

TOWN OF NEW CASTLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

ISLAND ITEMS

MAY / JUNE 2023

VOLUME 153

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS

Did you know...?

The Town of New Castle website has a “subscribe” feature. By subscribing with your email address, you can receive news and announcements, agendas, and meeting minutes directly by email whenever a new posting is made. Topics include, but are not limited to, Select Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Adjustment and Historic District Commission meeting agendas and meetings minutes. ***We recommend that you sign up for Urgent Town Alerts and Town News and Announcements to receive important town information.***

Please visit www.newcastlenh.org to subscribe to topics that interest you. You must subscribe; we do not keep your email address on file at the Town Hall.

To subscribe, you will choose the option “Subscribe to News” from the Citizens Action Center on the Home Page. Here you will see the options to choose from. Enter the email address you wish to use and choose topics. ***Note:*** For each topic, you will receive an email seeking confirmation that you initiated this feature **for each topic you chose; you will need to reply to each one.** You may wish to give one topic a try and subscribe to others later and can unsubscribe at any time.

Meeting agendas, news items and meeting minutes are always available to you on the website. Given this, a suggestion is to only subscribe to one topic, such as the agendas, to start to keep apprised of matters before the Town might be in order to not fill your email In Box. As a first try, it is recommended that the topics of News and Announcements and Town Alerts be chosen. These are the categories that will have individual matters posted relating to day-to-day occurrences rather than regularly scheduled public meetings. Examples could be a delay in trash pick-up or storm event information.

We hope you give this opportunity to obtain Town of New Castle information directly by email a try.

New Castle Select Board



Town Clerk's Office

One of the duties of the Town Clerk's office is to renew vehicle registrations, as well as process new vehicle registrations.

In this article, we would like to provide a guide to residents who would like to transfer their vehicle into a Trust. **HINT:** The best time to move your vehicle into a Trust is the month when your vehicle is due for renewal.

Below is a list of items to be aware of that will help expedite this process.

1. Please call our office at 603-431-6710 ext. 2, to make an appointment. Transferring a vehicle to a Trust can be a time-consuming process and we want to give you our undivided attention.
2. Please bring a copy of the FIRST (name of Trust and Trustees) and LAST (signature page) pages of the Trust. We will need one copy for EACH vehicle. We will need new copies each time you are moving a vehicle into a Trust.
3. Bring the original car title.
4. The title must be signed on the back by the seller (existing owner) and buyer(s) (trustees). A new Title will be sent to you from the Title Bureau. Persons specified as Trustees must be present to sign the title application and registration.
5. If you're transferring an existing vehicle, please bring the current vehicle registration.
6. Have your driver's license with you.
7. Be prepared to write two checks per vehicle/transaction. One to the "Town of New Castle" and one to "State of NH-DMV".

Please check the Town Clerk's page on the Town of New Castle's website (www.newcastlenh.org), as we continue to add new information, links to helpful websites, and more helpful hints!

Our normal office hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm.

See you soon!

Lisa, Jennifer, and BJ



GREAT ISLAND 400 COMMITTEE



April 2023 – Daffodil 400 Bloom

June 16-17, 2023 – "The Secret Gardens of New Castle"

June 24-25, 2023 – Living History Weekend

June 24, 2023 - Colonial Barn Dance and Family Picnic

June 24, 2023 - Food Truck

Summer 2023 Historic Walking Tours

July 4, 2023 – Parade

The town is getting ready to celebrate our 400th year anniversary. Four hundred years ago the first European settlers arrived to make their home here. Your anniversary committee is working hard to coordinate all the activities various groups in town are organizing. Please go to the website, below, for more details about our upcoming events.

<https://www.newcastlenh.org/home/pages/400th-year-celebration>

Great Island 400 Committee: Dawn Lake, Curt Springer, Carol White

COLONIAL BARN DANCE AND PICNIC

June 24, 2023

Get on your dancing shoes and come out and enjoy an old-fashioned barn dance at the Rec. Building. We've hired a caller and two musicians who will help us through the Virginia Reel and other old-time New England dances. The tentative time for the dance is 5-7.30 p.m. but more information will be listed on the New Castle Historical Society website as it becomes available. <http://ncnhhistory.org/>

Tables and chairs will be set up at the far end of the building, so bring your picnic supper and enjoy the evening.



LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND

June 24-25, 2023

The New Castle Historical Society is organizing a living history weekend on New Castle Common, complete with a period encampment, New England military reenactors who portray frontier soldiers from 1623-1783 and colonial artisans. The artisans attending will include, medical surgeon, laundry lady, corn husk doll maker, herbalist/healer, a spinner and a blacksmith.

More information and schedules will be posted on the New Castle Historical Society website as they become available. <http://ncnhhistory.org/>

Betty's Kitchen's Whoa Nellie Food Truck will be on site at the New Castle Common from 10.00-7.30 on Saturday, June 24. The menu is on the town website.

https://www.newcastlenh.org/sites/g/files/vyhlif956/f/uploads/bettys_food_kitchen_menu.pdf



Great Island Garden Club



THE GREAT ISLAND GARDEN CLUB INVITES YOU TO JOIN
400TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN NEW CASTLE WITH
A SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR OF SELECTED HISTORIC
DISTRICT HOME GARDENS.

JUNE 16, 5-7:30PM  **JUNE 17, 10AM-3PM**

VISIT [PORTSMOUTHNHTICKETS.COM](https://portsmouthnhtickets.com)

\$20 IN ADVANCE; \$25 ONSITE

MORE INFO AT [WWW.GREATISLANDGARDENCLUB.ORG](https://www.greatislandgardenclub.org)





In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the settling of New Castle, NH in 1623, the Great Island Garden Club of New Castle is hosting a self-guided walking garden tour on **Friday, June 16 (5 pm-7:30 pm) and Saturday, June 17 (10 am- 3 pm)**. This is a rain or shine event.

"**The Secret Gardens of New Castle**" tour starts at Town Landing (29 Wentworth Rd) and offers a unique opportunity to wander the charming streets of the Historic District and be welcomed into garden oases at 11 carefully selected historic homes. It's also a chance to see the variety of flowers that flourish on this rugged, yet scenic island. Volunteers at each garden will

have information about the garden's history and what's been planted.

Order tickets online starting May 1 at www.portsmouthnhtickets.com; \$20 in advance, \$25 onsite. Advance online ticket purchases can be picked up Thursday, June 15 (3-5 pm) at the New Castle Public Library (301 Wentworth Rd). The first 250 to do so will receive a complimentary copy of **NH Home** magazine. Online tickets can also be picked up and day-of purchases made at Town Landing (29 Wentworth Rd) during tour hours.

The New Castle Historical Society museum (120 Main St) and the New Castle Congregational Church historic sanctuary (65 Main St) will be open to learn more about New Castle's long and storied history. The Islander Café (52 Main St) will be open for refreshments. Water stations and restrooms will be available on the tour route. On Saturday only, the Great Island Garden Club's dahlia and apparel sale will be held at Town Landing, and the Church Guild will have a bake sale (10 am until sold out).

Check our website often for tour updates, and info on parking and trolley services (www.greatislandgardenclub.org). Follow us on social media for photos of our beautiful gardens.



Great Island Garden Club
([@greatislandgardenclub](https://www.instagram.com/greatislandgardenclub))



Great Island Garden Club | New Castle NH | Facebook

Thank you Sponsors! Wentworth By The Sea, Bedrock Gardens, Colonial Bicycle Company, D. Pratt Framer, Elizabeth Dudley Landscape Design,

Fidelity Investments, Great Island Inn, Great Island Realty, La Mulita Coffee, Local Anchor 603, NH Home Magazine, Rolling Green Nursery/Gardeners at Rolling Green, McDermott Landscape Design, Seaport Fish, Seacoast Sewing & Quilting, Summer House Furnishings, The Islander Cafe/Lil's Cafe, Wendy Tauber, REALTOR,® and Wild Valentine.

