

TOWN OF ENFIELD E-NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017



TOWN MANAGER WELCOME MESSAGE

Greetings!

Municipal officials and staff in the Town of Enfield are dedicated to promoting a high-functioning and close-knit 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:
<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

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 raylesworth@enfield.nh.us, 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.

MASCOMA LAKESIDE PARK FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN – NEW UPDATES!

Mascoma Lake is a treasured resource that should be available to all members of the Enfield area, not just lake front property owners. In the interest of furthering the objective of enhanced public access and enjoyment of the lake, efforts have been put into motion for the Town to acquire the two lakefront lots that collectively comprise the area that has come to be referred to as “Mascoma Lakeside Park.”

The NH DOT recently declared these two lots as surplus. NH DOT is now in the process of commissioning its own staff appraisal of the property. Once that is completed, the matter will be referred to a legislative committee to determine who will be the next owner of the parcels. The Town has received



Photo by Jim Bonner

indications from NH DOT that Enfield will be offered the opportunity to purchase the land at fair market value. It should be noted that in anticipation of a possible purchase of the land, the Town retained the services of an independent appraiser to appraise the properties in 2016. The findings of this appraisal will inform future negotiations on sale price.

In the days ahead, a fundraising committee will officially kick off a campaign to begin raising funds from private foundations, businesses, and individuals to (1) purchase the two lakefront lots and (2) offset the costs associated with various planned capital improvements (i.e., construction of new facilities to enhance public use of the property). It is anticipated that the fundraising goal will be approximately \$350,000 (when the cost of the land and the immediate planned capital improvements are all factored in).

All donations will be tax deductible, and there will be a public hearing during the December 4 Board of Selectmen meeting regarding the establishment of a new expendable trust where donations made in support of land acquisition and improvements for the Mascoma Lakeside Park property will be deposited. Once these final key details are determined, additional information will be distributed regarding how interested parties can direct their donations.

Stay tuned for more information and important updates on this front! Please don't hesitate to contact Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager, at 603-442-5405 or raylesworth@enfield.nh.us, if you have related questions or interest in this important project.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Longtime Enfield Highway Supervisor Retiring

In 1982, a young man named Mike Sousa came to work for the Enfield Highway Department. After 36 years of dedicated service, including more than a decade as the Highway Supervisor, Mike has decided to retire at the end of December. During his employment with the Town Mike has been a truck driver, grader operator, laborer, flagman, assistant supervisor, loader operator, snowplow driver, roadside mower operator, supervisor, stonemason, fixed waterlines, mowed lawns and completed thousands of other tasks. Mike has always been known as motivated, hardworking and conscientious. He has always shown a great deal of pride in the maintenance of the Enfield Town roads, which have been recognized as some of the best around the Upper Valley. If you see Mike around town this month please thank him and wish him well. The Highway Supervisor position will be filled by Scott Johnston who has been with the Town for 17 years.

Changes to the Transfer Station Hours of Operation

The Board of Selectmen, Town Manager, department heads and other local officials are committed to identifying ways to minimize or reduce Town spending while at the same time sustaining the quality of municipal services offered to our residents and visitors.

At its November 20 business meeting this week, the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager discussed the Transfer Station hours of operation. During this discussion, the Town Manager presented a recommendation – supported by the Director of Public Works – to close the Transfer Station on Thursdays and Fridays while at the same time expanding the hours of operation on Sundays (8:00AM-4:00PM as opposed to the current 12:00-4:00 PM Sunday schedule) during the summer months. It was explained that, given that the Town offers residents and businesses a “curbside” solid waste and recycling service, the Transfer Station hours of operation could be sensibly adjusted in the interest of both reducing associated operating costs and providing residents with additional incentive to dispose of their waste and recyclables via the curbside collection program. It should be noted that, per the Town's current contract with Casella, the cost of hauling solid waste from the curb is less than it is to

haul from the Transfer Station.

The Board of Selectmen expressed support for the proposal to eliminate the hours of operation on Thursdays and Fridays. After additional deliberation, it was decided that Sunday hours would be offered throughout the entire year (as opposed to simply the summer months). If over the next six months resident usage of the Transfer Station on Sundays proves to be relatively low, additional modifications will be considered to further reduce operating costs. At the conclusion of the discussion, the Board voted to set the Transfer Station hours as follows:

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 11:00AM-6:00PM
- Thursday: Closed
- Friday: Closed
- Saturday: 8:00AM-4:00PM
- Sunday: 8:00AM-4:00PM

These changes will be effective January 1, 2018.

We hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact the Town Manager (603-632-5026 or raylesworth@enfield.nh.us) with any questions.

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 Recycle to the Fullest Extent Possible

The Town's current contracted solid waste hauler, Casella, has produced a brochure that outlines the materials that can be recycled via the Zero-Sort program. This brochure can be accessed here:

<https://www.casella.com/sites/default/files/2017-02/BROCHURE-TriFold-ZeroSort-2017.pdf>

Remember, recycling is not only socially and environmentally responsible, but it dramatically reduces the hauling fees incurred by the Town. At present, the

Town pays Casella \$68.68 per ton for trash disposal and \$35 per ton for recyclables collected at the curb. That's a significant cost difference. Please do your part to help keep our solid waste expenses down (and keep property tax rates as low as possible in the process)!

Project Update - Route 4A Sewer Extension

Paving is complete on Route 4A, excluding several “punch-list items” (primarily driveway patches and repairs) that will take additional time. Kingsbury (the contractor) is responsible for cleanup and stabilization of all disturbed shoulders, and this will include installing shoulder gravel, loam, seed and mulch. We greatly appreciate the patience of our residents and motorists while this project has been going on. Construction of the onsite gravity sewer at Lakeview is still in progress, as is the gravity sewer on Landing Road (work on Landing Road was slowed due to extensive ledge removal). Construction of the Lakeview pump station and control building continues, and the pump station startup date is scheduled for December 14th.

The purpose of the sewer extension project is to provide an immediate and long-term solution to the sanitary sewage problem that Lakeview faces, as well as eliminate the risk posed to the surrounding environment and public safety concerns, by extending the municipal sewer service to include the Lakeview property. The project is being funded through a combination of loans administered by the USDA and State Revolving Fund (SRF), and grants administered by the USDA. Although the funds are being borrowed by the Town, all long-term debt service costs will ultimately be recovered from Lakeview in the form of assessments that will be mailed out semi-annually in conjunction with (but separately from) property tax bills.

Project Update – Shaker Landing Pump Station Construction

In October of this year, following a competitive procurement process that saw four companies submit sealed bids, Conkey Enterprises (the low bidder at \$291,490) was awarded the contract for the construction of a new pump station to serve the residents of Shaker Landing Condos. At present, Shaker Landing has an aged private septic system and a failure of this system could pose a significant threat to environmental quality given the proximity to Mascoma Lake. Construction of the pump station will allow Shaker Landing to dispose of its solids via the municipal sewer system. Although this project will be financed with a Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan from the NH Department of Environmental Services, debt service payments made by the Town on this loan will be completely offset by sewer betterment fees paid on a semi-annual basis by the residents of Shaker Landing.

Work on this project started on November 27 and substantial completion is

expected on January 25, 2018.

Brush and Yard Waste Dump Closed for the Season

The Town of Enfield brush and yard waste dump is closed for the season. It will reopen May 1, 2018. Clean brush can be taken to Hammond's Grinding and Recycling all winter. They are located in Canaan, NH on Hammond's Way off of Route 4 just east of Canaan Village.

If you have questions or concerns about matters related to road maintenance, the municipal water/sewer system, or solid waste management, please don't hesitate to contact the Director of Public Works at 603-632-4605 or jtaylor@enfield.nh.us.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Police Department wants to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. We will be increasing our patrols to deter and apprehend distracted and impaired drivers. We want to remind everyone to drive safely and use a designated driver. If you find yourself in need of a ride please contact us and we will assist in getting home safely.

If you have questions or concerns about matters related to public safety in our community, please don't hesitate to contact the Police Chief at 603-632-7501 or rcrate@enfield.nh.us.

PLANNING & ZONING OFFICES

Planning and Zoning Activity

The Planning Board had two meetings in November, both on the same issue. Members of the Planning Board walked the site of 60 Main Street to check on a parking plan for the residential units in the area. In a subsequent meeting the Planning Board gave conditional approval to allow two empty units to be used as residential occupancy. The condition was for the applicant to confirm they have permission to use a private roadway to access six of the parking spaces.

