



## Recycling Committee 5/16



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

### **Money in our Pockets**

We are still working with Tony and Jennifer to come up with a simple, yet accurate method to calculate the dollar impact our recycling program is having on our community. The bottom line comes down to how much we save per ton by recycling vs. throwing the material in a land fill somewhere; and while that may sound easy to come up with, because of the multiple vendors we use and the different invoicing methods used by each, it's not. While the revenue generated by the recycled materials is considerably less than in previous years, the town is saving money in reduced hauling and processing fees. By calculating savings based on a disposal cost per ton, we will have accurate figures for comparison. We sincerely appreciate your patience as we work through this process, and the continued support of your recycling program – recycling does have a positive impact and benefits all of us.

### **Everyone Does Make a Difference**

There has been a lot of talk over the last eighteen months or so about recycling and its continued viability given the current state of the global economy. Recycling is not merely an alternative method of disposing of trash; it's a way to preserve non-renewable resources. Recycling is about creating good solutions for long-term economic and environmental health. Americans still believe recycling is important and has a positive impact on the environment; recycling is very much a cultural norm in the U.S. The findings of a national survey conducted in 2015 for the Carton Council of North America that included nearly 2,500 U.S. adults\* confirmed this. It showed that 90 % of respondents believe recycling is important and people should do what they can to try and recycle; 95% believe that recycling helps the environment. Additionally, more than 60% of those surveyed believe people should make recycling a priority, and 29% believe people should do what they can to try to recycle more.

“The survey results reiterate what we in the industry have known all along, that recycling is important and remains a vital part of ensuring our planet is in the best shape for future generations,” said Jason Pelz, vice president of recycling projects for the Carton Council of North America. “American consumers care about recycling and the environment. With the price of oil so low, there has been a lot of discussion about the short-term economic feasibility of recycling; however, recycling is important not just for the economic benefits but also because it tackles the issue of resource scarcity that will eventually impact us all. Additionally, in some communities, recycling addresses concerns over the lack of landfill space. Recycling is not going away in this country.”

\*A brief note about the survey: The survey included a nationally representative sample of Americans who reported having access to curbside recycling programs in their communities, and the results were weighted to correct known demographic discrepancies. Responses were collected online between Dec. 2 and Dec. 13, 2015.

**Source: Full of Scrap, April 15, 2016, published by NRRRA**

### **Reusing Makes Good**

Here are a few more ideas for recycling every-day items which might otherwise end up in a landfill.

[ Source: [www.pinterest.com](http://www.pinterest.com) ]



#### **Here are a few ideas for reusing those little bags of silica gel**

##### Prevent Water from Ruining a Cell Phone

Cover your phone in them after an encounter with water; seal it away [a plastic Ziploc bag works great], and wait at least twenty-four hours before powering your phone back on; the silica gel bags will absorb the water and dry the phone.

##### Store seeds for the upcoming harvest

To keep harvested seeds fresh for use the following spring; store them in a sealed container with silica gel packets. Thankfully, not many of the packets are necessary to keep out moisture, so even one or two can go a long way in keeping seeds dry and mildew free.

### **Get creative with old silverware**



Necklace charm or pendant



Shadowbox display



Necklace charm or pendant

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## ALEXANDRIA TODAY MAY 2016 EDITION

47 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222 [www.alexandrianh.com](http://www.alexandrianh.com) [alexandrianh@metrocast.net](mailto:alexandrianh@metrocast.net) 603-744-3220

Turn those mismatched plates, cups, saucers, bowls, vases, and whatever into garden art and catch some rays



Angel: 2 salad plates, 2 vases



Flower: vase and candy dish



Birdfeeder: covered dish, candle stick

**Comments and suggestions are welcome, and can be submitted via email to: [steve.whitman@hotmail.com](mailto:steve.whitman@hotmail.com); with the author's permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues.**

### Alexandria Conservation Commission

"Stewards of our Planet"

Jeff Littleton of Moosewood Ecological will begin field observations in the Smith River and Fowler River watersheds this month to gather data for the completion of the Alexandria NRI. Support of the project from our community has been very positive and the Commission thanks those who opened their property to us to collect data. Field data will be gathered between May and August. Many of you have requested that you be notified before Jeff visits your property and you will be. However, because of the large amount of acreage involved, not all properties can be visit. If you have requested to be notified and do not hear from us, your wishes have not been ignored, there just wasn't enough time to include your land in the on-site data collection process.

As the various phases of the NRI move forward, we will keep residents advised in the monthly newsletter update. Again, thank you all for your support, and if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Steve Whitman at [steve.whitman@hotmail.com](mailto:steve.whitman@hotmail.com).



