



ALEXANDRIA TODAY MARCH 2016 EDITION

47 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 www.alexandrianh.com alexandrianh@metrocast.net 603-744-3220

Selectmen's Office

Copies of the 2016 Town Warrant & Budget are available online at www.alexandrianh.com and at the Municipal Building. Copies of the 2015 Annual Report will be available by March 1, 2016.

April 15th is the deadline for submitting applications for elderly and/or disabled exemptions. It is also the deadline to apply for a Veteran's credit. Applications are available in the Selectmen's Office or on our website at www.alexandrianh.com. If you need help filling out the application, please let me know.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Town Voting Day

Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Held at Alexandria Town Hall, 45 Washburn Road

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CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT:

Moderator – 2 year term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> **No candidates filed for this position	Selectmen – 3 year term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> Robert Piehler	Town Treasurer – 3 year term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> Melanie Marzola
Trustee of Trust Funds–3 year term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> Paula Hall	Trustee of Cemeteries–3 yr term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> Paula Hall	Planning Board – 3 year term <i>Vote for no more than two</i> **No candidates filed for these positions
Supervisor of the Checklist-6 yr term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> George Whittaker		Planning Board – 2 year term <i>Vote for no more than one</i> **No candidates filed for this position

DOG LICENSES



All Dog Licenses expire on April 30.

2016 Dog Licenses are NOW AVAILABLE.

Every owner or keeper of a dog 4 months old or older shall register the dog annually with the town clerk. At the time of registration the owner will receive a metal tag with the following information - name of the town, year of the issue of the license and its registered number. This tag is to be affixed to the dog's collar. Regardless of when the license is obtained, it shall be effective from May 1 of each year to April 30 of the subsequent year. To prevent the initiation of a late penalty of \$1.00 per month, please renew your dog license by April 30th. If you wish to license your dog by mail, please send a check payable to: TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA.

Dog Fees are as follows:

Puppy (Up to Seven Months)	\$6.50
Spayed or Neutered	\$6.50
Unaltered Male/Female	\$9.00
Senior(Dog owned by Senior Citizen, 1 st dog only)	\$2.00
Group (5 dog minimum)	\$20.00
Mail-In Fee (Per Dog)	\$1.00

Vaccination Required - Before a license is issued the owner or keeper of the dog, must furnish verification that the dog has been vaccinated against rabies. If a valid rabies certificate is on file with the clerk, the owner shall not be required to produce such verification at the time of license.

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Recycling Committee 03/16



Recycling is contagious; You set the example, and others will follow



Happy St. Patrick's Day from the Recycling Committee

Money in our Pockets

Tony has been working very hard these past few months to hammer out the best possible agreements with our hauling contractors for the removal and processing of our recyclable material. As the results of his efforts, **Dumpster Depot** is now hauling our Paper and Co-Mingled material. This change has resulted in a reduction in hauling costs of \$32.50/haul or about \$1,600/yr. Processing fees were reduced by \$9.00/ton or \$1,170/yr. Additionally, there is no rental fee for the roll-off dumpsters, which results in an annual savings of \$2,640. So next time you're at the transfer station and see those bright orange dumpsters, think green, as in \$5,400 annual savings.

Many of you know that a 1 ½ years ago we discontinued charging for the disposal of appliances because we changed contractors and had an arrangement whereby the units were removed with no charge to us. About 9 months ago, that changed and we were assessed a charge of \$3.00/unit for removal with no compensation for the value of the metal [the Board of Selectmen elected not to reinstitute a disposal fee for our residents]. Tony has recently come to an agreement with a new vendor, **All Clean & Green**, from Pembroke, NH. **All Clean & Green** removes the guts of the refrigerators and hauls them away free of charge. The gutted units are then placed in with the scrap metal and sold at the prevailing current price. The net effect is that we save the \$3.00/unit processing fee and are able to recoup revenue for the sale of the units as scrap metal.