The ZBA had no meetings. The ZBA received notification that the Robert Foley Case, on building a larger house on Rollins Point which went before the Superior Court, will be heard by the Supreme Court. The board denied the variance request to build within the lot setbacks in 2016.

Other Updates

The Upper Valley Housing Coalition, now under the auspices of Vital Communities, held the annual breakfast on housing statistics in the Upper Valley. One finding that was highlighted was the lack of sufficient affordable housing in the area.

The Enfield Scenic Byway effort has made progress. A draft Corridor Management Plan was recently presented by the Regional Planning Commission for review by the byway committee, and a public hearing was held at Lebanon City Hall on November 28. This byway will run along Route 4A from the Route 4 intersection and continue to the Shaker Museum. Now that the Enfield Center Town House has been designated as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service, we will also strive to have the byway extended to Enfield Center.

If you have questions about matters to come before the Planning Board or ZBA, the master planning process, or other related topics, please don't hesitate to contact the Town Planner at 603-632-4067 or sosgood@enfield.nh.us.

ENFIELD TOWN LIBRARY

Here is what will be happening at the Library in December:

- Make It Take Monday will be **December 11th** and our project will be pinecone crafts.
- Drop Everything and Listen will continue every Wednesday at 3:30pm. 1st through 5th graders come relax, have a snack, and be read to. There is also a small group of chess players meeting at this time.
- Our book group takes December off, but join us again in January!

Looking back at November, as of the 22nd we:

- Had a total of 35 programs with 321 participants
- Circulated 1,973 items
- Received 48 items from interlibrary loan and sent out 28
- Had 790 people use our services

The Library will be CLOSED on the following days:

- Monday December 25th and Tuesday the 26th for Christmas
- Monday January 1st for New Year's Day

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

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

We hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving! The Small Business Vendor Fair was a big success and we want to thank all of our participating vendors and all the individuals who stopped by the Community Building on Saturday, November 25th to check it out and make purchases to support our local businesses and craftspeople. Thank you for shopping small! ***Save the Date*** for next year. Small Business Saturday 2018 – always the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Upcoming events:

- MVPR After School Ski & Ride Program at Whaleback
 - o Register before December 8th
 - o For more information and to register, please go to:
<https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home>
 - o Open to children in grades K-12th grade
- The **NEW** Enfield Market: The Enfield Recreation Commission is looking to change and expand the current market to include new and different vendors. The Enfield Market will no longer be a “farmer’s market”, but will feature independent or direct sales consultants representing companies that sell products or services ranging from manufactured goods to home improvement services. More information coming soon!
 - o Date: 2nd Saturday of the month, starting in January at the Enfield Community Building
 - o Time: 10am – 1pm
 - o Are you an independent or direct sales consultant and interested in purchasing a table for the Enfield Market? Please contact mvalleyrec@gmail.com for more information.

FIRE DEPARTMENT & AMBULANCE – TOY DRIVE!

The fire fighters and fast squad members of the Mascoma District are for the sixth year sponsoring a toy and food drive to help area families during the holiday season. They will be collecting new, unwrapped toys for children of all ages, along with nonperishable food items at Huse Park (Enfield), Williams Field (Canaan), and Grafton Station (Grafton) on December 2 (Saturday). Toys and nonperishable goods can also be donated at Huse Park on December 3 (Sunday). Donations can be made from 9 AM to 3 PM on both days.

Please help make the holidays a happier and warmer time for our children in need and their families. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Felix at 603-306-6058. Thank you!

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK & TAX COLLECTOR

Town Clerk

Many of you have received your boat renewal notice from the State and it's your preference whether to do it by mail or here in our office. We do charge a boat agent fee of \$5.00 per boat, set by the State. Boats are registered on a calendar year basis so we can't do the 2018 ones until after January 1st.

Tax Collector

Property tax bills were mailed out in November and are due on December 13th. We were very pleased to have the tax rate reduced by \$0.53 this year. I do accept post marks as timely payment, or you may leave it in the town offices drop box just outside the door. Please don't leave cash in the drop box!

