snow plows leaving chunks of snow and ice in the roadway, and this is unsafe. Plowing across the road should be avoided at all cost to reduce the likelihood of injury or damage to property. Sergeant Porter will be hosting an elder physical and financial abuse class at the Ilene Reed training room in the DPW building on January 30th from 6:00-9:00 PM. This training is <u>free</u> to the public so please come join us.

The department would like to welcome back Officer Jeffrey Hunold as a part time officer. Many of you already know Officer Hunold from his prior experience with the Enfield Police Department.

As we head into the cold winter months the department would like to remind everybody that buzzed driving is drunk driving and that if you find yourself in a situation where you have had too much to drink please call for a ride.

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



Weekly on M, W, F

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



Introduction to Ice Fishing Friday, February 1, 2019 (Classroom) 6:00PM – 8:00PM & Sunday, February 3, 2019 (Field Trip) 9:00AM – 1:00PM

Ice fishing is a recreational activity the whole family can enjoy. This introductory course will cover tip ups and other ice fishing equipment, ice safety, knot tying, fish identification, ethics, rules and regulations, and basic winter ecology. After completing a classroom session you'll head out on the ice and put your newly learned skills to the test. <u>This course is free and requires no previous knowledge, equipment, or fishing license.</u> The classroom portion will take place at the Enfield Community Building and the field trip will take place at a local water body, likely Mascoma Lake.

Age Restrictions: 8 and over; individuals 14 and under must be accompanied by an adult and space is limited.

Registration is required and will be going up in the next few days.

Registration link:

https://nhfishandgame.com/EventWeb/Event/AllEvents?EventTypeID=161&C lassActivity=15



<u>Family Game Night</u> Friday, February 8, 2019 6:30PM – 8:30PM 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 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 3rd Annual Mascoma Lake Winter Wingding. Activities will include (dependent on Mascoma's ice conditions) fat bike demos, kitewing demos, broomball games, snow village building, and a fire pit to warm up and enjoy cocoa and s'mores!



The Enfield Recreation department will again be hosting the Annual Father and Daughter Winter Wonderland Dance. 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. We are currently still looking for volunteers and sponsors to help bring the event to life.

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 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>.

Happy New Year!

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 (recreation@enfield.nh.us)!

Mascoma Valley Parks & Recreation

Happy New Year to all our recreation friends and families!

Save time and paper with online registration! 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>

We are looking forward to a great 2019 - 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 is now open for painting classes in 2019. Also coming in 2019 are MVPR Board Game Nights for adults. 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!





Bob Ross Painting Classes – January 13 and January 27, 2019





Friday Night Fun Painting Classes – January 4 and January 11, 2019

Follow and like our events on Facebook to see all the other paintings coming up for January, February and March! https://www.facebook.com/mvalleyrec

Upcoming & Ongoing Recreation Events, Programs and Activities:

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

- After School Ski & Ride Program at Whaleback Mountain Registration Open!
 - o Grades K-12; Starts January 8, 2019!
 - Register Online: <u>https://www.whaleback.com/mascoma-valley-</u> rec-dept
- 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 on Wednesdays through January 30
 - Starting on January 2, 2019 (weather depending)

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**.

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/12089

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 we are working to get a new email address up and running for her. In the meantime, she can be reached at Scott's old email (<u>sosgood@enfield.nh.us</u>) or by phone (603-632-4067). Her office hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

ENFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY

Welcome to 2019! While December is always a quieter month for us because of the holidays, overall, we had a pretty busy 2018. We have begun compiling the annual statistics, and, although this exercise is not yet complete, we already know that we passed 2017 numbers in terms of both circulation and visits. New services offered in 2018 included digital access to the NY Times, Mango Languages, admission passes for the NH State Parks, a new copier that provides color and wireless printing plus scanning, and a new library website.

In 2019, we hope to continue to expand current services and explore new ones. We're starting to take steps to shorten wait times for items in Overdrive (downloadable ebooks/audio books) and we'll trial a streaming movie service. We also plan to purchase an iPad to begin taking credit card payments. So, stay tuned! We wish everyone a happy New Year!

Happening in January:

- **Make It Take It Monday** will happen on January 7th, drop in anytime between 3:30 and 5:00pm. We'll be making Wikki Stix creations. These are wax sticks that can be bent to make all sorts of shapes. All ages welcome!
- Saturday My First Story Time: January 19th at 9:30am. Babies to age 2¹/₂ 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 *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell. The discussion will be held Thursday January 31st at 6:30pm.

