



Moultonborough Town News

Summer 2015



ASSESSOR NEWS

We are in the fourth year of our program to measure the exterior improvements of properties and list the interior features (number of rooms, bedrooms, baths, flooring, type of heat, basement finish, etc.). This year, most of the properties inspected were on the eastern side of Moultonboro Neck. Vision personnel have also inspected properties that sold within the last year or had a building permit. If your property is included in this list, and they were not able to inspect the interior, you will receive a letter this summer requesting that you call to schedule an inspection. These interior inspections will be scheduled in late June and early July when more property owners are in town. Please help us to keep fair and equitable assessments by calling us for an inspection. Without accurate information on the physical attributes of the property, we cannot accurately assess all properties.

Vision will be completing a statistical update of values again this year. The update process involves analyzing the recent qualified sales and comparing the sales price to the assessed value. The results of this analysis are used to adjust the land and building values of all other properties in town.

This year we are making changes in the way we assess utility properties. In the past, we relied on the values obtained from the N.H. Department of Revenue (DRA). Unfortunately, for the past few years, the DRA has been slow in releasing these values which led to delays in receiving our tax rate. More cities and towns are moving away from this method of valuation because it is based on an allocation of the entirety and is not entirely accurate. By hiring a qualified utility appraiser, we will get more accurate values and inventory of the utilities in Moultonborough. The company is contracted to provide these by September 1st each year. In 2015, a full appraisal of utility values will be completed, and for the following four years, they will update those values, similar to the way Vision Government Solutions values the residential and commercial properties in town.

Last year we were able to offer taxpayers and others a complete copy of the property record card (tax card) on-line. While we ran into a few glitches with this system, overall it has worked out very well. To view the property record cards, go to our website, www.moultonboroughnh.gov. Click on Tax and GIS Maps, then query by name, address, or map and lot number to find the correct parcel, then click on Vision property card. If you have a problem viewing the property record card, it is most likely because your browser is not set to allow pop-ups. By clicking the help screen, then FAQ's, you will find information on how to allow pop-ups on your browser. Feel free to call us, and we can assist you to access our website. As always, we are available to answer any questions you may have regarding your property assessment.



STATES LANDING UPDATE - CLEAN UP GREEN UP

The Third Annual States Landing **Clean-Up Green Up Day** will be held on Saturday May 30th beginning at 9:00am at States Landing. This year we'll be organizing our day a little differently as we will start with a presentation to review the plans for the park area; hear input from those in attendance and discuss the phasing of the projects. Then we'll get to work which will include prep work on specific designated areas for the next phase of work as well as a general spruce up of the beach and area. All workers are welcome and encouraged to bring work gloves, garden and lawn rakes, hedge clippers, loppers etc. and a folding chair for use during presentations.

As usual we'll work until about 11:30 am when we'll stop for our cookout lunch – burgers, dogs, chips, cookies, soda, water etc. We are hoping to again have some of our esteemed members of the Board of Selectmen on hand to handle cookout duties. During lunch we'll have a report on the Moultonborough Bay Inlet Study, which impacts States Landing.

UPCOMING 2015 HOLIDAYS

All non-essential Town Offices (including The Transfer Station) will be CLOSED:

Independence Day: Fri., July 3rd

Labor Day: Mon., Sept. 7th

Columbus Day: Mon., Oct. 12th

Veteran's Day: Wed., Nov. 11th

Thanksgiving Day: Thurs., Nov. 26th

Day After Thanksgiving: Fri., Nov. 27th

Day Before Christmas: Thur., Dec. 24th

Christmas Day: Fri., Dec. 25th

Need to Contact Us: Phone: (603) 476-2347 Fax: (603) 476-5835

www.moultonboroughnh.gov

PUBLIC WORKS NEWS

Town-wide tree cutting: As part of the Highway Department's road maintenance program, it becomes necessary to cut roadside overgrowth from trees and bushes. This cutting allows for the Town's right of way to be open/clear of obstruction and furthermore allowing the sunshine to reach the road surface, and prevents the tree limbs and side growth brush from obstructing the roadway's clear zone. The cutting operation will consist of the removal of road side brush, saplings and overhanging that hang within the right of way. The area which will receive cutting will be within the Town's right of way which is usually 33' to 50' in width, and is measured from the center of the roadway (ex: 25' from center, 16'.6" from