Visit New Castle, NH's website (www.newcastlenh.org/home/pages/400th-year-celebration) for fun historical activities in June and July: a **Living History Weekend** with military re-enactors and colonial artisans (June 24-25), a **Colonial Barn Dance & Picnic** with a caller and musicians to guide you through old-time New England dances (June 24; BYO picnic or enjoy a 20th century food truck), and a festive Quadracentennial **July 4 parade**.

This is a once-in-400-year opportunity! Don't miss it!

Water & Sewer Commission

Electrical Systems Upgrade of the Pump Stations

At long last, this project (\$341,900 loan, \$100,650 forgiven) to replace the emergency diesel generators, ancillary electrical components, and to consider topographical elevations in light of sea level rise, got underway on March 23rd with a site visit by Underwood Engineers to assess current conditions. We are currently in the design phase. Construction will be delayed because of the long lead time to order/purchase generators.

Asset Management Plans

As I have reported before, AMPs provide town managers with an important tool to track the condition and viability of town assets like your water and sewer utilities and to forecast and budget for their ultimate replacement. Last year, we were awarded a \$68,300 grant to establish an AMP for our water infrastructure. The inventory of our water assets is complete; these will be incorporated into a database and digital maps. Our DPW staff will be able to update all work performed on the system to track its condition, conduct preventive maintenance, and forecast replacement. Last May, we applied, and were approved, for a \$30,000 grant to establish a similar AMP for the sewer infrastructure. Work on this one should begin sometime this summer.

Sewer Force Main at the Sawtelle Bridge

In the June 2022 competition for state and federal project dollars, we did not succeed in achieving funds for the replacement of this line (estimated cost: \$1.1M). However, we were awarded the opportunity to apply for a \$100K loan (100% forgiven) to plan for that replacement. The affirmative vote at the recent Town Meeting provides us with the “green light” to proceed with the application.

Automation Initiatives

DPW Staffing Challenges

It has been a challenge to hire a desperately needed full time laborer. With that in mind, the Water and Sewer Commission has been sympathetic to funding initiatives that alleviate burdens and contribute to efficiency. Investments like the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) radios, field tablets that will interface with the AMPs for water and sewer; a satellite and cell network based geolocator that will help find water and sewer assets, were all approved to help our staff.

Bookkeeping/Finance

We are investing in an automated interface between the water consumption data gathered by the AMI system and our bookkeeping functions. This will help to minimize billing errors and improve the efficiency of our bookkeeper’s time.

Credit Card Payments. At the suggestion/request of customers, you will soon be able to pay your water/sewer bill by credit card. There will be no cost to the utility; customers will pay a convenience fee for using this service. It is not certain exactly when this capability will be in place. If not for the July/August set of bills, then likely for the October/November ones.

Odds and Ends

The AMI radio installations are over 95% complete. This initiative, which only applies to the northside (southside Portsmouth water customers have had this system for many years), will minimize billing errors and improve the efficiency of DPW and accounting staff.

As part of our 10-year replacement plan, northside water meters are being replaced as time permits. Not all meters will be replaced “at the same time.”

We have enrolled the Town into the Dig Safe system. This low-cost service helps to minimize costly excavation errors.

In July, we expect to conduct a smoke test of the sewer system. This is to help us determine if we have infiltration from the stormwater (e.g., road drains) system into the wastewater (sewage) system, an important part of reducing inflow (e.g. illegal sump pumps) and infiltration (e.g. manholes) into our sewer system.

A new Water and Sewer Ordinance was approved and adopted at the April 17th Select Board meeting. It took well over a year to incorporate new issues affecting the functioning of water and sewer utilities. The ordinance will be available on the Town website.

Normand Houle
Chairman, New Castle Water & Sewer Commission



Photo courtesy of Jim Cerny

Burn Permitting in New Castle

Greetings Great Islanders! I hope this letter finds you healthy and looking forward to a bright, sunny spring. As you look to get out and burn seasonal yard clean up debris, or spend more evenings around the fire pit, please carefully consider the information below. All fires bring increased risk not only to the forested portions of town, but the compact of the inner island.