What happened in December:

• We circulated 1,912 items and had 25 programs with 293 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 dheed@enfield.nh.us.

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

I hope everyone's Christmas was great and that your New Year is off to a great start!

Nothing of critical importance to pass along in this month's newsletter, but 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! In May 2018 we changed Tax Collection software giving us the ability to accept payments online. As of 12-20-2018, almost 300 property owners and utility users had taken advantage of this new service. The Town collected \$146,451 by credit card and \$375,035 in EFT payments (Electronic Funds Transfer, using checking accounts) for a total amount received online of \$521,487. We strongly encourage residents to utilize this highly convenient option if you haven't already started doing so. To make your payment securely online, by either credit card or ACH (electronic check), go to https://nhtaxkiosk.com/?KIOSKID=ENFIELD. If you have any questions about how to make an online payment, please do not hesitate to contact me directly either by email whuntley@enfield.nh.us or by phone 603-632-4201 x 5404. As a reminder, payments for taxes or utilities over the counter may be made by cash or check only.

As far as the total amount collected for both property tax warrants issued in 2018, we are at 95.78% collected. Total amount collected for the 1st three quarters of utility billings (water and sewer) issued in 2018 is at 93.1%. Overall collections, including Timber Tax, Current Use, Betterments, Utilities and Property Taxes are at 93.8%. We hope to continue improving this percentage in 2019. Thank you to all who make timely payments on your bills. Timely payments help the Town maintain a strong cash flow reduce the

likelihood of needing tax anticipation notes, which saves all taxpayers money in the long-run.

For scheduling purposes, I would also like to remind you the Tax Collector's office will be closed on Monday, January 21st in observance of Civil Rights Day.

Happy New Year!

ENERGY COMMITTEE



The Canaan and Enfield Energy Committees are teaming up with Vital Communities, NHSaves, and local home energy contractors to help you save money and stay warm.



\$100 Home Energy Evaluations. Receive a professional home energy audit and quote from a qualified contractor. Homeowners typically pay \$400 or more for a home energy audit before receiving a quote.

Experienced Contractors. Our partner contractors are certified by the Building Performance Institute (BPI) and qualified with the NHSaves Home Performance with Energy Star program.

Local Volunteer Team. We'll check in periodically to help you through the process and make sure you have what you need to make the right decision for your home.

Contact us anytime by reaching out to Hope: 603.523.2049 or slohopes@gmail.com

Program Kick-off!

Saturday, January 19

Mascoma Regional High School, 3 – 5 pm Snow date: January 20, same time & place

Sign up online and we'll keep you in the loop!

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Everyone Wins!
Sign Up	Complete	\$100 Energy Audit	Sign a contract with a	Enjoy lower bills, a
online or	Questionnaire	with audit report	Weatherize partner	warmer home &
at an event	by March 15	and quote	contractor by May 31	prize drawing

Get Started at VitalCommunities.org/Weatherize

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- January 7 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) Board of Selectmen
- January 7 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) Library Trustees
- January 8 @ 5:15 PM (Town Hall) Energy Committee
- January 8 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Zoning Board of Adjustment
- January 8 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) Budget Committee
- January 9 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Planning Board
- January 14 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) CIP Committee
- January 15 @ 3:30 PM (Town Hall) Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee
- January 15 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) Recreation Commission
- January 21 Civil Rights Day Town Offices Closed
- January 22 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) Board of Selectmen
- January 23 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Planning Board (tentative)
- January 24 @ 4:30 PM (Town Hall) Heritage Commission
- January 29 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) Budget Committee
- 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 Presentation/Informational Session
- February 12 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Zoning Board of Adjustment (tentative)
- February 13 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) Planning Board (tentative)
- February 18 Presidents Day Town Offices Closed

- Weatherize Canaan & Enfield (Mascoma Regional High School) January 19 (Saturday) from 3:00 to 5:00 PM
- **Elder Physical and Financial Abuse Class** (DPW Building) January 30 (Wednesday) from 6:00-9:00 PM.

- 3rd Annual Mascoma Lake Winter Wingding (Mascoma Lakeside Park)
 February 9 (Saturday) from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- **2nd Annual Father and Daughter Winter Wonderland Dance** (Enfield Community Building) Either February 9 or 16, 2019 (stay tuned for exact date!) from 6:30 to 8:30 PM

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 & Oversight
Citizen Ideas Research/Data Department Input Balanced Views	 Defining Success in Citizen Outcomes Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Challenging (SMAC) 	 Program Plans Costs Roles Timing Dependencies CIP 	 Department Plans Board Plans Ongoing Updates Progress Reviews Measurement Plan Adjustments
	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: www.enfield.nh.us/strategic-governance-enfield.