center) or from stonewall to stonewall, and a height of approximately 14'. Please note that limbs within the 14' height area will be cut back to the limbs base, located at the tree's trunk. This practice has been recommended by a local arbor, who advises that this practice will allow the tree to have a greater opportunity to heal, verses cutting the limb away from the trunk, which will cause the limb to die. We are expecting to conduct cutting on many Town roads sometime during the spring, summer and fall months, weather permitting. In preparation we will be flagging the trees slated for cutting, with this we would ask that if you should have a concern regarding the cutting of trees/limbs adjacent to your property please contact the Public Works Office so we can review your concerns and our anticipated cutting plan(s).

Private Road Winter Maintenance Struggles: After a long winter season, with snow totals exceeding 100" of snow, the Town's Public Works Department and its Winter Maintenance Contractors responded to over 30 weather events during the season, which were followed up with pushing back of snow banks in attempts to keep open the 177 miles of Private Road. In review of these private roadways approximately 80% of these roads do not meet the Board of Selectmen's Policy No. 2 "Recommended Minimum for Private Road", which makes the snow removal process a risky business for the contractors and the public works crew. The risks



being injuries to the equipment operators, and or costly damages to the equipment, this being from the travel surfaces not being clear of obstructions, pot holes, rocks, stumps, and trees. The Fire Chief David Bengtson and I would like to ask all property owners on private roads to take the time to review your roadway to see if it has any of the above mentioned obstructions. The ideal recommendations for private roads as written by the Board of Selectmen is a 16' travel surface, with 5' of clear zones on each side free from obstructions. These recommendations were created by the Board of Selectmen to assist the Public Works Department in snow removal, and more importantly provide a roadway for which emergency services can access your property year round. Just imagine a road with only a 12' wide travel surface winding through woods with obstructions along the travel surface edge. Now add 60-100" of snow! Note after 24-36" of snow the travel surface is narrowed by 1-2' on either side depending on the travel edges terrain or obstructions. This now changes the travel surface width of clear travel to approximately 8' (96"). Keep in mind a fire truck is approximately 102" (8'6"). So in order to keep the 12' wide travel surface clear it is critically important that the roadway edges (sides) be kept clear of obstructions so that the snow can be cleared from the surface completely. These clear zones (5') are then available to push the snow from the travel surface. With the snow pushed from the travel surface the melting and thawing process will help keep the travel surface clear of icing and water puddling which can then saturate the gravel surfaces making them muddy in the spring time. As you review your private roadways this spring and you see tree blemishes caused by the plow this past winter, that would be a clear indicator that those trees should be removed as they are serious impedences to the snow removal & emergency equipment to negotiate your road.

ONE CHECK FOR MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS



On April 1, 2015 the Town Clerks Office began requiring only one check for Motor Vehicle registrations. Prior to April you would have to make 1- check out to the Town and 1- check out to the State. Now the state and town fees are added together and you make out one check to the Town of Moultonborough. This will be especially helpful for the boat registrations which are now being registered in the Town Clerks office as well. When you register your boat in Moultonborough the town retains the fee. If you mail it to the state, the state keeps their fee as well as the town's fee. If you are interested in registering your boat please look online at www.moultonborough.nh.gov for more information or call the Town Clerks Office at 603-476-2347.

