

## TAXES

Please submit your tax payment on or before July 10, 2023.

You can mail your payment to Tax Collector, 7 School Street #101, Bennington, NH 03442

Or pay on line at [www.eb2gov.com](http://www.eb2gov.com)

Catherine McGillicuddy is the Tax Collector.

You can reach Cathy at 603-588-2189 Monday through Thursday, 9am – 4 pm.

# TOWN OF BENNINGTON NEWSLETTER

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### IT'S THE LAW, FIRE PERMITS ARE REQUIRED!

- Burning of category II and III Fires is allowed between 5:00PM and 9:00AM, unless it is actively raining.
- Landowner permission is required in writing to obtain a legal permit.
- Category I fires must be at 25 feet from structures or other hazards.
- Category II and III fires must be at 50 feet from structures or other hazards.
- You must obtain a seasonal permit for your fire pit or cooking fire annually.
- Brush piles require their own permit (you cannot use your seasonal permit), the permitted shall have sufficient water, tools and personnel necessary to control and completely extinguish the fire.
- Permissible materials are clean, untreated wood and brush 5 inches in diameter or less.
- **NO** domestic waste, treated wood or composite materials may be burned.
- RSA -125N defines “combustible domestic waste” as, but not limited to, household trash, packaging materials, plastics, coated or laminated papers, rubber, painted or treated wood, coated or treated cardboard, oily rags and animal, vegetable, and kitchen waste.
- A complete copy of the laws and regulations can be found online and in person at the fire department.
- Are you looking for a way to give back to your community, join the Fire Department. We are always looking for volunteers on either Fire and/or Emergency Management.



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**GEP DODGE LIBRARY**

2 Main Street ~ 7 School Street, Unit 204  
Bennington, NH 03442  
603-588-6585

[www.dodgellibrary.com](http://www.dodgellibrary.com) for up-to-date news & information

Library catalog: [dodgellibrary.biblionix.com](http://dodgellibrary.biblionix.com)

email: [dodgellibrary1@comcast.net](mailto:dodgellibrary1@comcast.net) and [dodgellibrary2@comcast.net](mailto:dodgellibrary2@comcast.net)

LIBRARY HOURS: Monday and Tuesday-9-5,  
Thursday 12-7, Friday 8-4, and Sunday 4-6

‘Like us’ on *Facebook* and *Instagram* for daily library news and photos

**SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2023:**

***Monday, June 26 through Friday, July 28***  
***‘ALL TOGETHER NOW’***



5 weeks of story times, crafts, programs, activities, games, quizzes, contests, field trips & workshops!  
All ages are encouraged to participate!

**REGISTRATION BEGINS ON:**

Monday, June 12 at the Library

Check the library’s website for updates and the summer reading program calendar of events!



**STEVE BLUNT!**

Summer Reading Program kick-off concert for Pierce School students!  
Pierce School~June 13



**READ AND HIKE IN THE BRUCE EDES FOREST & READ!**  
**ONE-DOG CANOE BY MARY CASANOVA,**  
**ILLUSTRATED BY ARD HOYT**



Follow the railroad tracks to the Bruce Edes' Forest. Then follow the red trail to the yellow trail and back out to the railroad tracks



**RHUBARB FESTIVAL ~ JUNE 2-4**

Stop by the **GEP Dodge's Friends of the Library** table buy **Books & Baked Treats!**

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**Mid-Summer's Eve Festival ~ June 23**

Stop by the **GEP Dodge's Friends of the Library** table for some yummy Strawberry Shortcake, Iced Tea & Lemonade!



**FREE Services Available at the Library**

Visit our website & online catalog:

[www.dodgelaibrary.com](http://www.dodgelaibrary.com) ~ [dodgelaibrary.bibliionix.com](http://dodgelaibrary.bibliionix.com)

Inter-library loan from ALL NH Libraries

Online access to reference sites that include:

EBSCOhost Databases-Medical, genealogical - Ancestry & Heritage

Student resources-Explora & Explora K-8, Novelist and Novelist K-8

**In House**

For all age groups, we have Audio Books on CD, Movies on DVD & Blu-ray, periodicals AND of course --- BOOKS!

We have 24/7 Wi-Fi, Public access computers, a FAX machine, Color & Black & White photocopier



### 'LIBBY'

#### **NHDownloadable Books Consortium**

**FREE !** Audio books, E-books & Periodicals for adults & children! To use this app, all you need is a library card!



### **TUMBLEBOOKS!**

**FREE!** online/APP a database of picture books, youth chapter books, math picture books, math chapter books, games, puzzles & foreign language instruction!

### **TRANSFER STATION**

Hello from the transfer station! Did you know that only rechargeable batteries are recyclable? Your regular non-rechargeable batteries go into the trash only **AFTER** their ends have been taped over and placed into a plastic baggie.

Please plan your trip to the dump allowing for plenty of time. We thank you for your consideration.

The Transfer Station is for resident use only. Hours are Wednesday 1:00 PM – 5:30 PM; Saturday 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM; Sunday 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM.

Hazardous Household Waste was successful for Bennington. Though only 8 families participated, however there was a significant amount of hazardous waste was disposed of.

If you would be interested in volunteering at the Transfer Station, see Tom James at the Transfer Station or contact the Town Office. It is a great way to learn about the importance of the transfer station and the impact you can make on the environment.

