

Town of Warner

NEWS FROM THE TOWN

Summer 2009

Selectmen's Office
(603)456-2298 ext. 2
selectboard@warner.nh.us

Monday - Wednesday - Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tuesday 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
www.warner.nh.us

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Town Administrator
(603)456-2298 ext. 1
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Administrator's Page

The summer is winding down and our largest project of the summer, Connors Mill Bridge, is completed and opened. We have been fortunate this year to have work crews from Merrimack County Corrections assist with field cleanup, road sweeping and building a storage area at the Highway Department. Utilizing these programs (bridge aide and work crews), saves Warner taxpayers money and enables us to do more projects with the money we do have.

We continue to strive to improve communication with residents and have joined forces with the Library to keep an updated calendar of events which you will read about in this newsletter. We're also using Twitter to send out information to followers about board and committee meetings. This will also be used in the event of an emergency as another (free) form of communication so that we can get information to residents as we receive it. This avenue was used successfully during the ice storm by other entities and individuals to keep in contact and relay information. Our Twitter account name is WarnerNH03278 if you're interested in following us.

We're in the beginning stages of the 2010 budget season and each department is working at pulling their budgets together. The Selectmen have been proactive after receiving the news of reduced revenues from the State as a result of their budget passage. In 2009 the Town will not receive \$35,000 in revenues which translates to an approximate 11 cent tax impact. The Selectmen have reviewed the 2009 budget and have identified areas that may be underspent, barring any emergencies, in order to make up the shortfall thus preventing a tax impact to the residents. As we move forward with the 2010 budget, please feel free to follow the progress by attending Selectmen and Budget Committee meetings.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is in need of alternate members. If you are interested in serving on this Committee, please call the Selectmen's Office at 456-2298 ext. 2.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Fall Foliage Festival and of course, at the various events scheduled to be held in our beautiful downtown. As always, please do not hesitate to stop in to visit with comments, questions or concerns. Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

From the Board of Selectmen

The Concord Regional Solid Waste Cooperative's proposed single stream recycling facility is on "hold" for the time being. The Co-op's Joint Board of Directors met on August 20, 2009, ostensibly to hold a critical "go/no go" vote. A "yes" vote would mean the Co-op would proceed with the construction of the single stream facility. A "no" vote would put the project on an indefinite hold. As it turned out, no vote was taken at all as to whether to build or not to build. Too many questions remain unresolved.

Warner's representative to the Co-op, Selectman David Hartman, was prepared to vote "no" if the question had been brought to the floor. The Board of Selectmen voted at its August 18th meeting to support such a vote. Especially worrisome is the fact that the tonnage that the Co-op has lined up to utilize the facility falls far short of what is expected to make the facility pay for itself. As of Co-op meeting night, only 18,662 tons of recyclables had been lined up. Planners for the facility claim that they need at least 30,000 tons per year to make a go of it. They would like to see many thousands of tons more.

A second and equally important issue is whether the current financial plan would be able to replenish the capital reserve fund of \$13,000,000 to be used to build the facility. This fund has been built up over the past 20 years of the Co-op's life in expectation that it would be drawn on to build a new landfill at some point in the future when our existing landfill in Franklin is used up. In fact, the planners are now counting on not paying back the fund in order to make the recycling fees be competitive with those of other recycling operations available to Co-op members. Even the Co-

op's consultant agrees with Warner's representative that this is a "foolhardy" proposition.

Where the Co-op's interest in single stream recycling goes from here is questionable. The *Concord Monitor* reported recently that the Concord City Council had the same reservations about the proposal as does Warner. Without Concord's endorsement, the future of the Co-op's single stream recycling facility is in jeopardy.

