

# TOWN OF NEW CASTLE

## New Hampshire

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

### ISLAND ITEMS

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NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 134

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#### NOTICE TO NEW CASTLE RESIDENTS

The Select Board will have a public hearing on Monday, Dec. 4, 2017 at the Rec Building at 7pm. This will be a public hearing on the WATER PROJECT. This is open to the public.

#### *New Castle Public Library*

“Why can't people just sit and read books and be nice to each other?”  
~ David Baldacci, *The Camel Club*

Winter is fast approaching and the library is just the place to enrich and enliven those cold, dark days. Of course, we have a wide selection of books to suit any mood. We also have movies, documentaries, audio books, puzzles, magazines, and even snow shoes. In addition to the variety of materials, you will also find warm community and lifelong learning opportunities – Introduction to Bridge Fundamentals, knitting group, book discussions, writing group, adult art classes, lectures, and museum passes. Come join the fun!

**NH Downloadable Books** – In case you didn't know ... our library is a member of NH Downloadable Books. Our patrons have access to 20,000 e-book titles and 15,000 audio book titles. You access NHDB through our catalog - you only need your library card number and password. Give me a call if you have any questions.

**NH 1000 Books Before Kindergarten** – Congratulations to Tessa Michelin - our first child to read 1000 books before she started Kindergarten in September. Our program began on December 8<sup>th</sup>, so she accomplished this goal in eight months! Tessa is an eager, happy reader and we know she will thrive in Kindergarten.

**Library Bus Trips** – The library hosted its fifth bus trip on Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> to Ogunquit. We were lucky to have a stunning autumn day. We had a wonderful lunch at the York River Landing and then went to the Ogunquit Playhouse to see the musical *From Here to Eternity*. It was amazing and incredibly powerful. Our sixth bus trip will be to the Holiday Pops in Boston on Sunday,

December 10<sup>th</sup>. This was such an uplifting experience last year that we decided to do a repeat performance.

**New Materials at the Library –**

**DVDs:** Big Little Lies, Wakefield, Gifted, Paris Can Wait, The Man Who Knew Infinity, The Hero, Beatriz at Dinner, The Sense of An Ending, We the People: The Market Basket Effect (documentary), Better Call Saul season 1, Major Crimes season 5, Blue Bloods season 7, Chicago Med season 2, Chicago Fire season 5, Designated Survivor season 1, This is Us season 1, Modern Family season 8, Chicago P.D. season 4, Madam Secretary season 3, ...

**New Books:** *Sweet Water* by Christina Baker Kline, *House of Spies* by Daniel Silva, *Women in the Castle* by Jessica Shattuck, *The Late Show* by Michael Connelly, *The Swans of Fifth Avenue* by Melanie Benjamin, *Glass Houses* by Louise Penny, *The Burning Girl* by Claire Messud, *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren, *Last Hope Island* by Lynne Olson, *A Legacy of Spies* by John le Careé, *The Whole30* by Melissa Hartwig, *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah, *A Column of Fire* by Ken Follett, *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng, *Y is For Yesterday* by Sue Grafton, *Origin* by Dan Brown,

**New Audio Books on cd:** *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline, *The Way Life Should Be* Christina Baker Kline, *Bird In Hand* by Christina Baker Kline, *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi, *Counting by 7s* by Holly

Goldberg Sloan, *39 Clues* by Gordon Korman

**Story Times:** Thursdays at 9:30am & Saturdays at 10am

**Drop in for a Stitch Knitting**

**Group:** Tuesdays at 3pm

**Adult Library Book Group:** 1<sup>st</sup> Wed. each month at 3pm

**Library Hours:**

Tuesday 12–5

Wednesday 12–5

Thursday 9–3

Friday 12–5

Saturday 9–12

Happy Reading!

Christine Collins, Library Director

**LAST GREEN WASTE DATE OF THE 2017 SEASON**

**Saturday - November 18**

The dumpster is located at the Common next to the library. Green waste volunteers will be on duty from 8am to 11am. No after-hours dumping is permitted. Because plastic bags are not biodegradable, these must be emptied and reclaimed. Using Disposable paper bagging keeps the clothes clean and dispositions cheerful.