Please remember that by law I have to send a copy of the tax bill to the property owner of record and that it is your responsibility to contact your bank or mortgage company to have them pay the taxes from your escrow account. I do not send the bills to banks or mortgage companies, although many employ a tax service to obtain the amounts, which I do report the amounts to.

=====RECENT NEWS (FROM PAST ISSUES)=====

ENFIELD CENTER TOWN HOUSE RECEIVES "MOOSE PLATE" GRANT

A grant of \$10,000 (the maximum award possible) has been awarded by the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources to the Town of Enfield. The Enfield Heritage Commission applied for the grant to stabilize the foundation of the Enfield Center Town House. Supporting beams and posts have deteriorated to the point that the building can no longer be safely used without structural repairs. The grant specifies that the proposed work has to be completed by September 2018, and the Town Manager and other municipal staff are in the process of developing a detailed request for proposals (RFP. Experienced construction contractors will have the opportunity to prepare a proposal in response to this RFP in the coming weeks. Qualified parties interested in submitting a proposal should consult the Town's official website for a copy of the associated RFP: http://www.enfield.nh.us/Pages/EnfieldNH_Projects/RFP

Funding for these grants comes from the sale of Conservation License Plates, known as "Moose Plates" for the distinctive moose logo on the left side of the license plate. These funds are returned to the communities through grant

programs to be used for preservation, conservation, and stabilization of historic and cultural resources.

To qualify for a Moose Plate grant, buildings must be publicly owned and historically significant. The Enfield Center Town House, built 1845 – 46, is now on the NH State Register of Historic Places, and the National Register of Historic Places. Both of these designations were made in 2017.

Some history of the Town House

Following the Toleration Act of 1819, which prohibited taxpayer funds from being used to support buildings where religious services took place, towns across New Hampshire began building town houses to fill the need for municipal meeting space. The Enfield Center Town House was constructed for this purpose in 1845-46, then moved and expanded in 1859.

The building's pedimented gable front, original sash windows and nine-panel door, corner pilasters, white clapboards and green shutters are all characteristic of the Greek Revival style that was popular in the early and mid-19th century. A Gothic-style bell tower over the front gable was removed at some point and not replaced.

Enfield Center Town House underwent major renovations in 1909 that expanded its functionality. A raised stage with proscenium arch and canvas backdrops of countryside scenery painted by West Lebanon artist William Culver were added, and the original slanted floor was replaced by a level one, turning the hall into both a theater and dance venue. Other changes at the time included replacing the plaster walls and ceiling with varnished bead board, adding a kitchen area with a tin dry sink behind the stage and installing an ornate potbelly stove.

Enfield Center Village Improvement Society helped transition the Town House to a social center by hosting plays, masquerade balls, game nights and more; the first event the Society sponsored was a whist party attended by 35 people. The Society was replaced by the women-only Earnest Workers Club in 1913 that organized events to raise money for social causes in the community.

The last town meeting held at Enfield Center Town House took place in 1916. Today, the building is open for town-wide events and some selectmen's meetings. Enfield Center Union Church, which is also on the National Register of Historic Places, is across the street.

In recent years the building, which has a stage, has been the venue for a play, a dance, and some summer selectmen's meetings.

SEWER FUND DEFICIT REDUCTION – ANTICIPATE CHANGES TO RATE STRUCTURE

In late-July 2017, the new Town Manager, Board of Selectmen and members of the Budget Committee participated in a public meeting with the Town's independent auditor to discuss the financial condition of the Town, including a significant operating deficit in the Sewer Fund that had materialized over the last several years. In addition to other valuable budgetary information and fiscal trends that were discussed during this meeting, consensus emerged that inadequate revenue collection relative to rising annual operating expenses was the primary factor behind the current Sewer Fund deficit.

Subsequent to the July meeting, the Town Manager, DPW Director and other local officials have been actively examining strategies that can be used in combination to ensure that the Town generates sufficient revenue from sewer user fees to cover total annual operating expenditures (the lions share of which are paid to the City of Lebanon for the raw sewage they collect and treat from Enfield's system) and completely eliminate the deficit over a roughly 5-year period. Some of the strategies relate to bringing new customers onto the municipal sewer system. For instance, the Route 4A sewer extension project will result in over 130 new users from Lakeview Condominiums being brought "online" by the end of 2017, and property owners on Route 4 that historically had private septic systems are being mandated to comply with provisions of the Town's Municipal Sewer ordinance and connect to the municipal system in the coming months (unless they have a valid justification to obtain a waiver). Additionally, a one-time infusion of funds from other available sources (i.e., sewer capital reserve) is also being considered to help address the problem.