UPDATE ON TOWN'S CLEAN WATER GRANT: PHASE 1 OF THE MOULTONBOROUGH BAY INLET WATERSHED RESTORATION PLAN PROJECT



The Town was awarded a Section 319, Clean Water grant from the NH DES last year to begin development and implementation of a restoration plan in order to address water quality impairments in Moultonborough Bay Inlet. Our project manager, the Lake Winnepesaukee Association (LWA) through its Executive Director, Pat Tarpey has been very busy with the 'Moultonborough Bay Inlet Watershed Restoration Plan Development and Implementation: Phase 1' (MBI WRP) project following the kickoff meeting held last October 27, 2014 at the Moultonborough Public Library.

The kickoff meeting provided an opportunity for the LWA (project manager) and FB Environmental Associates (environmental consultant) to present an overview of watershed planning and to outline the steps that would be involved in the development of the MBI WRP. In March, local stakeholders representing a broad range of interests met to form the MBI WRP Advisory Committee, whose role is to provide input as well as review and comment on key draft deliverables and outputs for the project. If residents have questions on the project or the role of the Advisory Committee or would like more information on how to participate, please call or email Town Planner, Bruce W. Woodruff at 603-476-2347 or bwoodruff@moultonboroughnh.gov

One of the first tasks to be performed is an inventory of the watershed and identification of potential pollution sites, which both the Advisory Committee and environmental consultant will be working on this spring. A significant source of pollutant is assumed to be associated with stormwater runoff, therefore addressing stormwater runoff will be a priority component of the watershed restoration plan. Measures or actions to address pollutants generally involve a combination of education and outreach, best management practices, municipal ordinances, and monitoring and assessment.

As there are miles of gravel roads in the project area which may erode and washout, potentially contributing tons of sediment and nutrients to nearby streams and lakes, the Lake Winnepesaukee Association, Moultonborough DPW and Conservation Commission will be hosting a **Gravel Roads Workshop** on July 11th to provide individuals and road associations with information on proper road construction techniques and the basic principles behind maintaining gravel/dirt roads that will provide excellent year-round service and present minimal non-point source pollution problems.

Participants will take home many do-it-yourself ideas that can be applied to their roads immediately. Madison resident and gravel road guru, Russ Lanoie has been presenting road maintenance workshops sponsored by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, and local town governments for the past several years. This is a practical workshop based on Lanoie's gravel road maintenance manual, '*A Ditch in Time*', which will be available for purchase at the workshop. A sample of the manual is available on his website: www.ruralhometech.com. It is targeted at camp operators, road associations, and private land owners who maintain long, unpaved driveways, and more generally, to those who contract for dirt road maintenance.

The Gravel Road/Camp Road Maintenance workshop will be presented from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 11th at Balmoral Improvement Association's Club House on Paradise Drive in Moultonborough. The workshop is free and open to the public; however, pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, please contact Pat Tarpey, Lake Winnepesaukee Association, at 603-581-6632 or email mail@winnepesaukee.org.

WHEN YOU NEED AN AMBULANCE, THE POLICE OR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, HELP US FIND YOU IN AN EMERGENCY

4570

By Town Ordinance all residential and commercial building are required to display their E-911 address number. All numbers shall be affixed, either vertically or horizontally, to a post or other existing fixture, tree or mailbox, but not to a utility pole. All numbers must be affixed within a height 4-6 feet above the level of the street. All numbers shall be placed to be visible and legible from both directions of travel along the street. The numbers should be posted within an area from 3 to 11 feet from either side of the driveway and from 6 to 10 feet away from the right of way line of the street.

Where a residential or commercial building is less than 50-feet from the edge of the right-of-way, the number(s) may be placed on the building in an unobstructed location, easily visible from the roadway. The number(s) must be placed to be visible from both directions of travel along the street. All citizens are responsible to keep their numbers to be conspicuously visible year round. Numbers shall be displayed in Arabic form (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9). Numbers shall be black on a white background or white on a black background, reflective and a minimum of four (4) inches high. Island properties shall display their assigned number as listed above so they are conspicuously visible and legible from the water at all times.