Per State administrative rule the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development along with the Department of Environmental Services regulates open burning or "The burning of combustible material where the emissions do not vent through a stack, chimney or flue, but is released directly into the air." These laws and administrative rules give shape to how permitting is administered and spell out specifically what can be burned and when. Town Fire Department officials are deputized as agents of the state and issue dozens of burn permits each year to best manage risk while ensuring safety.

With a permit it is permissible to burn:

Untreated wood, campfire wood, brush, or charcoal in a campfire, in an outdoor fireplace for recreational purposes or for preparation of food.

Burning of untreated wood, campfire wood, or brush in bonfires in conjunction with holiday or festive celebrations.

On-site burning by the landowner of brush with leaves, provided the materials originate on-site.

On-site burning, by the owner of a private single-family residence occupied by the owner, of untreated lumber, provided the material originates on-site.

Fires may be kindled from 5pm to 9am the following day unless it is raining, or the ground is covered by snow. Fires must be attended by a property owner over 18 years of age or by a tenant over eighteen years of age with written permission from the landowner. Fires must be no less than 25 feet from any structure or flammable hazard and some, based on type, may need to be as far away as 50 feet.

It is prohibited by law to burn:

Construction & demolition debris

Tires, Household trash, Packaging materials, Plastics, Coated or laminated paper, Coated or treated cardboard.

Oily rags, animal, vegetable, and kitchen waste

Used oil, gasoline, and hazardous waste.

Brush greater than 5 inches in diameter

Any wood that has been painted/stained, glued, or treated in any way.

To obtain a permit:

Go to NH.burnsafeamerica.com and click "Purchase Permit" on the main page.*

*The state of NH does assess a small administrative fee for use of the online permitting system, but it is available 24/7/365.

OR

Stop by the station and speak to a deputy forest fire warden Monday through Friday 8am to 3:30 pm. Physically issued permits are still issued free of charge.

Please also note no permits are issued for fires on the beach, in the town commons, the Fort Stark Historic Site or the islands of the back channel.

If you have any additional questions or need assistance, don't hesitate to email me directly at Firechief@newcastlenh.org

Thank you,

-Ted Hartmann

Fire Chief/ Forest Fire Warden

TO REPORT OPEN BURNING EMERGENCIES DIAL 911

New Castle Historical Society



The New Castle Historical Society is always looking for old photographs of the houses, streets, and activities of the town over the past decades.

When organizing and cleaning out your homes, please think of NCHS and donate these treasures to your historical society. We will then add them to our online catalog. If you don't want to give up your photos just yet, we can scan and return them to you.

We would truly appreciate it.

You can view our catalog at:

<https://newcastlenh.pastperfectonline.com/search>

Many thanks.

Joan Hammond

NCHS

343-3448

New Castle Historical Society

Work on our lovely Museum Woodland Garden continues. Committee members Jennie Schwartz, Mary Kennedy and Nancy Borden have had the old stone wall rebuilt and it is stunning. Beautiful wrought-iron railings now line the stone stairway up from the old fire station. Spring plants are going in, to include crevice flowers, which will adorn the granite ledges throughout the garden. Of excitement is that we received a \$1,000 grant from the University of New Hampshire and Strawberry Banke, celebrating our Abenaki heritage. A special area will be dedicated to the plants our Native American predecessors would have planted.

In support of the garden project, we continue our fund-raising campaign in the hopes of reaching our goal of \$75,000. To date, we have raised \$51,000, which shows the interest and support we have from the town. Please consider how great the garden is going to be for the town and donate generously. We hope to continue with garden features to include wooden benches, ground cover along the street front and perhaps a flowering tree or two.