Unfortunately, the reality is that significant adjustments will have to be made to the current rate structure in order to achieve financial sustainability and ensure that annual revenues collected from sewer users are covering the costs of operating the system. The extent of these rate changes will not be known until more information is available regarding the fees the City of Lebanon will impose on the Town of Enfield in 2018, and rates for 2018 will not be officially set until the Water & Sewer Commissioners (Board of Selectmen) conduct a public hearing in December 2017. However, in the interest of transparency and accountability, we feel it is important to let sewer customers know that the bills they receive in April for the first quarter of usage in 2018 will represent a significant increase over the fees assessed in 2017.

If you have questions or concerns related to sewer fees in 2018, please don't hesitate to contact the Town Manager at 603-442-5405 or raylesworth@enfield.nh.us, or the Director of Public Works at 603-632-4605 or jtaylor@enfield.nh.us.

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 the maintenance of the way. We thank you for your help and cooperation in keeping our roads and parking areas safe for passage! If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the Department of Public Works at 603-632-7301.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

General Updates

If you have not already created an account with us, please check out our new site and make an account for you and your family!

New site: <https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

As summer came to a close, MVPR welcomed in the fall with the ***Indian River Cross Country Running Program*** for students in 5th-8th grade. The team had 23 participants and runners competed in cross-country meets at Cardigan Mountain School and Hanover, as well as participating in a few local races such as the Run For Kehoe and the CHaD Hero 5k. Thank you to Coaches Rick Currier and April Guinness! We hope to have another great group of runners in the spring when the program transitions to running *and* track events.

MVPR also started up the Flow Yoga Series on Wednesdays at Mascoma High School and introduced a new Zumba class on Thursdays, also at Mascoma. Both these classes will be on-going through November and hopefully into early December.

Enfield Recreation continues to offer Chair Yoga on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:30am-10:30am at the Enfield Community Building for the low price of \$3/class, and MVPR offers Mat/Flow Yoga on Thursdays from 8:30am-9:30am also at the Enfield Community Building.

Upcoming & Ongoing Recreation Events, Programs and Activities:

- Chair Yoga, Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays from 9:30-10:30am at the Enfield Community Building
- Beginner Flow Yoga Series, Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00pm at Mascoma High School

- Mat/Flow Yoga, Thursdays from 8:30-9:30am at the Enfield Community Building
- Zumba, Thursdays from 4:30-5:30pm at Mascoma High School
- Line Dancing, Thursdays Enfield Community Building from 5:10-6:10pm
- Mascoma Valley Guitar Orchestra, weekly rehearsals on Sundays at the Department of Public Works starting at 6:00pm
- Youth (7th-12th grade) Indoor Field Hockey at Grantham Indoor on Thursdays starting November 2nd – games at either 5pm or 6pm (Session 1: November – December 2017 and Session 2: Jan. 2018 – March 2018)
- Adult (18+) Indoor Field Hockey at Grantham Indoor on Thursdays starting November 2nd – games from 7:00-8:00pm (Session 1: November – December 2017 and Session 2: January 2018 – March 2018)
- Adult Volleyball, on Sundays at Mascoma High School from 5-8pm
- Adult Basketball, on Sundays at Mascoma High School from 10am-12:00pm

HUMAN SERVICES & WELARE

Tis the season of activities for the office, community and surrounding agencies. With the upcoming busy season fast approaching, donations of supermarket gift cards would be greatly appreciated. The food pantry administered by the Friends of Mascoma does amazing work to help those in need, but there are a wide range of items that families look for which are infrequently donated or otherwise in short supply. Donated gift cards help families in need acquire these other items. Gift cards can be dropped by the Town Office during normal business hours or deposited in the drop box after hours. Thank you!