From the Odd Fellows Building Committee

The Warner Board of Selectmen and the Odd Fellows Building Committee recently accepted the final report from its consultant, T.F. Moran, on the feasibility of redeveloping the Odd Fellows Building. The study, funded by a \$12,000 grant from the Community Development Block Grant Program, evaluated alternative uses of the building, such as office, retail/commercial and residential, in terms of limitations and measures necessary to comply with Town and State building/fire codes. Parking requirements were also considered. The study recommended that residential use would be the most suitable use of a redeveloped Odd Fellows Building, with twelve, two-bedroom apartments intended for workforce housing. Also identified in the study were a set of funding sources that would be available for this type of project. The Town has sent out requests for letters of interest from private and non-profit developers, due the end of August, to move to the next step in the building's rehabilitation. The Committee is also working to line up local financing to cover portions of the mansard roof with roll roofing as a temporary fix to prevent further leaks. Copies of the Feasibility Study may be viewed at the Selectmen's Office or at the Pillsbury Free Library.

From the Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is continuing work to prepare a Conservation Plan for the town, assisted by its consultant, Margaret Watkins. Responses to the Warner Conservation Questionnaire have now been tallied. This survey sought to find out about community attitudes and priorities regarding conservation activities in Warner. A total of 154 residents of Warner answered the questionnaire, a response rate of about 11 percent. Next, the Commission plans to invite members of several local organizations having an interest in outdoor recreation to participate in a focus group discussion on recreational issues as they relate to land conservation. A draft Conservation Plan is expected to be available for comment in October, with a final plan document in November. When completed, the Conservation Plan will become an integral component of the updated Town Master Plan. Anyone interested in finding out more about the Conservation Plan may contact Nancy Martin or Jim McLaughlin.

From the Planning Board

A subject residents will hear a lot more about this year and next is the WORKFORCE HOUSING LAW that was enacted by the Legislature in (Senate Bill 342) Chapter 299, Laws of 2008. Here is a brief statement that is contained in the law as adopted: *"The state of New Hampshire is experiencing a shortage of housing that is affordable to working households. This housing shortage poses a threat to the state's economic growth, presents a barrier to the expansion of the state's labor force, undermines state efforts to foster a productive and self-reliant workforce, and adversely affects the ability of many communities to host new businesses."*

This new law goes into effect January 1, 2010. All municipalities shall conform to the law. For us, that means that the Planning Board is required to create and place before the voters all necessary changes for our Zoning Ordinance and place them on the ballot for the March 2010 Town Meeting.

The Planning Board must also bring its Subdivision and Site Review Regulations into compliance with the new law. More coming on these items soon.

Our Town Master Plan Update has moved into Phase 2 with ongoing work in numerous areas of concern, such as; roads & streets; conservation topics; workforce housing; and many other issues.

Since the town must comply with State of NH Building Code Statutes, we will again place a warrant article before the voters to bring us into compliance.

From Parks & Recreation

Fall Contra/Old Fashioned Barn Dances - 3rd Friday of the month at the Warner Town Hall ~ 7:30 - 10:00pm. Live music ~ all ages welcome. Sponsored by Warner Parks & Recreation with support of Warner Community groups. No experience - Instruction for all dances. The dates are:

September 18: Carolyn Parrot & Brad Dorsey Pickup (with help from Pillsbury Free Library)

October 16: Two Fiddles - Dudley & Jacqueline Laufman (looking for a community group to help setup)

November 20: Bradford Bog People with caller Lausanne Allen (with help from Warner Historical Society) \$7.00 adults; \$5.00 students & seniors (for more information or to help out call Faith Minton 456-3098)

From Pillsbury Free Library

The NH Telephone Museum in Warner recently donated a Library pass for the Museum. The pass covers

admission for two people, and two passes can be used per day. Library cardholders may borrow it, free. The Library has upgraded the public copier machine. The new one has a sheet feeder and can be set to make automatic double-sided copies. It has 25% to 400% zoom, and is also faster. Copies cost 10 cents. The report from an energy audit of the library building was recently completed. The Trustees will use the report to plan some energy-saving modifications in the coming year.

The Library's Summer Activities for all ages were well attended this year, with attendance at events ranging from 12 to 120! Our new activities for grades 5 to adult were well received and will be repeated next year. See photos in Warner's New Paper, Kearsarge Happenings paper, and the Kearsarge Happenings blog at <http://www.Kearconn.blogspot.com>. Many thanks to the local businesses that donated prizes.