The NCHS is also hard at work putting together a robust celebration of the Town's 400th celebration. The events will include historical reenactments on the Common on June 24th/25th, a colonial barn dance on the 24th, summer village walking tours and the publication of J. Dennis Robinson's history of New Castle: "New Castle: New Hampshire's Smallest, Oldest & Only Island Town." These events will be in conjunction with the NC Garden Club's walking tour on June 16th and 17th, and an expanded 4th of July parade. Stay tuned for possible other events to celebrate this momentous year.

The antique popcorn cart donated by Frank King's grandson is being refurbished. He operated the cart at the town beach during the 1930s and 40s. Look for this amazing cart in the July 4th 400-year parade.

To help educate and remember the glorious history of New Castle, the museum is presenting a lively slate of programs this year. We started in May by co-hosting with our Congregational Church and featuring Etoile Holzaepfel. Etoile gave us the history of the Wentworth by the Sea Hotel. She then explained how we almost lost the hotel and fought valiantly to keep it. Quite a story which all enjoyed. Our June program will feature Andrew Moore, an island native. Andrew will give an update on Syrian archeology. In July we'll feature a talk on the museum garden by gardener Jennie Schwartz. August is tentatively set for a talk on the tugboats and the freighters using our river. September will feature Sherm Pridham who is an expert on Puddle Dock at Strawberry Banke. Our October program promises to be a real crowd pleaser. The Castle Bay group weaves together the heritage of New England and Celtic lands. They will present both sea shanties and sea songs. Be prepared to sing along! November will be our annual meeting, topped by the Island's younger generation talking about growing up in New Castle. We strongly recommend our programs and hope to see you all there! Programs are run at the museum; however, we also offer the Zoom option for those who cannot attend in person. See our website for the Zoom link. It is on the home page.

Following our November program, the NCHS takes the winter off. Our programs resume in April of 2024 and promise to be another great slate of topics of interest to our members and the public. Got an idea for a program? Let us know.

Attention continues to be drawn to our now world-famous Demers collection of pottery found in the shipwrecks in Harts Cove and off Salamander Point by the father and son team of the Demers family. In honor of NH Archeology month, Doctors Tad Baker and Alix Martin presented a program on April 20th at the Moffat Ladd House to a capacity crowd. This week, Professor Chris Gerrard of the UK visited the museum and met with Baker and Martin. Dr. Stefan Claesson, marine archaeologist, and owner of Nearview, an arial drone and archaeological surveying company, was guest speaker at the NCHS retreat in March. Dr. Stefan led a deep-water diving team in both Hart's Cove and Salamander Point. They located two ships/sloops and documented, filmed, and surveyed the area where many of our pottery artifacts were discovered. Dr. Claesson said finding two colonial boats was unusual and rare.

Our membership drive for 2023 continues. We hope you will join or renew and be part of the incredible history of New Castle. Your dues help us in many ways. Here are a few: Paying for utilities, guest speakers, special events like the 400th celebration, the woodland garden, the History of New Castle book written by J. Dennis Robinson, office supplies and equipment, publicity mailings and on-going expenses for the preservation of our world-famous Demers collection of pottery.

The New Castle Historical Society has sadly lost two of our most ardent supporters. Phyllis Crosby and David Borden have helped to make NCHS a vibrant and meaningful place for those who live here. Their memory will live on in the mission they supported as it continues to thrive. They will be greatly missed.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at New Castle NH Historical Society and check out our website: www.newcastlenhhistoricalsociety.org .

Elaine Nollet and Dawn Lake



Professor Chris Gerrard, archeologist, and team at NCHS

BOSTON POST CANE AWARDED TO “TED BARTON” APRIL 18, 2023

Ted Barton and Elizabeth Thayer are the co-holders of New Castle’s Boston Post Cane as both are 92 years old and the oldest residents in town. Ted received his certificate on April 18 at his home.

For over a century, it has been the practice to designate the oldest resident in hundreds of New England towns as the holder of the Boston Post Cane. The publisher of The Boston Post newspaper, Edwin Grozier, started this practice in 1909 as an advertising promotion. He gave out 700 canes to towns (not cities) in NH, ME, MA and RI to be held by the oldest resident where they lived. Until 1930 they went to the oldest male resident. The newspaper went out of business in 1956 but some towns keep the tradition alive.