### ACC Notebook

As we pointed out last month, May will be a busy month for the Commission, as will the remainder of 2016. Recently two of our members moved away from the area, creating immediate openings for 2 Alternates to join our group. Alternates, attend all meetings, participate in discussions, and serve on committees. In the event a member is absent or chooses to recuse themselves from voting on a topic, the Chairperson can select an Alternate to represent that member at the meeting or for the vote on a specific topic. Alternates are appointed by the Board of Selectmen for a term of three (3) years, and their appointment may be extended for subsequent three (3) year terms by the Board of Selectmen. The only distinction between an Alternate and a Member is that Alternates do not have voting status unless acting on behalf of a standing member at the direction of the Chairperson. The position of Alternate provides an excellent opportunity for an individual to become familiar with the workings of the Commission and position them to assume member status as the opportunity presents itself.

Don't have the time to commit to an Alternate position? We are also looking for volunteers to help out with selected projects at the town forest, Barrett Park, and future upcoming events. Volunteers can select the project(s) they'd like to work on and for which they have the time available. Tasks may include helping to maintain trails in the town forest or mapping trails and creating brochures for other properties in the area which are open to the public. There's plenty to do, and everyone is welcome.

If you are interested in either becoming an Alternate or getting involved as a volunteer, contact any member of the Conservation Commission; or better yet, attend one of our meetings. We meet every 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm at the town Municipal Building. Involvement with the Conservation Commission and working to protect our natural resources is a rewarding experience; come join us, and see for yourself.



### As the Wind Blows

Although we can't rule out a snow storm in May, I think it is safe to say that spring is here. As we've pointed out on several occasions, we are fortunate in our area to have an abundance of properties where the public is welcome to

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hike and enjoy the outdoors. In addition to clearing and marking trails in our town forest, the Commission is also working with landowners in identifying trails on private and conserved property where the landowners have granted permission for the public to visit. We would like to point out, that merely because land is in a conservation status that does not mean that it is automatically open to the public; landowners can restrict public access and this becomes part of the conservation easement. Additionally, some land is open to the public, but may have posted restrictions on trails such as "No Motorized Devices". If you have access to the internet, you can check out properties with conservation easements and see if they are open access to the public by using the NCED [National Conservation Easement Database] maps at <http://www.conservationeasement.us/browse/map>.

Whenever you are interacting with nature, please remember these few simple rules: be respectful of the property and those that make it their home; look, but don't touch, leave things as you find them; stay on the marked trails, straying off the trail will gradually widen it killing the boarding protective vegetation; be sure all "gates and bars" are left as you found them; and always carry out any litter you create – some folks carry a litter bag in case they come across other's trash. Also, be aware of who has the right of way on trails should you encounter other hikers. If you encounter a horse and rider on a trail, they have the right of way; move off the trail [to the downhill side if possible], stand quietly and let the rider pass. Following these simple rules will ensure that we will continue to have pristine areas in which to interact with nature and enjoy the outdoors.



### ***Our Feathered Friends***

The little purple finch toppled the New Hampshire hen to become the Granite State's official bird in April, 1957. The purple finch breeds in the coniferous and mixed forest in Canada and the northeastern United States, as well as various wooded areas along the U.S. Pacific coast. Male purple finches resemble a sparrow dipped in cranberry juice. It has a rose-colored body with a white abdomen and its wings and back are brownish. It has a short, but thick conical bill used for cracking seeds. Female purple finches are mostly brown, with two conspicuous white stripes on each side of the head. The under parts are white with brown streaks. Adult purple finches reach a length of about 6" and weigh just under 1.5 oz. Immature finches look identical to the female.

They overwinter throughout the eastern and Midwestern United States as well as along the Pacific Coast. Some purple finches are erratic migrants that follow cone crops short distances. Typically they leave their Canadian breeding grounds to overwinter widely across central and southeastern U.S., returning to specific regions roughly every other year. Birds that breed in northeastern U.S. and along the Pacific Coast may not migrate. During winter, purple finch occupy a wider variety of habitats, including shrub lands, old fields, forest edges, and backyards. The purple finch's diet consists mainly of seeds, buds, flowers, nectar, blossoms and occasionally insects, and is a frequent visitor to backyard feeders – sunflower seeds are a favorite. They use their big beak and tongue to crush seeds and extract the nut. They do a similar trick to get at nectar without eating an entire flower, and also to get to at seeds buried inside a fleshy fruit.

Conifer forests are the preferred habitat for breeding purple finch in the northeast. The female builds her nest, usually without the help of the male, on the outer branches high up in a conifer and lays 2-7 eggs. The average lifespan of the purple finch in the wild is 3 - 4 years; although it is not uncommon for them to live 6 - 7 years. The oldest recorded purple finch was a male at least 14 years old when he was found.