Volunteers are needed to help with tween or teen activities during the school year: please contact the library. We will be participating in National Gaming @ the Library Day again, on Saturday, Nov. 14.

September brings Library Card Sign-up Month, a Dance (Sept. 18), and preparation for the Fall Foliage Festival Book and Bake Sale. Volunteers and donations needed! In Oct./November: Book Sale, Music program.

LOW VISION? We will be testing a new magnifier device this fall: come tell us what you think!

New Improved Online Warner Calendar of Events!

The Library, Selectmen's Office, Warner Connects, and Kearsarge Happenings (Warner Retailers) are collaborating on a calendar of local events and meetings that you can view online and print out in monthly, weekly or agenda format. If you have a personal Google calendar (available to anyone with a gmail or tds email account) or a device that uses iCal calendars, such as an iPhone or Blackberry, you can also copy selected events to your own calendar, ask for reminders to be sent, or send event details to other people.

A sample printout will be posted regularly on the new community bulletin board on the Town Hall lawn, but remember that new events are added frequently, so check the online version to be up to date. The calendar can be seen at the Library homepage <http://warner.lib.nh.us> and on Kearsarge Happenings blog <http://Kearconn.blogspot.com>, and may soon be available at the Warner homepage at <http://warner.nh.us>. There are some brief hints at <http://warner.lib.nh.us#calendar> on how to see details and maps, or to print a page.

If your (Warner area) organization has a Google calendar you'd like included, or events to add, please

contact Nancy at the library (456-2289) or Mary or Clyde at the Selectmen's office (456-2298). The goal is to include as many local happenings as possible, so people can go to one web page to get information about all kinds of activities, from children's programs, to dances, to sports, to Energy Committee meetings.

If you don't have access to the Web at home, visit the library to see it (staff can help you) or check the Community Bulletin board. The library will be offering tutorial sessions on using Google Calendars, in September. Demonstrations can also be arranged for a group or organization at a meeting.

Reminder: don't forget to check the Community Bulletin Board at Town Hall regularly. If you have a poster to display, it can be dropped off at either the Selectmen's office at Town Hall or the Library. Posters MUST have date and contact info on the back.

Energy Committee News

The Town of Warner has been awarded an \$11,150 grant from the NH Public Utilities Commission to conduct energy audits of 9 Town and Precinct owned buildings. This is the first grant proposal submitted by the Warner Energy Committee. Our plan is to begin the audits this fall, with priority on the Town Hall and Old Graded School. The results of the audit will guide recommendations for future energy savings projects and grant requests.

Warner residents, who are interested in working on future projects are invited to attend our monthly meetings, which are scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at 7 pm at the Pillsbury Free Library.

From the Budget Committee

2009/2010

Budget Committee Meeting Schedule

****All Meetings are Open to the Public****

September 21, 2009	Open Meeting
October 15, 2009	Draft Town Budget
November 12, 2009	Open Meeting Water Precinct
December 10, 2009	Open Meeting Work Session
January 14, 2010	Finalized
February 4, 2010	Review Petition Articles Public Hearing Town & Precinct
February 9, 2010	Snow Date
February 11, 2010	Final Vote on all Articles
February 16, 2010	Snow Date

Meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Hall
(5 East Main Street)

From the Town Clerk

REGISTRATION FEE CHANGES

Effective August 1, 2009

Thank you to everyone for the patience and understanding you have demonstrated as the office transitioned into the new State fee schedule.

VEHICLES

<u>GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT</u>	<u>NEW FEE</u>
0 – 3,000 lbs.	\$ 61.20
3,001 – 5,000 lbs.	\$ 73.20
5,001 – 8,000 lbs.	\$100.20
8,001 – 10,000 lbs.	\$.96/100lbs+\$45.00
10,001 – 26,000 lbs.	\$.96/100lbs+\$55.00

TRAILERS

<u>GROSS WEIGHT</u>	<u>NEW FEE</u>
0 – 1,000 lbs.	\$ 8.00
1,001 – 1,500 lbs.	\$11.00
1,501 – 3,000 lbs.	\$17.00
3,001 – 5,000 lbs.	\$34.00
5,001 – 8,000 lbs.	\$46.00
8,001 lbs and greater	\$.90/100 lbs