Tony is continuing to seek out new ways to expand our recycling program and reduce our processing expenses, and no doubt additional changes will be forthcoming. Because of the recent changes, it may take a couple of months before the impact of keeping the recyclable material out of the bulk waste can be calculated, but my goal is to have 1st Qtr. saving figures available by the May newsletter, and be able to report monthly from that point on. For now, it suffices to say that, thanks to Tony, we'll have a reduced expense savings of almost \$5,500. Thanks Tony for your efforts, they are appreciated.

Everyone Does Make a Difference

Here's a great story about how innovative recycling ideas not only help the environment, but make life a little easier for those who are physically challenged. The idea evolved when Therese Willkomm, a Professor at the University of New Hampshire, was approached by someone with a disability in need of something as simple as a "sandwich holder". That should be easy, thought Willkomm; I could make a sandwich holder from used corrugated plastic [it's light weight, sturdy, and easy to work with], and what better source of corrugated plastic than used political campaign signs. Then someone with Parkinson's was having tremors and problems reading a newspaper, and Therese designed a holder for the newspaper. Word spread and suddenly, a simple act of kindness out of empathy for others turned into a full-blown effort.

Since the signs must come down after each election season, occupational therapy students from the University of New Hampshire gather hundreds of used corrugated plastic campaign signs to build items that assist those with limited use of their hands, arms and legs. Permission is obtained from the campaigns to collect and convert the signs into various devices to help physically challenged individuals. The occupational therapy students, along with Professor Willkomm, currently make and distribute over 78 different items, many in the form of 'do-it-yourself' kits;



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they also hold workshops all over New Hampshire teaching folks how to make book holders - all these hands-free solutions are created out of recycled, corrugated plastic.

Our thanks to Professor Therese Willkomm and the occupational therapy students at the University of New Hampshire; you've proven once again that everyone can make a difference.

Source: <http://www.wmur.com/news/unh-students-repurpose-recycled-campaign-signs-into-prosthetic-items/37957384>

Reusing Makes Good ¢

When reusing materials, instead of creating new products from virgin materials, it is less burdensome on the economy. Reuse is an economical way for people of all socio-economic circles to acquire the items they need - it is less expensive to buy used than new. One way to prevent waste and increase the material well-being of our residents is to take useful products you no longer want and provide them to those who do. The trick is to find a way to effectively pair up the two. Our transfer station has an enclosed storage unit where people can leave items **in good (working) condition**; and residents are free to look through the items and take whatever they can use. There are some restrictions governing items that can be left, so check with Tony or one of the staff on duty before just leaving items off. Many communities also have local and regional material exchanges: thrift stores and charitable drop-off centers; reuse centers specializing in equipment, tools, and building materials; and used furniture stores and salvage yards. Before you discard something, check to see if there is a local facility where you can donate it or place it on consignment; holding garage and yard sales are other popular ways to reuse no longer needed items. Likewise, if you are in need of something, try shopping these types of outlets as well as; flea markets and specialty stores that sell antiques or vintage items. A check of these alternative sources first, might just save you some time and money, as well as helping to preserve our non-renewable resources.



Recycling Facts and Potpourri

Here's an interesting piece of information I thought I'd share as it underscores the positive environmental impact recycling has: for every 1 ton of plastic that is recycled we save the equivalent of 2 people's energy use for 1 year, the amount of water used by 1 person in 2 months' time and almost 275 gallons of oil.

Comments and suggestions are welcome, and can be submitted via email to: steve.whitman@hotmail.com
With author's permission, comments may be included in subsequent issues.



Alexandria Conservation Commission

"Stewards of our Planet"



From all of us at the Conservation Commission - Happy St. Patrick's Day and Spring 2016!