Other Information of Interest

*Medicare's open enrollment is October 15th – December 17th

*This year the Healthcare Marketplace open enrollment is November 1 – December 15th

*Tri-County Fuel, Electrical and Weatherization assistance programs are open. Contact the Ashland office at 603-968-3560 for your application. Weekly appointments are available in Lebanon, NH.

ANNOUNCING WINNERS OF THE 2018 ENFIELD MUNICIPAL CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST!

With 21 individuals submitting a total of 95 photos in this year's contest we had our work cut out for us! Congratulations to the winners!

- Melissa Hutson
- Debbie LaCroix
- Yan Zubo, Ph.D.
- Heather Warren
- Janice Nunn
- Jane Carpenter
- Jim Bonner
- Deborah Mashibini-Prior
- Maria Yamburenko
- Dolores Struckhoff

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.

We won't post all the winning photos at this time (although we will "tease" one down below) as we don't want to spoil the surprise! The calendar has been submitted to the printer and we hope to have them in the mail, to Postal Patrons with Enfield and Enfield Center mailing addresses, during the first half of November.

Thank you to everyone who participated, and congratulations again to this year's winners!



Photo by Dolores Struckhoff

OPPOSING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES ON THE NORTHERN RAIL TRAIL

The Board of Selectmen recently adopted a resolution formally opposing all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) on the Northern Rail Trail. This resolution specifically opposes any modification in federal law that would allow ATVs on the Northern Rail Trail. A copy of the resolution was transmitted to all members of the New Hampshire congressional delegation (Senators Shaheen and Hassan, and Congresswomen Kuster and Shea-Porter).

The Northern Rail Trail is a valuable recreational, scenic, and economic resource to Enfield and many communities across the State of New Hampshire. The Trail is heavily used by a wide range of user groups for an even wider range of purposes. It is the belief of the Enfield Board of Selectmen that allowing ATVs to use the Northern Rail Trail would significantly impede the ability of myriad user groups, residents and visitors to enjoy the trail due to a variety of reasons – including public safety risks and physical damage to the trail itself.

In transmitting the resolution, the Enfield Board of Selectmen is asking members of our congressional delegation to carefully consider our concerns and ultimately oppose any changes to federal law that could result in ATVs

being permitted on the Northern Rail Trail.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Town Manager at 603-632-5026 or raylesworth@enfield.nh.us with any questions.

GENERAL INTEREST

Did you know?

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/Pages/EnfieldNH_Assessing/index and click on GIS Maps & Property Record Cards link.

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

Town Offices, Library and the Transfer Station will be closed on these dates:

Monday, December 25 & Tuesday, December 26 – Christmas Holiday
Monday, January 1 – New Year's Day

ENFIELD LAUNCHES OFFICIAL FACEBOOK PAGE!

The Town of Enfield has launched an official Facebook page ("Town of Enfield, New Hampshire") that can be accessed at the following web link:
www.facebook.com/EnfieldNH

This page will be maintained by town officials and be 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!

FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Narcotics Investigations

The Enfield Police Department conducted several narcotic investigations in recent months. The cases focused on individuals selling heroin. These investigations are very complex and require a coordinated and regional response; we applied for a state grant to work with the Lebanon and Canaan

Police Departments over the next year in an effort to reduce the flow of these deadly drugs into our communities. We continue to maintain a visible presence on the streets to prevent thefts. Most addicts spend anywhere from \$500-\$1000 per week on their drugs. Theft is one of multiple ways they are able to support their habit. We also need your help. If you see someone or something suspicious please call us immediately.

Speeding

Complaints of speeding vehicles continue to be an issue. We have deployed our radar trailer as well as patrols to help bring attention to motorists speed. Most of the complaints take place on our neighborhood streets. Please be mindful of your speed and respect your neighbors concerns.

If you have questions or concerns about matters related to public safety in our community, please don't hesitate to contact the Police Chief at 603-632-7501 or rcrate@enfield.nh.us.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

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

http://enfieldnh.vt-s.net/Pages/EnfieldNH_Manager/MiscDocs/MembershipApp.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, Katherine Lary Jopek, 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 PM! You can see what the committee has been up to on their webpage here:

http://www.enfield.nh.us/Pages/EnfieldNH_Bcomm/RecCom/index

Kati Jopek also serves as the Mascoma Valley Regional Recreation Coordinator. You can check out the publication of regional events in the 2017 Spring/Summer issue of *Play Mascoma Valley!* Here:

http://www.enfield.nh.us/Pages/EnfieldNH_Bcomm/RecCom/mvalleyrec/Spring_Summer2017forweb.pdf

Look for the 2017-2018 Fall/Winter issue of *Play Mascoma Valley!* online in mid-September. Printed copies will be available by October. Also, be sure to

check out <https://mvpr.recdesk.com/Community/Program> for the recreation programs we now have with ONLINE REGISTRATION!