LIBRARY NEWS



After a very long, snowy winter and cold spring, we are looking forward to a great summer. We have a wide variety of terrific programs planned for the next few months. Thanks to a very generous grant from Meredith Village Savings Bank, we have purchased 2 **Kindles**, 2 **iPads** and 2 **Galaxy Tablets**. Staff member AnneMarie Welch will be conducting classes on learning how to use these devices. She will also be teaching technology classes on how to use **smart phones** and **social media**, and discovering **new apps**. In June we will have a three part **Civil War Lecture Series** with scholar and former National Park Service Ranger Mike McKinley. June 2: **Three Days at Gettysburg**; June 9: **Andersonville: 26 Acres of Hell**; June 16: **A Misery Upon the Land, the Murder of Abraham Lincoln and the Final Days of the Civil War**. Award-winning author **Sue Miller** will be here discussing her latest book, *The Arsonist* (set in NH), on June 5th, co-sponsored by Bayswater Book Co. **Brendan Smith**, author of *The Flatlander Chronicles* and *Weirs Times* editor and columnist, will share some amusing stories on June 11. **Diane Johnson** of **Soft Touch Farm** will be teaching another fun workshop on “**How to Make Wool Buddies**” (needle-felting) on June 17. The Friends of the Library will be offering a **Literary Field Trip** to the **Wadsworth-Longfellow House** in Portland, Me. on June 10th. The Friends are also sponsoring two book discussions this summer. The first is *50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple's Extraordinary Mission into the Heart of Nazi Germany* by Steven Pressman on June 25th. The second book discussion is *Empire Falls* by Richard Russo on July 23.

Why did **Benedict Arnold** turn traitor to his country? Find out on July 1 when George Morrison will take you on a journey through New England, Canada and New York tracing the complex story of this infamous American icon (a NH Humanities presentation). July 4 & 5 brings our huge **Book Sale** with thousands of books for sale at great prices. **Fred Marple** will entertain us with his humorous stories and a wicked Elmer Fudd imitation on July 8. Fred is also known as humorist and songwriter **Ken Sheldon** whose humor column "Only in New England" appears in every issue of *Yankee Magazine*. On July 17th, **Chef Liz Barbour** of Creative Feast returns with another terrific cooking program, **Feasting with Flavor: Spices**. Join us and learn about some of the health benefits of spices and how to combine them to enhance the flavor of any recipe. Our display case will be filled with treasures from the **Loon Center** in June, and in July local glass artist **Dawne Litterst** will be exhibiting her fabulous artwork.

Thanks to everyone for all your wonderful support of these programs!



CHILDREN'S ROOM NEWS

Our **Summer Reading Program** theme is “**Heroes**”, and our schedule is full of fun! We'll be visited by wild animals, a theatre troupe, a singer and storyteller. We will have craft projects, Lego building, rock painting, hero training, a Frozen sing-a-long, lots of book reading and special guest readers. They are everyday heroes from our community.



RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Please check out the Moultonborough Recreation Department's summer brochure to find our full schedule of events, activities, classes, trips, camps, and programs for all ages – toddlers through senior citizens. It is on line on the town's website – www.moultonboroughnh.gov – go to the Recreation Department and click on Summer 2015 and then Summer Brochure 2015. The brochure will also be available in hard copy at the Recreation Dept., Town Hall, Library and various other places around town. Be sure to check out our concert series at the gazebo at the Lion's Club and some great adult trips that we have planned as well as our other programs.

ONLINE REAL ESTATE TAX INFORMATION AND PAPERLESS BILLING



Did you know you can now view and pay your property taxes online? You can obtain a copy of a tax bill, access up-to-date balance and payment information, as well as make payments twenty-four hours a day. On the Town's website just click the house icon under Online Services and follow the prompts or go directly to www.nhtaxkiosk.com.

We also offer paperless billing. You can opt-in for paperless billing at the time of making your online tax payment or, if you do not wish to pay online but want to opt-in for paperless billing, please email us at taxcollector@moultonboroughnh.gov and we can enter the information to your account once you have signed an authorization.