ACC Notebook

We are excited that we have entered into a contract with Moosewood Ecological of Chesterfield, NH to complete the Alexandria Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). Moosewood Ecological is the same firm that did the initial part of the NRI covering Patten Brook and the Bog areas of town. The work to

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begin this spring will cover the Fowler and Smith river watersheds, and will complete the inventory for the entire town. Letters have been sent to selected property owners in those locations requesting permission to allow Jeff and his assistant to enter their property for the purpose of conducting field research. The letter goes into more specific detail; however, if property owners have questions, they should feel free to contact a member of the Conservation Commission.

Why are NRIs important and required by the state of New Hampshire? I've talked about the importance of NRIs before; however, allow me to briefly recap as we begin the completion of the remaining segments of the Alexandria NRI. A NRI creates a picture that helps to better understand what natural resources are within a town, where they are located, and their relationship to each other. The NRI, when used in combination with the community's Master Plan, is a valuable tool in aiding in the planning and development process and helps the town manage development and growth in concert with the existing resources. It can serve as the basis for developing innovative land use planning that can be adopted to help protect various critical resources, such as wetlands and wildlife habitat. Identification and protection of wetlands and buffer zones is crucial to protect water quality. With the completion of the NRI data for the Smith River and Fowler River watersheds, we will have a complete understanding of all of the magnificent natural resources we have here in our town.



As the Wind Blows

It's almost spring and that means that new and renewed life is everywhere; from plants to animals. It also means that it's a time to understand that there is a need for us to exercise a heightened level of awareness. Bears are emerging from their dens; not only are they hungry, but they may be accompanied by small cubs. Bird feeders should be emptied and taken down. Bird food should be stored in a secure enclosure, and care should be taken to be sure garbage cans are closed tightly and also in a secure location. Should you encounter a bear, assume it's a female with cubs close by. Generally bears will avoid contact with humans whenever possible; however, if they feel threatened or sense their young are in danger, they will become aggressive. While bears probably pose the most serious threat, most animals are protective of their young and will aggressively protect them. It's best to leave any wild animal alone; either observe them from a safe distance or leave the area. Snakes are also becoming active again this time of the year. There are eleven species of snakes that are native to New Hampshire; only one, the timber rattlesnake, is venomous. Some of the eleven species are common and widespread across the state. Other species like the timber rattlesnake are extremely rare and are now state protected. Snakes play an important part in maintaining balance within ecosystems. There is no reason to kill a snake. If you happen across one, leave it alone. If it's a species on New Hampshire's "need for conservation" list, the Fish and Game would appreciate you reporting the sighting and providing a picture if possible.

Our Feathered Friends



The black-capped chickadee is a small, nonmigratory, North American songbird that lives in deciduous and mixed forests in the northern United States and Canada. It is the state bird of Massachusetts and Maine. The chickadee's oversized round head, black cap and bib; white cheeks; gray back, wings, and tail; and whitish underside with buffy sides are distinctive. Its habit of investigating people and everything else in its home territory, and quickness to discover bird feeders, make it one of the first birds with which most people become familiar. Other birds often seen with flocks of chickadees include woodpeckers, nuthatches, warblers, vireos, and other small woodland species. Most birds that associate with chickadee flocks are somewhat dependent on them for protection and respond to chickadee alarm calls, even when their own species doesn't have a similar alarm call.

Although they live as part of a flock, even when temperatures are far below zero, chickadees virtually always sleep in their own individual cavities [nests]. The cavity site is usually selected by the female. They tend to excavate in dead snags or rotten branches, and often select alder or birch. Both the male and female chickadees excavate the nesting and roosting hole entirely on their own. Once the nest chamber is hollowed out, the female builds a cup-shaped nest hidden within, using moss and other coarse material for the foundation and lining it with softer material such as rabbit fur. Nests can be at ground level, but are usually between 6 ins. and 1 ½ ft. off of the ground. Chickadees mate once in the spring producing a clutch of 1 – 13 eggs approximately the size of a ½ in. marble, but slightly oblong.