OTHER TRANSACTIONS

NEW FEE

Certified Copy of a Registration	\$15.00
Vanity Plate Yearly Renewal	\$40.00
Transfer of Plates	\$25.00
Motorcycle Yearly Renewal	\$26.00
Fee (includes \$1.00 rider safety fund)	

On-Line Registration Renewals are an option at: warner.nh.us. Have the registration information available to enter and allow time for mailing in your payment and for the Town Clerk's Office to process and return your new registration.

Fall Foliage Festival Volunteers Needed

It may be the muggy days of August now, but soon the cooler breezes of fall will force the bathing suits and soggy towels off the clothes line and send you looking for sweaters and shoes. With that chill comes the thrill of knowing that the Warner Fall Foliage Festival is coming to town.

October 9, 10, and 11 will bring the 62nd WFFF with all the traditional sights and sounds of a small town Festival. The Grand Parade theme will be "Warner: Then and Now" to tie in with the Warner Historical Society exhibit at the Upton Chandler Museum. The events schedule will reflect the traditional favorites of oxen pull, woodsmen contest, carnival, great food vendors, lots of music, Farmer's Market, juried arts and crafts, a Country Breakfast and Ham & Bean Supper, and a Country Bazaar. The Festival is entirely

volunteer planned and operated (with the exception of the Carnival), so that ALL proceeds go to participating community-based groups.

Think about what you like about Warner and most likely funding from Festival made it possible. Funds have gone to the Fire Dept., United Church of Warner, Town Clerk's Office, Warner Connects, Parks & Recreation, WYSA, Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum, Preschool, Highway Dept., and Trail Snails Snowmobile Club to name some of the more recent funding awards.

The time is now to think about giving two hours as a volunteer. The choices are huge: grill cook in the food tent, booster ticket seller, assisting in car parking lots, the glamour of trash collector, Carnival ride ticket seller, help direct vendors during set up, and the myriad small tasks of assisting in set up or clean up are just few of the fun ways to contribute time to this town-wide effort. The activity level can be as great or as little as you wish. Strong backs and pickup trucks are always welcome for the set up/clean up phase. Come in a group—your neighbors, your family, your friends— or come individually. Volunteer for two hours and stay on to enjoy the festival!

Whether you are new to the community or have been here forever, NOW is the time to make a positive impact on your town. Volunteering is easy. The only requirement is a smile and the desire to continue to make Warner a great place to be. Make a commitment now by calling Linda Cermak at 848-9390 or go to the Festival website at www.wfff.org and click on Volunteer Today!

Make 2009 Your Year to Volunteer!

From the Warner Village Water District

The Warner Village Water District has completed installation of wells on the properties of the four customers on North Village Road tied to the District's water main. This project was necessary because of an order by the NH Public Utilities Commission, prohibiting the District from terminating service unless an acceptable alternative was implemented. With the new wells now on line, the water main serving North Village Road has been shut off. The District is saving an estimated 3,000 gallons of water per day that was being lost through a blow-off, to maintain water quality for the four residences. The District is also experiencing a resulting decrease in electrical usage at the pump station due to the closing of this line.

On the sewage treatment side, the District's Superintendent, Jer Menard, implemented in April of this year a change in the operation that now utilizes both of the oxidation ditches simultaneously. Previously, the

ditches had been operated one at a time. The upside of this change is that the plant is functioning much better - according to its original design - with the result that the effluent is much clearer and there is less need to haul sludge to Concord's treatment plant, a considerable saving in hauling and disposal costs. The downside of the change has been the exposure of old equipment to a more constant usage. Recently, a number of nearby residents complained of the noise coming from the plant. The Superintendent had previously determined the noise was coming from the oxidation ditch motor that was failing after some thirty years of service. Jer had been trying different solutions to quiet the motor and as a last resort presented to the Commissioners the need to replace the motor at a cost of just under \$5000.00. In late July, the Commissioners authorized the purchase and installation of a new motor for the first oxidation ditch thereby eliminating the noise problem.