## **NEW CASTLE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION**

The NCHDC has undertaken a review of the policy, created in 2012, concerning installation of solar technologies in the historic district. The current policy can be found on the town website under the Historic District Commission and “Regulations.” The review is being done after several homeowners approached the NCHDC about installing this technology at their home. A draft of the new language is below. The biggest change removes language prohibiting this type of technology in the District if visible from the public way and allows the technology if it fits a series of criteria.

The NCHDC seeks public comment on this revision at its next 2 meetings on November 2nd and December 7th at 7:00pm. The Commission will vote on this policy once public comment has been heard and discussed.

Rodney D. Rowland  
Chair

### **Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Regulations for the New Castle Historic District**

Pursuant to the New Castle Zoning Ordinance 9.3.1 and in compliance with the Secretary of Interior’s Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties

(<https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/re>

[habilitation/guidelines/solar-technology.htm](#) ), applicants for photovoltaic (PV) and Solar Thermal (ST) systems in the New Castle Historic District should be aware that these systems can only be installed when there is little or no adverse impact on the physical or visual architectural landscape of the historic district. The homeowner should fully examine the site for its potential to accommodate these technologies to minimize impact on the District. The intent of these rules is to find a balance between solar technology and protection of the historic district. For existing buildings and new construction the following rules are established:

1. The appropriateness of a PV and ST system will be based upon the historic character and architectural significance of the individual structure and its relation to its surroundings.
2. PV or ST systems must be positioned in such a way as to have the least impact on the public view (streetscape).
3. All PV and ST installations must not replace original or historic features of the structure.
4. Systems should be on the same plane as the roof, with color of the panels in keeping

with the surrounding roofing materials. All plumbing, wiring and mounting hardware should be hidden

5. PV and ST installations need to be designed and positioned to be in scale with the structure's roof line, while maintaining a balance and scale with other features of that elevation.

### **Recommended Application Materials for Public Hearings**

Applications for photovoltaic and solar thermal systems should include materials to adequately describe the proposed equipment, the structure and the surrounding area of the district. Submitted materials should include:

1. A sample of the product and supporting documentation
2. Photographs of the installation site and the surrounding area of the district from the public way (street views). Sketches or digital renderings should, illustrate the proposed installation of the array.
3. A scaled drawing of the proposed system that includes all supplemental equipment

as well as any proposed screening materials.



### **SEASONAL DOOR DECORATION**

**PHOTO BY JIM CERNY**

## **OPEN LETTER TO THE RESIDENTS OF NEW CASTLE**

To All 1B Travelers:

It is time to re-establish the Safepath Fund. If you aren't familiar with Safepath, 20 years ago with great generosity and forethought, Phyllis and Howard Cosby put their beautiful land along Wentworth Road into a conservation easement to protect it from development. As part of the easement, they allowed for the creation of a sidewalk, which connected the sidewalks of the Wentworth to Wild Rose Lane. At that time, in addition to private donations, the town voted to pay for 20% of the cost of the Safepath. Federal and state funds paid the balance. The Safepath made a dangerous stretch of road much safer for pedestrians and bicyclists.

In the spirit of the Crosby Safepath project, we are proposing that the town of New Castle continue working with an engineering firm to design and implement a comprehensive ten-year plan for completion of the Safepath where possible. The work would be all along 1-B on Wentworth Road, Cranfield Street, and Portsmouth Avenue where possible. It is impossible to walk, run, or ride a bicycle any distance on Route 1-B in New Castle without going into the vehicle lanes. Some days, many of our children travel to school by bike competing with pickup trucks.

The design is going to require imagination and planning but waiting

for a tragic accident seems inexcusable. When we get started within a few months, we should be able to finish the Safepath from Wild Rose Lane to the Common. We estimate this cost at approximately \$30,000 of which at least half could come from existing town funds. We could also begin work on taking out the ledge between the two Shaw Roads along Wentworth Road.