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As chickadees are nonmigratory, they collect and store food for later consumption. Each bit of food is stored in a separate location which the bird is able to remember. Black-capped chickadees can remember thousands of hiding places because each fall its old brain neurons containing old information die off and are replaced with new neurons where the new information is stored. In winter black-capped chickadees eat about half seeds, berries, and other plant matter, and half animal food (insects, spiders, suet, and sometimes fat and bits of meat from frozen carcasses). In spring, summer, and fall, insects, spiders, and other animal food make up 80-90 percent of their diet. At feeders they take mostly sunflower seeds, peanuts, suet, peanut butter, and mealworms. Chickadees are social birds that live in flocks, but seldom perch within several feet of one another while taking food or eating.

Black-capped chickadees are common and are classified "least concern" by the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The overall populations increased slightly between 1966 and 2014, according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey. Their western populations slightly declined during this time, but the loss was made up by an increase in eastern populations. Forest clearing for agriculture or development can increase the amount of forest edge, which can improve habitat for chickadees, and this species also benefits from people who keep bird feeders. As with many birds that nest in tree cavities, chickadees can suffer if land managers cut too many dead trees out of forests.

Source: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped_Chickadee/lifehistory



Upcoming Area Events

- Our March meeting will be on March 23rd at 6:30pm; at the town municipal building 47 Washburn Rd. Guests are always welcome. Don't forget to visit us on Facebook <https://facebook.com/alexandrianhcc>

Alexandria Village School Community Center

Alexandria Village School Community Center Free Programs

Every Thursday morning- 9:30 to 11:00-Morning playtime-For caregivers and children.
First and third Wednesday-6:00 to 7:30 p.m.-4-H meetings.

Other Local Events/Organizations



HAYNES LIBRARY

Open on Mondays from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm and 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
33 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 (603) 744-6529

GIVE BLOOD



SAVE LIFE

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Newfound Regional High School, 150 Newfound Road, Bristol
March 3, 2016 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm

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Office Hours

Selectmen's Office – 744-3220

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 11 am to 6 pm
Wednesday: 8 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 8 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector – 744-3288

Monday: 9 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 9 am to 7 pm
Wednesday: 9 am to 4 pm
Thursday: 9 am to 4 pm
Friday: CLOSED

Transfer Station

Monday: 8 am to 12 pm
Wednesday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm
Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

Police Department 744-6650

Chief Donald Sullivan
When dispatcher picks up, give dispatcher your message. They will page an officer on the radio. Cell phones are not reliable locally.

Highway Department – 744-6516

Jeff Cantara, Road Agent

Planning Board – 744-8986

Deliberative Meetings: 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm, 6pm during winter months (November thru March)
Open 1 hour prior to meeting.
Chair, Maggie LaBerge
Items to be included on the agenda must be received 21 days prior to the meeting.

Town Committees/Commissions

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission meets the 4th Wednesday of the month in the conference room at the municipal building.
To contact the Conservation Commission:
e-mail: alexandrianh@metrocast.net
Phone: 603-744-3220
Mail: 47 Washburn Road
Alexandria, NH 03222

Recycling Committee

Please send your suggestions, tips, and comments to: steve.whitman@metrocast.net or call 744-3596. Thank you for recycling.
A Reminder: Anyone wishing to receive electronic copies of committee business conducting electronically or meeting minutes can do so by providing me with an email address. Sent to: alexandrianh@metrocast.net

FIRE PERMITS

Category I & II fire permits can be obtained in the Selectmen's Office (603-744-3220), but you will need to provide a copy of the previous year's permit in order to get a permit for the current year.

All other burn permits are available from the following:

Fire Warden:
Mark Chevalier 603-455-1591
Deputy Fire Wardens:
Dave Ogden 603-744-9056
Jeff Cantara 603-744-6516
Tom Moore 603-744-6516
Or contact: Robert Duquette, George Clayman, Fran Butler, Ken Patten, Fred Platts

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