The canes were crafted by J. F. Fradley Co., using African ebony, with a 14 karat gold head and a ferrule at the tip. The head is engraved as “presented by The Boston Post to the oldest citizen of (name of town) to be transmitted.” For many years, towns loaned their cane but that led to the loss of canes over the years. Now it is typical to keep the cane on display and present a proclamation.

At the main entrance to the New Castle Town Hall, on the immediate right-hand wall, is a case which holds the cane and information about all known honorees.

Carol White, Town Historian



“ Boston Cane Recipient, Ted Barton”

May 2023 New Castle Public Library

I read a book one day and my whole life was changed. ~ Orhan Pamuk

It has been a great six months in the publishing industry. We have dozens of phenomenal new releases for your summer reading. Over the summer we will continue most of our programming – knitting group, book groups, Mahjong, Bridge, cookbook club, strength & conditioning (Wednesdays and Fridays at 8:30am), yoga (Tuesdays at 9am), and story times on Thursday and Saturday mornings.

Our **summer reading program** begins on June 14th - New Castle children, grandchildren, and friends are invited to fill summer reading bags with books, movies, word games, drawing pages, and more. The community is invited to join us on Wednesday, June 21st for a program with Wildlife Encounters. They will bring a variety of wild animals including an African Pygmy Hedgehog, Lion-Maned rabbit, White Umbrella Cockatoo, and Argentine Black & White Tegu.

Please call or stop in at the library if you have any questions or would like to be put on our email list.

New Materials at the Library:

New Books: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, *I Will Find You* by Harlan Coben, *Trackers* by Charles Frazier, *White Lady* by Jacqueline Winspear, *I Have Some Questions For You* by Rebecca Makkai, *Give Unto Others* by Donna Leon, *Pineapple Street* by Jenny Jackson, *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano, *How To Sell a Haunted House* by Grady Hendrix, *Red Winter* by Tom Clancy, *Immense World* by Ed Yong, *World of Curiosities* by Louise Penny, *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks, *Triple Cross* by James Patterson, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, *Foster* by Claire Keegan, *Desert Star* by Michael Connelly ...

New Audio Books on cd: *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge, *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver, *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt, *Spare* by Prince Harry ...

Movies: A Man Called Otto, Women Talking, Tar, Elvis, Alice Darling, Fabelmans, Everything Everywhere All at Once, King Richard, The Menu, Top Gun, She Said, Ticket to Paradise, Banshees of Inisherin, Where the Crawdads Sing, Down Abbey: A New Era ...

Happy Reading!
Christine Collins, Library Director



Photo courtesy of Jim Cerny

Update on Causeway Flooding

The Causeway to Portsmouth, and other low-lying areas of 1B have been flooded and/or closed at least 3 times in the last 5 years during storm and high tide events. Most recently on December 23, 2022, the Causeway was under water and blocked to traffic for an hour or two. At the same time, on the southern end of the island other low-lying areas were under water. For a period of time – we were truly an island – residents were turned away on both ends of the island, and emergency vehicle access was hindered.

What's Being Done ?

A feasibility report, commissioned by the NHDOT (Dept. of Transportation), accepted in February 2023, concluded that with the expected sea level rise, flooding would worsen. The study identified five alternative solutions to remediate the problem; the viable options ranged in cost from \$1.7M to \$5.2M. The Feasibility Report recommended Option 4 - raising and widening the Causeway, adding two 4' shoulder bike lanes, and a sidewalk. It also recommended remediating three low lying spots on 1B .

An opportunity to apply for Congressionally Directed Funds through Senator Shaheen's Office became available in January. Authorized by the Select Board, a group of citizens submitted a grant application, with NHDOT support, to access these earmarks from the Infrastructure Bill. We learned in early May that the Senator recommended funding our project for Option 4. There is still a long way to go but this is an excellent first step.