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>.

THE 2019 ENFIELD MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

If you have an Enfield or Enfield Center mailing address you should have received a copy of the 2019 Enfield Municipal Calendar in your mailbox in November. If you don't have an Enfield or Enfield Center mailing address copies of the calendar are available at the Town Offices. Remember, the calendar not only lists the dates of Town board & committee meetings, but observed holidays when offices will be closed and the curbside rubbish & zerosort recycling collection schedule! The pick-up weeks are marked and holidays that affect the schedule are noted.

Calendar photo contest winners not only have their photos featured in the calendar, but can pick up extra copies to give to friends and family – just in

time for holiday gift giving! If you're a photo contest winner, contact Alisa Bonnette at 603-442-5401 or <u>abonnette@enfield.nh.us</u> to have extra copies set aside for you.

Many thanks to Shirley Green for soliciting ads to offset the cost of the calendar. Her efforts resulted in a net savings of nearly 50% of the cost of printing!

SAVING YOUR TAX DOLLARS!

Selling advertisements to support the Enfield Municipal Calendar is just one way for us to provide services and save tax dollars. In late February/early March of 2019 the Enfield Annual Report will be available on-line just as in past years. By printing a limited number of reports and not mailing them in 2019, **we'll save approximately \$8,500!** We will have printed copies of the report available at that time at the Town Offices and at the 2019 Town Meeting.

You can find copies of the 2013 through 2017 Annual Reports on our website here: <u>https://www.enfield.nh.us/board-selectmen/pages/annual-reports</u>. The 2016 and 2017 reports are broken down into more manageable size files so you don't have to download the entire report as a single document, though you have that option too!

2019 ENFIELD MUNICIPAL CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

With 28 individuals submitting a total of 208 photos (more than TWICE AS MANY as last year) in this year's contest, we had our work cut out for us! Congratulations to the winners!

For those who didn't win this year, keep trying! As last year, we had so many great photos we simply couldn't use them all. We encourage our community members of all ages to think about what you'd like to submit for the photo contest next year.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and please check out the official Enfield calendar to see the wonderful photos that were submitted this year!

And the winners are...

Ian Struckhoff Laurel Denison Carol Smith Lyndsey Boulton Heather Warren Wendy Huntley Lynne Martel Brittney Cole Linda LaClair Sharelle Dixon Emaris Henault Deborah Mashibini-Prior Dolores Struckhoff

Congratulations!

COMMUNITY & BUSINESS EVENTS CALENDAR

We've created a Community & Business Events Calendar on the Town Website, which can be accessed here:

https://www.enfield.nh.us/community-businesses

Check this calendar for events open to the public and sponsored by local organizations or businesses.

2019 TOWN MEETING SCHEDULE - IMPORTANT DEADLINES

The Town Elections and Deliberative 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 BetterTM 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



BUILDING & FIRE INSPECTOR

Safety

Cooking brings family and friends together, provides an outlet for creativity and can be relaxing. But did you know that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries? By following a few safety tips you can prevent these fires.

"COOK WITH CAUTION"

- Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, boiling, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, or roasting food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that can catch fire oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

If you have a small (grease) cooking fire and decide to fight the fire...

- On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan and turning off the burner. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

If you have any doubt about fighting a small fire...

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number from outside the home.

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

nfpa.org/education ONFPA 2018

Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 metre) around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried.

FACTS

- The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking.
- Most cooking fires in the home involve the kitchen stove.

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 also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms.
 When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month.
 Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false 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 years old.

FACTS

attone

- A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION The leading information and knowledge resource 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-of-

fire/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.

ENFIELD OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE

In 2017 the Town of Enfield launched an official Facebook page ("Town of Enfield, New Hampshire"). The page can be accessed here: www.facebook.com/EnfieldNH

This page is maintained by town officials and used to help disseminate important updates about community affairs and alert residents when new/detailed information is available on the Town's website (www.enfield.nh.us). We hope you will "Like" this page and start receiving regular updates on your Facebook news feed!

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

facebook

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:
- <u>http://enfieldnh.vt-s.net/Subscriber</u>
 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