



Moultonborough Town News

Fall 2021



NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

The Highway crew would ask all residents to please check your roadside mailboxes to help minimize the chance of mailbox damage by the wing plow and the winter plowing operation. This can be done by checking that the mailbox is at least 42" above the roadway surface when the mailbox door is open, and that the mailbox support be three feet off the edge of the pavement or traveled surface. These guidelines can be found under the Public

Works web page on the Town's website by clicking on Department & Boards, then clicking on Public Works, under additional links, click on Suggestions for Placement of Roadside Mailboxes. The department also has a web based "Service Request Form." This form assists the various divisions in responding more efficiently to service requests made by the residents.

We would like to thank our "Adopt-a-Spot" gardeners, for their beautiful flower beds at our facilities and Town line borders. We would also like to thank our "Adopt-a-Facility" participants for their adoption of the mowing and trimming efforts at our public buildings. If you have any concerns, questions or complaints, please feel free to contact the DPW office at 1-603-253-7445, via e-mail at dpw@moultonboroughnh.gov, or by stopping by the Highway Garage located at 68 Highway Garage Road.

NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

I would like to begin my first newsletter submission as your elected Town Clerk by sharing my deep and sincere gratitude for you, the voters, who turned out to show me your support on election day or by absentee ballot. It is an honor to serve my hometown and I look forward to working for you every day. I would also like to say an enormous THANK YOU to Barbara Wakefield, the former Moultonborough Town Clerk who retired last December after 36 years. She has shared her knowledge and expertise with me over the past five years and we miss her in our office every day! If there's anything I can do to better serve you, please reach out directly to me and I will do what I can to help.

Renew early to avoid lines! Did you know that you can renew your road vehicle registrations up to three months early? During the month of November, we can do renewals for any vehicles that are due on or before February 28th. Dog licenses, which are due April 30th of every year, can be renewed starting in January, and boats can be renewed for the 2022 season any time now! Give us a call, an email, or a visit to find out which documents we'll need for your specific transaction. I look forward to seeing you very soon! *Julia Marchand, Moultonborough Town Clerk*

MOULTONBOROUGH RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

As fall turns to winter the Moultonborough Recreation Department continues to work on offering a wide variety of activities, events and programs for residents and visitors of all ages. We welcomed our new Recreation & Leisure Coordinator, Dan Lamoureux in July. If you see him around Town, give him a warm welcome. The Adult Pickleball program has moved inside at the Meredith Community Center and is being run in conjunction with the Meredith Parks & Recreation Department. Check out our Community Holiday Decorating Challenge which is currently running through this Holiday season for businesses and residences. At the time of this writing, we are planning to offer a youth skating program as well as our annual community skating and sledding events. We will be continuing our most popular indoor programs/bus trips and offering some new and exciting ones all while maintaining a level of safety due to the everchanging Covid-19 Pandemic. Be sure to check us out on the Town's website for updates by clicking on the Recreation Department tab under Department's and Boards. You can also find us on Facebook.

MOULTONBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

The Library is now open Monday through Saturday at 9:00am! The **new hours** are Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9:00am – 7:00pm, and Saturday 9:00am – 1:00pm. We are still offering porch pickup during open hours for those who reserve books and want to pick them up in our lobby area.

General Library News: The Library has been updating its online presence. We have a new website design and are continuing to update it with new resources. We switched our library system to Koha, an open-source platform that is more flexible and responsive to making updates and changes. We have launched the final phase of the patron online catalog with many new features, including checking out online resources right from the catalog. Along with this change, we are issuing new library cards. If you have a 3- or 4-digit library card, please come to library and get a new library card. We are also requiring proof of residency and/or showing you are a taxpayer in Moultonborough. The other online change we have made is a new reservation system to book a meeting room, reserve a unique item from our Library of Things, reserve a Museum Pass or register on the online calendar for library events.

The Library offers **Hoopla**, a digital media service that allows Moultonborough Resident Cardholders to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, eBooks, comics and TV show on your computer, tablet, or phone -and even your TV! Titles can be streamed immediately or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later. There are hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, with more being added daily. There are no waiting times or holds and items automatically get checked in, so you don't have to worry about getting it back to the library on time. Patrons are allowed 4 downloads per month. Some months during the year, Hoopla allows "Bonus Borrows" and they don't count towards the monthly limit.