Simultaneously the Select Board invited residents to email and write letters to Governor Sununu, Senator Shaheen, Bill Cass (Director, NHDOT), Rockingham Planning Commission, and others to make our state officials aware of our concerns about the causeway and urging remediation begin sooner than later. Based on recent feedback from NHDOT, Executive Councilor Janet Stevens, and others, we are encouraged to think that we might have an opportunity to make our case for including this project in the next 10-year planning cycle. Governor Sununu has also expressed support.

These two initiatives work hand in hand to fund and prioritize remediation work on Causeway and 1B. Thanks to all of you who wrote grants, chased

recommendations, wrote emails/letters, and took time to meet with Councilor Stevens.

How Can You Help?

Public input is making a difference. There will be public meetings to discuss the causeway and the ten-year plan with NHDOT and Executive Councilors in September and October. They will be held in Exeter. They are called GACIT meetings (Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation) We need to pack the house. Dates and times will be announced at a later date.

If you would like updates on the causeway status, please contact Mary Ann Driscoll (Driscoll.maryann@gmail.com) or Nancy Jackson (nljackson@msn.com) with your email address. We will make sure you know the meeting dates and times, as well as other feedback on the Congressional Earmark and 10-year plan.

Information about the Causeway project is now on the town website. Updates will be added as they become available.



Safepath Projects Update

Safepath has been busy working on three projects. Here's what has been happening, and what's underway for the near future.

TAP grant: Beach Hill to Pit Lane.

The neighbors, CMA Engineering and the Select Board have been working hard to come to an agreement on design and location. The goal has been to have a sidewalk along that stretch, but it is very narrow. Currently we are waiting for NHDOT and neighborhood consensus to determine the exact location.

The Commons: Rodgers Blvd - Beach Hill

The chainlink fence that ran along Route 1B in front of the Commons has been removed. Enjoy the view! It has yet to be determined if fencing is needed in that area. The Select Board is in charge of that evaluation. We have an estimate from Rye Beach to construct a sidewalk, and expanded shoulders on both sides of 1B along this stretch. We hope to start construction some time this summer.

Pit Lane to the Causeway

Ironwood Design has helped us with all of our path design work to date. We have asked them to explore options for a path from Pit Lane all the way to the sidewalks that begin on the Portsmouth side of the Causeway. They have envisioned a few options for us to consider, but this phase of the project is on hold for a while as we focus on the other two projects. We are looking forward to eventually sharing Ironwood's conceptual designs and ideas at a community meeting.

How you can help?

A Federal TAP grant was secured by the town to fund 80% of the cost of the path from Beach Hill Road to Pit Lane. The Commons project has

been completely funded with donations from the Community (Thank you!). Community funds have allowed us to hire Ironwood Design to plan for future paths and will also be used to supplement basic path designs with, for example, replacement or additional trees and plantings, or perhaps a bench or two along the path. So, even if future construction costs will be paid for by federal or state funds, we still need dollars for the research that is required to even apply for these funds. This is how we secured the TAP grant.

To donate:

1. Please make checks payable to Town of New Castle, with indication that funds are for Safepath. Mail/bring to Town Hall. 2. Many residents prefer to donate from charitable contribution funds, in which case it is best to contact Lori Ruest, our Town Administrator; townadmin@newcastlenh.org. She will provide the information you will need to transfer funds.

However you choose to donate, THANK YOU!



Thank you, Thank you, Thank you

Thank you to all of our employees and volunteers serving on all of our Boards and Committees. We appreciate the time, energy, and resources that you give to do the important work necessary to run the business of the Town. Thank you to all residents who volunteer at the Library, Garden Club, Historical Society, Church and any other organization that helps to make our Town and world a better place.

It has been brought to my attention that some of our volunteer Board members have been confronted in aggressive and inappropriate ways. (See RSA 642:1 below). Please treat our employees, volunteers and community members with the respect and consideration that they deserve.