News from Emergency Management

H1N1 (Swine Flu): Human cases of an influenza A (H1N1) virus infection that has a swine component have been identified in the United States and New Hampshire. An investigation and response effort surrounding the outbreak of swine flu is ongoing on the national level and here in New Hampshire. The symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu in humans and may include: fever (greater than 100°F), sore throat, cough, stuffy nose, chills, headache, body aches, and fatigue.

This illness is spread from person to person and there is no risk of contracting this flu virus by eating pork. There are, however, some basic precautions that everyone should be taking to prevent becoming ill or spreading illnesses and not just swine flu. Stay home from work or school if you are sick. Cover your cough or sneezes with your sleeve and wash your hands frequently.

Warner is currently working with the Capital Area Public Health Network (CAPHN) to identify a Point of Dispensing to dispense the H1N1 vaccination if/when the State directs. The CAPHN website is keeping information, resource materials and press releases up to date.

The website address; www.capitalareaprepares.com.

Emergency Assistance Form

Do you or someone you know need special assistance during an emergency or disaster? Please review and complete the questionnaire on the back page and mail it to Town of Warner - Emergency Management, P.O. Box 124, Warner, NH 03278. **All information received will be confidential.**

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY OCTOBER 3, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Located at the Town Highway Garage
next to the Transfer Station

WHAT TO BRING

Household cleaners; polishers; hobby chemicals; pesticides and herbicides; flea powder; pool chemicals; oil based paints (NO LATEX); solvents; varnishes; stains; paint remover; mercury containing devices such as thermometers and thermostats; adhesives; driveway sealer; photo chemicals; and miscellaneous other materials which are considered hazardous as waste. Look on the product for the warning labels such as caution, flammable, reactive, caustic or poisonous.

WHAT NOT TO BRING

LATEX paint is not considered hazardous, unless it is pre-1990 and labeled that it has mercury as a fungicide. Use kitty litter to dry out latex paint and then throw in your trash. It must be made into a solid to be considered solid waste. Empty, dry paint cans may be recycled as scrap metal at your recycling facility.

Alkaline batteries for flashlights and other household items are not considered hazardous and can be thrown in the trash. This includes most non-rechargeable batteries such as AA, AAA, C, D, and 9-volt batteries.

Automotive batteries can be exchanged, given, or even sold to local garages and auto parts stores. Used motor oil is collected at many town facilities or local garages.

Fluorescent light bulbs can be taken to most Ace and True Value Hardware stores for free. If your town collects them at your transfer station, it is cheaper for your town than bringing them for management at a hazardous waste collection.

Please do not bring ammunition and explosives, fire extinguishers, radioactive materials, or propane tanks. Contact your local police or fire departments about ammunition, explosives, and fire extinguishers. Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors can be sent back to the manufacturer. Propane tanks can be exchanged or refilled at a propane distributor.

Emergency Assistance Survey

We are prepared to help you if you might need assistance during a public emergency. If you or someone in your household might need help being notified of an emergency, sheltering-in-place, evacuating from home, or staying in a mass care shelter, please let us know. Help is available, but, is best planned before an emergency happens. Please fill out the information below and return this form to: Town of Warner - Emergency Management, P.O. Box 124, Warner, NH 03278

ALL INFORMATION IS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND ONLY FOR USE DURING AN ACTUAL EMERGENCY

I/This person will need help in the event of an emergency:

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ Phone: _____
City & Zip: _____ Cell Phone: _____
Email: _____ TTY: _____

Help Needed:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Translator | <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf/Hard of Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> Blind/Low Vision |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need a ride | <input type="checkbox"/> Developmentally Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Learning Disabled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need an Ambulance for Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Need Individualized Notification | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheelchair Use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need Help with Sheltering-in-place | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Animal (specify: _____) | <input type="checkbox"/> Confined to Bed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Need a Wheelchair Accessible Ride | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify: _____) | |

Relative or contact person:

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ Cell Phone: _____

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