Do your interests lie in economic development? Then the **Tax Increment Finance District Advisory Committee** may be for you. This committee currently has two 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 two openings for **Zoning Board of Adjustment 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 Zoning Board of Adjustment are the second Tuesday of each month if there is business.

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 2017:

http://enfieldnh.vt-s.net/Pages/EnfieldNH_Bcomm/Oldhomedays/OHDFlyer2017.pdf

Is the preservation of our natural resources a cause that is near and dear to your heart? Then perhaps you'd like to join the **Conservation Commission!** The Commission has one opening. They meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 PM. Help make plans to preserve open space for wildlife, protect our watersheds, or provide education to others. A recent project of this commission was the development of the Harris Brook Scenic Area. Check it out!

http://enfieldnh.vt-s.net/Pages/EnfieldNH_Bcomm/ConCom/HarrisBrook

FROM THE BUILDING & FIRE INSPECTOR

One of the more frequently asked questions of the Building Inspector is “how

do we maintain our private septic system?” and “how often do we do it?” The NH Department of Environmental Services (DES) has compiled a useful fact sheet which is available at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/ssb/documents/ssb-13.pdf>

This helpful resource provides details on the workings and maintenance needs of your system. Included is a sheet to record the maintenance that has been performed. As always, if you have further questions do not hesitate to contact the Building Inspector at 603-632-4343 or pneily@enfield.nh.us for assistance.

With the current beautiful weather we are experiencing no one wants to think about the upcoming winter months, but now is the time to plan for the needed yearly maintenance that our heating equipment requires. The National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) “Heating Safety” fact sheet explains what is necessary to help prevent fires and safely operate our heating equipment. This is accessible at:

<http://www.nfpa.org/public-education/by-topic/top-causes-of-fire/heating/heating-safety-tips>

Please don’t hesitate to contact the Fire Inspector at 603-632-4343 or pneily@enfield.nh.us with any questions.

===== **MEETINGS & EVENTS** =====

UPCOMING PUBLIC MEETINGS (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- December 4 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) – Board of Selectmen
- December 5 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) – CIP Committee
- December 7 @ 4:30 PM (Town Hall) – Heritage Commission
- December 7 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) – Conservation Commission
- December 9 @ 9:00 AM (DPW Building) – Budget Committee
- December 11 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) – Library Board of Trustees
- December 12 @ 5:00 PM (Town Hall) – Trustees of the Trust Funds
- December 12 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) – Zoning Board of Adjustment
- December 13 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) – Planning Board
- December 18 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) – Board of Selectmen
- December 19 @ 6:00 PM (Town Hall) – Recreation Commission
- December 19 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) – Budget Committee
- January 2 @ 6:30 PM (DPW Building) – Budget Committee
- January 4 @ 7:00 PM (DPW Building) – Conservation Commission
- January 8 @ 6:00 PM (DPW Building) – Board of Selectmen

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS (SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- Holiday Tree Lighting Display at Huse Park. December 1 beginning at 5:30 PM. Come join us for caroling, hot cocoa and warm chowder!
- Enfield Outing Club Children's Christmas. December 1 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Enfield Community Building.
- Hometown Holidays. December 2 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM at the Shaker Museum. This family event includes favorites such as Story Time, Crafts, Cookie Decorating, Santa Visit/Photos, Holiday Market, One-Day Cafe, Music, and Horse-drawn Wagon Rides. Admission is FREE!
- Every Tuesday (Enfield Community Building) – Bingo hosted by Firefighter's Association. Doors open at 4:00 PM, games begin at 6:30 PM. Cards begin at \$20. Optional dinner (a wonderfully homemade meal) is served at 5:00 PM at a cost of \$6 (dinner includes an entrée, beverage and dessert).



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