Adult Program News: We are offering some monthly programs for adults. They include:

- Culinary Adventures – the 1st Monday at 6:00pm. Every month we choose a recipe to cook at home and bring in to share based on a theme.
- Throwback Thursday – the 2nd Thursday at 6:00pm. Enjoy a "date night out" and have some pizza (donation of \$2/slice) and watch a classic (or at least older) movie. Free popcorn will also be available.
- Mystery Book Club – the 3rd Wednesday at 10:30am and 7:00pm. The morning will meet in person at the library and the evening group will meet via Zoom.
- We will also be co-sponsoring cultural programs with the Historical Society.
- All programs require registration so we can plan accordingly. Also, we will have your contact information to get in touch if plans change.

Children's Room News: There were 86 kids who participated in the online Summer Reading Program this year and they read over 105,691 minutes! Great job for all those who participated. This year's theme was "Tails and Tales" and programs revolved around the theme, including having a petting zoo at the library. The Friends of the Library supported this program and donated money to purchase library decorations, prizes for both adults and kids and they also paid for all the summer programs. Here are some of the kids and teen programs:

- Story Times are held on Tuesdays at 6:00pm and Fridays at 10:30am. The Tuesday night PJ Story Time will be held in person and will be on Facebook Live. The Friday Story Time requires registration on the library's online calendar.
- Lego Club – this meets the 3rd Wednesday at 3:00pm. All ages are welcome, and no registration is required.
- Tween & Teen Crafting Program – this program is for grades 6-12. The first time this group meets is December 16 at 3:00pm. They will be making a stained-glass picture. Registration is required.
- Dungeons & Dragons – this group meets every Friday at 3:00pm. This is facilitated by a master player.

Families are welcome to join us for our **Merry & Bright Holiday Program on Friday, December 10** starting at 5:30. There will be crafts, cookie decorating, games and Santa. The library grounds will also be lit up with Holiday cheer! Families will register for a 45-minute timeslot so we can do this safely and be health conscious. Registration required; no walk-ins will be allowed. To keep up to date on all that is going on at the library, please check the library's website (<http://www.moultonboroughlibrary.org>), sign up for our email updates and eNewsletter and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



SANTA FUND NEWS

Every year, the Santa Fund provides boots, jackets, requested clothing, toys, and books for children up to the age of 16. The Santa Fund was started over 25 years ago by the Moultonborough Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary and now the Santa Fund Committee has taken up the responsibility of helping to brighten the holidays for families in Moultonborough. The Committee is made up of library staff volunteers and other dedicated town residents.

This program is made possible through monetary donations held in a trust by the Moultonborough Trustees of the Trust Funds. Donations can be made any time during the year, and checks should be made payable to the "Santa Fund". Checks can be mailed or dropped off to the library. Look for more details on how you can help this year, by checking the library website (www.moultonboroughlibrary.org). The Santa Fund would like to thank everyone who has helped in the past for helping make the holidays special for the children of Moultonborough.

MOULTONBOROUGH MILFOIL COMMITTEE NEWS

The goal of the Moultonborough Milfoil Committee (MMC) is to bring the infestation of milfoil under control in all recreational waters (both lakes and streams) within the borders of the Town. A committee of volunteers, a team of Weed Watcher volunteers and a team of Lake Hosts work together to manage this task. Thank you to all our volunteers. We value your help and have made huge progress.

This summer 10.9 acres were treated, and the Dash Dive Team spent 20 days pulling milfoil on Lake Winnepesaukee and Lee's Pond. (Compare this to our 2011 totals of 174 acres treated and over 100 days of diving!) A weed identification training occurred on Lee's Pond with eight residents attending.

The committee partners with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Protection and the New Hampshire Lake Association in our efforts to manage invasive plants and animals. Since eradication is all but impossible, the effort will be continuous and rely on volunteers to perform necessary jobs each season. We need you to volunteer to help our efforts. Please contact lakehosttracy@gmail.com or mbweedwatchers@gmail.com or simply call the Town Hall at 1-603-476-2347 and tell the receptionist you'd like to volunteer to help control the spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants. Thank you for your support!