These projects would be a public-private partnership. To help with this phase of Safepath, please consider making a donation to the New Castle Safepath Fund and contributions are tax deductible.

If you're in, send a check to the Town of New Castle Safepath Fund. If you have questions please call any of us. One step at a time,

David and Nancy Borden  
MaryAnn and Tim Driscoll  
Phillip Marcus  
Jim Zuckerman  
Jane Finn  
Dick and Emily Spaulding



## **New Castle Light Emitting Diode (LED) Lighting Conversion Program**

The Town of New Castle Select Board and the New Castle Energy Committee is in the process of reviewing and upgrading its street lights and determining how we can save money in the process. Over the past few years, many of our street lights have burned out. The replacement of these lights has sparked some interest in understanding the process and incentives for converting to LED lights.

Through this research process, we have learned there are multiple communities in New Hampshire and specifically nearby on the seacoast that have begun the conversion of their streetlights to LED. They are: Portsmouth, Hampton, Dover, Greenland, Newfields, Newmarket and several others around the state. The list of towns completing their conversion to LED is growing everyday. All of the towns have realized saving on their electricity bills and CO2 abatement with the LED lights. Street lighting is roughly 55-60% of the Town of New Castle's monthly electricity bill for all buildings. So while we may be a small town with a reasonably smaller electricity bill each month – we will save real money and as detailed below, we will pay for the conversion to LED lights in just 2.38 years.

In the process of reviewing local contractors that execute the LED lighting conversions, the New Castle Energy Committee was introduced to the local company Affinity LED Lighting of Dover, NH. Affinity LED Lighting presented to the Select Board and local residents on September 18, 2017. It was determined that we would proceed with two test LED lights which were installed on Main Street.

The LED test lights were installed at the intersection of Main St and Atkinson and Main St and Walbach Street. We decided to add two shields to the LED light on the corner of Main and Walbach Street, which reduces the back lighting on the nearby house. The LED test lights installed are 65 Watt and are a clear white light that will improve visibility in fog and in snow storms. The LED light is directed downward and is night sky friendly (with zero uplight).

The details of the LED Conversion Program from Affinity LED Lighting have been highlighted:

Total Cost is \$17,083 for converting 68 fixtures on your EOL ledger (avg. \$251.21 per fixture All-In, for equipment and all installation services.

All of the 68 proposed fixtures will be the S800 series cobraheads, assembled by US Veterans in a locally based UL certified manufacturing site in Dover, NH.

The Eversource Incentive is expected to be confirmed at \$6,800, which will result in a NET Cost after Incentive of \$10,283.

Estimated Annual Savings \$4,326 for the Town's 68 lights.

We estimate a Simple Payback of 2.38 years. This is Very Good

*Simple payback = \$10,283 net / \$4,326 annual estimated savings = 2.38 years.*

Cumulative Savings over 10 years = \$43,260 and cumulative Savings over the life of the fixtures (20 years) = \$86,520

Annual CO2 Abatement = -8.45 tons, Cumulative over 10 years = -84.5 tons, 20 years = -168.9 tons

The Energy Committee strongly supports full conversion of all 68 street lights in New Castle. The Select Board has supported the test LED lights and the next step is to move forward with the remaining 66 lights. We encourage people to let the Select Board know they support full conversion to all LED street lights in New Castle. The Town will save Money by making this investment and it will also make a positive impact on our environment.

**Sandra Bisset**  
**Chair of New Castle Energy**  
**Committee**



**FALL LEAVES**  
**PHOTO BY JIM CERNY**

## **REMINDERS**

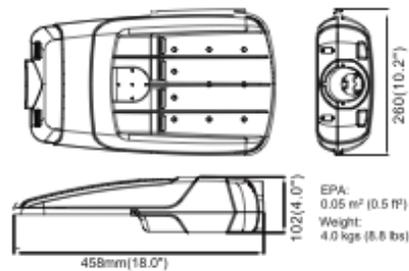
We have received a number of complaints regarding the dog waste left on the road sides. Please remember to pick up after your dog.