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Your Conservation Commission wants to thank all the town residents who turned out on Earth Day to help clean the roadsides. It was also wonderful that we were able to reinstate our Earth Day breakfast at the Depot. The breakfast was made possible by the generous support of The Monadnock Paper Mills and The Common Place Eatery, and the work of your conservation commissioners who are always thinking of ways to make Bennington better.

The Earth Day Sign Competition was won by Clara Regis this year. You can see her signs around town encouraging keeping the earth and our river green and blue. Nice work Clara and all the town's children who submitted designs.

With warm weather here and everyone out taking walks along our roads and trails, should you want to pick up litter at any time you can get the BLUE TRASH BAGS at Town Hall or Bennington Garage. Bennington is our town and will always look better with everyone's help to keep it clean.

## **RECREATION**

June 2, 3 & 4 – Bennington NH Rhubarb Festival –A weekend filled with rhubarb themed food and fun. There will be fun festivities that include a local band, creatively delicious rhubarb foods like pie, jam, wine and more. A children's tent, crafts, and more. The winners of the rhubarb pie contest will be presented at the festival and then publicly disclosed on Facebook and our Website.

Tuesday's this year will be alternating a Croquet Club and a 4-H Fun Family Fun Night from 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm at Sawyer Field. If Croquet is something you enjoy, stop in and sign up for the Club. Bring your friends or family and enjoy the time.

Calling all Bennington residents! Join us as a volunteer for the Recreation Committee, where your efforts will make a world of difference! Be a part of the community experience while helping to continue and expand our cherished town events. Invite your friends, and loved ones to join the committee as well. Together we can all create unforgettable memories for the town of Bennington. Events would not be possible without our incredible Bennington volunteers. Recreation Committee needs you.

## **TOWN CLERK**

**Hours open to the public:** Thursday 4:30 PM to 8:30 PM; Friday 9:00 AM – Noon; Saturday 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The purpose of the Town Clerk and her assistant is not to only register cars, but also boats, dogs, and OHRVs (Off Highway Recreational Vehicles). They issue marriage and death certificates and hunting and fishing licenses, and provide an annual rabies clinic in April.

**A reminder that dogs were due to be registered in April. Civil forfeitures (fines) will begin in June!**

## **SELECTMEN**

Selectmen have adjusted their schedule. They now meet on Monday evenings, appointments are required. During the summer hours the Selectmen meet bi-weekly on Monday at 6:00 PM. Please call the office at 603-588-2189 to make an appointment if you need to meet with the Board of Selectmen.

The lift is nearly complete and the Selectmen are excited to be able to allow more usage of the gym area of the Town Hall space. Selectmen are anticipating using that space for the 2024 Town Meeting.

The cupola is also scheduled to be repaired this summer.

The Selectmen have hired a lifeguard for this summer at Whittemore Beach. His name is Gregory LeBlanc and he will be at the beach approximately 30 hours/week. Gregory is a certified lifeguard and is excited to be part of the Town of Bennington staff. When you see him, welcome him to the Town of Bennington.

## **HIGHWAY**

This summer the Bennington Highway Department will be putting a new top coat on Curtis Farm Road to Pine Meadows, Dodge Hill and Larkin Road, and also the Birches of Bennington.

Replacement of a 4' culvert pipe by the Newhall Ball Field is scheduled. Spring cleanup of runoffs and ditches allowing for water to freely exit the roadway has begun. We have cleaned up the beaches and town properties, set up flags for the kick off for summertime.

If you have any concerns or see anything that needs addressing, please call the Bennington Highway Garage at 603-588-2660 and leave a message.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

So far this year, the Bennington Police Department has remained very busy, with several large emergency incidents that took place in Town and calls for service on the rise. This has been challenging, as we have also had several staffing issues to contend with. In December of 2022, Corporal Lester Milton retired from policework after serving the Town of Bennington for over 20 years. Thank you for everything, Lester! This year, another of our Officers, Officer David Bell, was severely injured after responding to a Domestic Violence call while working for the Town of Peterborough, where he is a full-time Officer. He is expected to be out for a minimum of 6 months. The Bennington PD has remained in contact with he and his family to provide support during this time.

The Bennington Police Department has been actively recruiting to fill 3 part-time vacancies. This has not been an easy task. Currently there are approximately 300 open full-time law enforcement positions in the State of New Hampshire and very few applicants to fill those positions. The New Hampshire Police Standards and Training Council is also looking into eliminating the part-time Police Academy due to low enrollment which, if eliminated, would mean any new applicant who is not already certified would have to go to the full-time Police Academy.

The Bennington Police Department is currently in the process of testing new applicants to fill our open part-time positions. Recruitment of new Officers and retention of our current Officers remain one of our top priorities.

The Officers of the Bennington Police Department would like to thank the Townspeople for their continued support.

### **WATER/SEWER CUSTOMERS**

Many properties have already had the new digital meters installed. This project has been funded with an ARPA grant and is no cost to tax payers. These meters will be more efficient and providing users with very accurate reads for water usage.

### **BENNINGTON ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY TEAM (BEST)**

The Town has assembled the Bennington Energy Sustainability Team (BEST) to consider the option of creating a Community Power program for Bennington. Community Power has been adopted by several towns in the Monadnock region and has the potential to provide considerable savings on the electric bills of residents who choose to participate. The goal of the team is to have a plan in place for the warrant at the next town meeting in March 2024. The team is in the early stages of planning and will endeavor to keep the community residents informed during the planning process and hold public meetings prior to placing an article on the town meeting warrant.

### **MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION**

There are three Notaries of Public at the Bennington Town Offices; their services are available free of charge.