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

It has been another busy year in the Assessor's office. A good portion of my first year as the Town's Assessor, was spent with the Assessing Technician position vacant. However, by the time this Newsletter is received, I expect to have the Assessing Technician position filled. Despite the vacancy, with some help from the Tax Collector's office and Whitney Consulting Group (WCG), our contract assessor, we were able to successfully complete all of our scheduled tasks. These included the 2021 valuation update and filing the Summary Inventory of Valuation (MS-1) with the Department of Revenue Administration.

The results of the 2021 valuation update indicate a 10.2% average increase in Town-wide values. The update was based on 316 qualified sales from a date range of April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2021. WCG also continues to work on its third year of cyclical inspection work and projects to have completed site visits to a total of 60% of the Town's parcel, by the year's end.

In the remainder of 2021, we plan to continue the cyclical revaluation, with WCG visiting another 20% of the Town's parcels. These visits will include measuring all the buildings to ensure dimensions and data are correct. They will attempt to gain interior access to ensure the data (bedroom, bathroom count, heat etc.) is accurate. We plan to update values again in 2022 to keep up with the current market values as of April 1.

You can download many different forms and applications from the town's website. Tax maps and property record cards are posted on the Town's website; Tax & GIS Maps; Documents & Links, Property Card. Property deeds can also be found on-line at the Carroll County Registry of Deeds (www.nhdeeds.org/carroll-county-search/).

My mission, as Town Assessor is to provide an economical, accurate and effective property tax assessment system that will ensure no single property owner or owners, of any types of property, are paying more than their fair share of the tax burden. I plan to continue assessing properties equitably and fairly, within your neighborhood, throughout the town and in accordance with the laws of New Hampshire. I look forward to continuing to serve the community in an open and transparent manner.

FIRE SAFETY TIPS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The easiest fire for your Fire Department to handle is the fire that never happens. Here are some helpful fall and winter Fire Safety Tips.



- Service oil and propane heating systems.
- Fireplaces and Woodstoves: Burn only seasoned wood, have chimney cleaned and inspected each year prior to use, open flue before starting fire, use spark screens, keep combustible materials (wood, newspapers, clothing etc.) away from unit.
- Install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, change batteries if you already have detectors. Never use gas grills or generators inside the house or garage, generator should be at least 10 feet from the building.
- Keep access and egress paths to house shoveled and sanded.
- Never run your car in the garage to warm it up, pull vehicle outside and close garage door.
- Make sure your home or business is properly numbered, we can't help you if we can't find you.
- Portable space heaters use only UL or ETL list appliances, leave 3 feet of clearance around heater, use only when in the room, never leave unattended or with children in the room, never use to dry clothing or blankets.
- Be prepared if the power goes out, stock up on batteries, flashlights, portable radios, canned foods, manual can openers, bottled water and blankets. Be prepared to leave if you need to, keep a "go bag" ready with essential items you will need if you have to leave your home.
- Use flashlights instead of candles to avoid fire hazards.
- If you have no heat and the temperature is below freezing, run water at a trickle to help prevent pipes from freezing and breaking.

WINTER DRIVING SAFETY TIPS

1. Keep your vehicle in good working condition, your battery charged, your gas tank full, or never below 1/2 a tank.
2. Make sure your tires are in good condition and that they are an all season or snow tread design.
3. Call ahead or check the TV, Radio or Web to make sure the event is still going on or the place of business is open. If you don't have to travel in bad weather, cancel your travel plans and stay at home.
4. Make sure your vehicle is clear of snow and ice.
5. Allow extra time. Conditions may slow you down.
6. Keep additional distance between vehicles.
7. Reduce your speed, drive defensively and don't drink and drive.

"ARRIVE ALIVE"



REMAINING 2021 HOLIDAYS FOR TOWN HALL OFFICES



Thanksgiving Day
Day after Thanksgiving
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
New Years Eve

Thursday, November 25th
Friday, November 26th
Friday, December 24th (Transfer Station Open)
Saturday, December 25th
Friday, December 31st (Transfer Station Open)