The purple finch population has declined sharply in the East due to the increased presence of the house finch. Purple finch populations decreased by almost 1.5% per year between 1966 and 2014, resulting in a cumulative decline of 52%, according to the North American Breeding Bird Survey. **Partners in Flight** [a cooperative effort involving partnerships among federal, state and local government agencies, philanthropic foundations, professional organizations, conservation groups, industry, the academic community, and private individuals] estimates the global breeding population of the purple finch at 6.4 million, with over 90% spending part of the year in the U.S and Canada. The species rates a 9 out of 20 on the *Continental Concern Score*, and is not on the 2014 *State of the Birds Watch List*. Populations may suffer in some areas from competition with the recently arrived house finch, but, it is still classified on the conservation list as 'Least Concern'. However, the purple finch is of concern in the state of New Hampshire and included in the New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan.

**Sources:** <https://en.wikipedia.org>; <https://www.audubon.org>; <https://www.allaboutbirds.org>



### ***Upcoming Area Events***

➤ Our May meeting will be on May 25th at 6:30pm; at the town municipal building 47 Washburn Rd. Guests are always welcome. Don't forget to visit us on Facebook at: <https://facebook.com/alexandrianhc>



## Selectmen's Office

### Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief Program:

Applications for the Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief Form (DP-8) will be available after May 1, 2016. The Low & Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief program was designed to lessen the economic burden of the State Education Property Tax on certain at-risk taxpayers.

An eligible applicant for the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief is a person who is:

- Single with adjusted gross income equal to or less than \$20,000; or
- Married or head of NH household with adjusted gross income less than or equal to \$40,000; and
- Owns a homestead subject to the State Education Property Tax; and
- Has resided in that homestead on April 1 of the year for which the claim is made.

Applications for the Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief are accepted only during the statutory filing period - after May 1, but no later than June 30. The law allows 120 days for processing from the date of receipt of your completed application. For more information, visit <http://www.revenue.nh.gov/assistance/low-moderate.htm>.

If you need help filling out the forms, please see Jennifer in the Selectmen's Office.

## Town Clerk/Tax Collector

### DOG LICENSES



**All Dog Licenses expired on April 30, 2016** 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.

After April 30<sup>th</sup>, a late penalty of \$1.00 per month will be charged, please renew your dog license by April 30<sup>th</sup>. 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 <sup>st</sup> 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.

\*Information about the AVFD Rabies Clinic is located further down in the newsletter\*

## Community Events



### Red Cross Blood Drive

May 12, 2016 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm  
New Hampton Safety Complex, 26 Intervale Drive, New Hampton

June 15, 2016 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm  
Our Lady of Grace Chapel, 2 West Shore Road, Bristol



603-744- 8689.

## NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION

Please join us in supporting sustainable economic and environmental development in the Newfound watershed. **On May 5, you can learn how to become a citizen planner and help your town maintain local control.** With an informed community there is nothing we can't accomplish!

### FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Is this something you would be interested in participating in? Do you know others that may be interested in this program? Please invite them to join you! Contact the NLRA if you have any questions and to save your seat: [info@NewfoundLake.org](mailto:info@NewfoundLake.org), or

## WORKSHOP DATES AND LOCATIONS ALL MEETINGS 6 PM – 8 PM

**May 5, Bridgewater Town Hall – Citizen Planner introduction:** Learn how Towns guide development, what is required to plan for the future, and how Master Plans relate to zoning. *ALL SHOULD ATTEND.*

### Individual Workshops – Local goals and recommended ordinances

- June 2, Bristol Old Town Hall
- June 6, Bridgewater Town Offices
- June 9, Hebron Town Offices
- June 13, Groton Town Hall
- June 16, Alexandria Old Town Hall

**2016 Wrap-up Meeting on September 1st** - Location TBD. *ALL SHOULD ATTEND.*

## KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION FOR 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR

The Newfound Area School District will hold its annual Kindergarten Connection for all children who will be entering kindergarten in September 2016 as follows:

- Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> for children residing in Bristol & Alexandria (744-2761)
- Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> for children residing in New Hampton (744-3221)
- Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> for children residing in Danbury (768-3434)
- Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> for children residing in Bridgewater/Groton/Hebron (744-6969)

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 30, 2016, please call the school in the town you reside (phone number provided above). Appointment times and registration packets will be mailed to all parents with kindergarten eligible children.

Note: Children residing in Alexandria will attend either the Bristol Elementary School or the Bridgewater/Hebron Village School. Determination is made according to physical address. You may contact either school for more information.



### Alexandria Historical Society

The Alexandria Historical Society will be meeting on May 4th at 7:00 pm at the Tucker House. All are welcome!



### 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

The trustees of the Haynes Library in Alexandria are looking for volunteers who might be interested in helping out at the library. Please contact trustee chair Ruth Harrow at 744-8256. The trustees are hosting a public meeting on Saturday, May 21 at 10:00AM at Old Town Hall. Please join us to help plan the future of the Haynes Library.



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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:* 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month in the conference room at the municipal building.

To contact the Conservation Commission:

e-mail: [alexandrianh@metrocast.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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

## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

*\*Meetings are held in the Conference Room at the Municipal Building unless otherwise noted.*

Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm

Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> Planning Board Meeting at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> Conservation Commission at 6:30 pm

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