## S800 Series Roadway Luminaire LED Street & Area Lighting

The S800 Series distills the benefits of combining industry-leading components and LED technology with pragmatic design and American-Built reliability. The outstanding photometric performance results in sites with excellent uniformity, allowing greater pole spacing and lower power density. The S800 Series is the best alternative available for traditional street and area lighting with quick payback and improved performance.



### Standard Features

- ★ Night Sky Friendly (zero uplight) with integrated backlight-shield
- ★ Reduced-glare optical lenses standard in Type II, Type III and Type V photometric distributions
- ★ Available in 3000K, 4000K and 5000K Correlated Color Temperatures
- ★ Tool-Less Entry with Connect-Safe™ for Lineman Friendly installation
- ★ Die-Cast Aluminum Housing and Housing Door with Ultra-durable powder-coat finish that resists corrosion, abrasion and UV-degradation
- ★ Integrated Tilt Adjustment  $\pm 5^\circ$
- ★ Built-in Bird-Guard
- ★ Input Voltage: 120-277V or 347-480V, 50/60Hz
- ★ Ambient Operating Temperatures  $-40^\circ\text{C}$  to  $+50^\circ\text{C}$
- ★ Smart Ready with 7-pin Photocontrol Receptacle (per ANSI C136.41) and 0-10V Dimming Capability
- ★ LED Lifetime Rating  $>120,000$  hours L70 @ $55^\circ\text{C}$  (per IESNA TM-21-11)
- ★ 10-Year Limited Warranty

## Product Specifications

EXAMPLE: S80X-XXW-XXK-TX-10-XX-M ⇐ S800-65W-40K-T2-10-GR-M						
MODEL	POWER	COLOR	DISTRIBUTION	CONTROL OPTION	FINISH	DRIVER
S800	25W	30K: 3000K	T2: Type II T3: Type III T5: Type V	10: 0-10V Dimming	BR: Bronze BL: Black GR: Gray WH: White	M: Meanwell
	40W	40K: 4000K				
S801	65W	50K: 5000K				
	80W	57K: 5700K				
	100W					

## PROPERTY TAXES

At this time, the 2017 Tax Bills have been mailed out with a tax rate of \$5.85. Property Tax payment due Wednesday, December 6, 2017.

## NEW VOTING LAWS

Senate Bill 3 (SB3) became law in August and September. There are several changes to voter registration and issues regarding residency and domicile, especially for voters who register within 30 days of an election.

You may read about the new voter laws here: <http://sos.nh.gov/Elections.aspx> Do find a comfortable chair and make yourself a cup of chamomile tea before reading these complicated/complex rules. Laws are made by our senators and representatives in Concord, not by Town Clerks, who would have made the laws comprehensible and less daunting.

## DMV and VOTING LAWS

### Domicile and Non-resident Vehicles

Voter laws were recently changed to strengthen the requirements for identification and determination of domicile. (See above and <http://sos.nh.gov/Elections.aspx> ). Legal domicile in New Castle is a requirement for registering to vote here. Many New Castle home owners spend part of the year in other states. While they may spend roughly half the year here and half in, say, Florida, they must decide which state is their official domicile; there can only be one. Your domicile is where you put your head down to sleep for over 50% of the year and is the same place where you intend to reside. If you give false information regarding your domicile/residence when registering a vehicle or registering to vote there are heavy fines (up to \$5,000).

Vehicle Status: If you are not domiciled in New Castle, N.H. (not voting here) the status of your vehicle registration should be *NON-RESIDENT*. Vehicles with *non-resident* status may not be out of state overnight.

Examples:

- a.) You are registered to vote in another state, then the automobiles registered in your name in New Castle must have a status of *non-resident*.
- b.) You declared a homestead in Florida, which establishes your domicile in Florida and you are, therefore, not a resident (domiciled in) New Hampshire. You would vote in Florida and cars registered in New Hampshire must have a *non-residence* status.

Priscilla Hodgkins  
Town Clerk/Tax Collector