RSA 642:1 Obstructing Government Administration

1. A person is guilty of a misdemeanor if that person uses intimidation, actual or threatened force or violence, simulated legal process, or engages in any other unlawful conduct with a purpose to hinder or interfere with a public servant, as defined in RSA 640:2 II, performing or purporting to perform an official function or to retaliate for the performance or purported performance of such a function.

Jane Finn,
Selectwoman



Kindness is not an act,
it's a reflection of
your soul.

(Thoughts Wonder)

Thoughts Wonder

Teamwork is Everything



*The New Castle NH
Historic District Commission, and
Conservation Commission
Are looking for new Board Members & Chairs
Please Inquire at the New Castle NH
Town Hall, Select Boards Office*

*Thank You to All Who Have Served Our
Community*



Stormwater



Introduction – Why it matters

When it rains, water flows over streets and other impervious surfaces into the Town's stormwater system ("storm drains"). As the water travels, it picks up pollutants along the way. All this untreated water eventually ends up flowing into the surrounding bodies of water, waters in which our neighbors swim, fish, etc. Therefore, it is important that we remain cognizant of this important utility system and actively work to ensure that we are not contributing additional pollutants to our surrounding ecosystems.

Pet Waste



Pet waste is harmful to the environment in two distinct ways: nutrient loading and pathogen spread. First, as pet waste decomposes, it consumes oxygen from the water. Further, pet waste is high in nitrogen, which results in increased algae growth, disrupting the ecosystem. The other issue with pet waste is pathogen spread. Pet waste often contains bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause

illness in humans and wildlife. It is estimated that the 78 million dogs living in the United States create 10 million tons of waste annually. Picking up our dog's waste and throwing it out is a small change that can make a big difference in keeping our waters clean.

Yard Waste & Fertilizers



Yard waste is another source of stormwater pollution. Grass clippings often contain fertilizers and pesticides which are harmful to the surrounding ecosystems. As leaves and other yard waste decays, it too consumes precious oxygen needed by living organisms. Residents are encouraged to participate in monthly green waste days to ensure the proper disposal of yard waste. Fertilizer also pollutes the surrounding ecosystems with excess nutrients. When applying fertilizers, slow-release formulas are preferable in almost all cases. Prior to applying fertilizers, it is often a good idea to have the soil tested. Sometimes adjusting the soil pH or organic matter are the only treatments needed to improve a lawn.

Closing Remarks

Many of our everyday activities have the potential to negatively impact the surrounding environment. By being mindful of what we are doing and how we are doing it, we can all work together to ensure that our natural environment is safe and pollutant free for this and future generations. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please feel free to reach out. Chris Robillard
Superintendent of Public Works

GREEN WASTE DAY

Saturday

June 10th 8am-11am

BRING YOUR YARD & GARDEN WASTE TO THE
DUMPSTER AT THE REC CENTER

REVISED GUIDELINES

- *logs: **MAXIMUM** 4 foot length
- *waste: in pick-up trucks/trailers **MUST** be on a tarp
- * stumps should be dirt-free with trunk diameter less than 6"

No dumping before 8AM or after 11AM
No exceptions

Sponsored by the Town of New Castle and the New Castle
Conservation Commission

GREEN WASTE DAYS

2023:

8am-11am

May 6

June 10

July 15

August 19

September 16

October 21

November 18

ALL ARE WELCOME

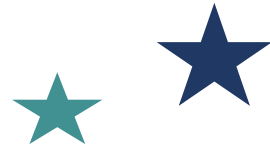
★ **JULY** ★



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**TUESDAY
10:30 AM**



PARADE



COME ONE, COME ALL!!

- ★ ● **DECORATE YOUR BIKE**
- ★ ● **DESIGN YOUR FLOAT** ★
- **DRESS IN HISTORICAL COSTUME**
- **BE CREATIVE**
- **JOIN THE TUG-OF-WAR CONTEST
AND THE THREE LEGGED RACE**
- **ENJOY FOOD, MUSIC, FRIENDS,
FAMILY & LADY LIBERTY!**



SPONSORED BY THE 4TH OF JULY PARADE COMMITTEE