



ALEXANDRIA TODAY OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

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



Alexandria Waste Management Committee 10/18



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

Money in our Pockets

Trash management is not as simple as one may think. We are currently doing business with 3 contractors that haul and process our trash; each with their own hauling and processing fees. The hauling fees are dependent on how far the materials have to be trucked to the processing center [be it a landfill or recycling center] and the processing fee is dependent on how much sorting is required before it moves on to the next process – in the case of a landfill, it means dozing and covering with soil; in a recycling center it means sorting, washing, and converting the material back into a raw product that can be reused or manufactured into a new product. Obviously, there is more detail to the processing than just this, but that gives you a basic idea of what's involved.

Let's talk about landfills. Each landfill site is permitted by the state with specific parameters governing size, and pollution control measures [as well as other things] it must adhere to. When a landfill reached capacity, it closes, and a reclamation process begins. The trash that was being processed at that landfill must now find a new home, which usually means hauling it a greater distance [often to another state] – hauling fees increase.

Recycling processing centers are like a manufacturing operation in many ways. The raw material is the recycled material and the center must convert that material into a marketable product. As with any business, for it to succeed, it must have a market for its product and the demand needs to equal or exceed the output; if that doesn't happen, the center is left with excess inventory which must be stored, and often results in production cut backs, which means less recycled materials are accepted at the center. When this happens, the excess recyclable materials must find a new home(s) – note the (s). In many cases, the "new home" will not accept the same mix of recyclable materials, and what was previously being sent to a single recycling center must now go to two different centers – hauling fees double, and a more refined sort is required locally. With China tightening restrictions on imports of recyclable material and the developing countries not yet in a position to pick-up the overflow, global market demand is down resulting in a glut of material that could be recycled, but without capacity in the world to process it. Unfortunately, this world problem has a direct impact on us here in Alexandria. Our recycling program has been a success for over 10 years, and has not only saved the town money, but has had a favorable impact on the environment. However, our program must change in response to new demands being imposed by our processing centers.

Beginning October 1st of this year, area recycling centers are no longer accepting certain material as "recyclable" and are stepping up their monitoring of loads for contamination [non-recyclable materials in loads]. The Waste Management Committee has recently received an up-to-date list of items no longer being accepted as recyclable and we are in the process of evaluating what course of action makes the most sense for Alexandria. Look for new recycling instructions and new signage at the transfer station. Please be assured that the committee feels that these modifications to our program offer the best solution, under the current situation, both economically and "best practice" wise.



As you all know, recycling programs are facing several serious issues recently exacerbated by China's tightening of import restrictions on recyclable materials as of January 1st of this year. The current crisis seems to boil down to basically too much single use materials being used and that is creating a glut in recyclable materials for which we don't have the capacity to recycle. You may recall this from last month's newsletter, but I think it is worth repeating – remember, one of the 'R' in recycling is "reuse".

Our industrialized culture assumes that progress and convenience are synonyms. They are not. When convenience is the goal, destruction is soon to follow. This is evident in "improvements" like mechanical logging, mono crop farming and even single-stream recycling. All seem to be good ideas, but the natural world has suffered from such modern conveniences. Maybe it is time we take some personal responsibility and whenever possible simply not use single use disposable items. Carry a coffee mug and/or water bottle. Bring utensils in your purse or brief case. Pack a lunch for work or school. It shouldn't be that complicated. Recently, a group from the Upper Valley in New Hampshire and Vermont spent one week without purchasing anything wrapped in plastic. It was exceedingly difficult, but they got creative and learned a lot about their patterns of thoughtless purchases and behavior.

Solutions will need to start with a change in our thinking toward the world. Currently, trees, minerals, water and other items in the environment are considered "natural resources" [some renewable, some not]. They are seen as having value in dollars and cents: a tree is board feet, minerals become products, and water is for our consumption. The natural world provides so much more than raw materials. It is time for a fresh look at the beauty all around us. It is time to question the price we are paying for "convenience."



ALEXANDRIA TODAY OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

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

If you've been to the transfer station before reading this, you are already aware of the changes to our recycling program that we have implemented because of the new restrictions imposed by the processing centers with whom we deal. These changes are not significant; however, failure to comply can result in hefty surcharges of as much as \$150/ton. These charges can add up fast, so it's extremely important that you follow the new guidelines as outlined in the informational material you'll receive at the transfer station. This information is also available on the town website [Waste Management Committee page], the town Facebook page, and at the municipal building. Extra staff will be available at the transfer station to help you during the initial transition period – please ask questions if you are not sure where something should go. The type of materials accepted at the transfer station has not changed. However, what has changed is what is no longer considered "recyclable" and this has affected the way we collect, and sort material received. The most significant changes are: we no longer are recycling cardboard and mixed paper, that now goes to the Bulky Waste bin or the Compactor; recyclable glass is now restricted to glass bottles and jars only [no more window glass, ceramics, or bathroom fixtures, those go to the Bulky Waste bin]; and plastic toys, outdoor furniture, and blister packaging are no longer being recycled, those go to the Bulky Waste bin or the Compactor. Tin cans are now sorted separately and no longer mixed with the plastics. This is a little more work for you when separating your trash and making sure it goes into the correct container at the transfer station; however, recycling still is beneficial and has a very positive impact on us all.



As always, creative ideas for recycling or reusing items and interesting articles or websites offering recycling ideas are always welcome; as are comments and suggestions about the newsletter articles. Please submitted your comments via email to: steve.whitman@hotmail.com; be sure to state "recycling material" in the subject. In some cases, with the author's permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues. Thank you all for your continued support; thanks to you our program is working, and will continue to work during this challenging period.

Notices



GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 6, 2018
Polls are open 8:00 am to 7:00 pm
Voting is held at the town hall, 45 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session at the town hall (45 Washburn Road) on Saturday, October 27, 2018 between the hours of 11:00 and 11:30 am for additions and corrections to the checklist. Party changes will be accepted. October 27, 2018 is the last day to accept voter registration applications until Election Day on November 6, 2018.

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



BLOOD DRIVES

Tuesday, October 9, 2018 9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Freudenberg-NOK, 450 Pleasant Street/Route 104, Bristol, NH

Saturday, October 13, 2018 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Danbury Community Center, 15 High Street, Danbury, NH

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Our Lady of Grace Chapel, 2 West Shore Road, Bristol, NH

Tuesday, October 30, 2018 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Newfound Regional High School, 150 Newfound Road, Bristol, NH



ALEXANDRIA TODAY OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

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

DAY AWAY PROGRAM

Social Program for Adults with Alzheimer's Disease or related Dementias



Now in existence for five years, Day Away program is a social program for adults with early stages of Alzheimer's and related dementias. This program provides their caregivers a much-needed respite and relief from constant care and responsibility. Day Away provides a safe and comfortable atmosphere, we encourage socialization and help participants to maintain their independence, be mentally stimulated and remain active. Trained volunteers and a Registered Nurse, Director of program, provide 1-1 supervision for every participant.

Day Away is a non-profit program held on Thursdays from 9:00am to 3:00pm in Simard Hall at Our Lady of Grace Chapel in Bristol. Day Away is non-denominational and open to all families and caregivers in surrounding towns.

As each participant advances in their journey, and he or she is no longer eligible for this program, we know through conversations with their caregivers, we have made a positive difference in each of their lives and in the lives of their caregivers.

If you know of any person/family who can benefit from our program or if you would like to volunteer, please contact:

Sandra Coleman RN, BSN, Director of the Day Away Program

Email – sjrnett@roadrunner.com or

Telephone – 603-536-6304

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 6:00 pm
Open 1 hour prior to meeting.
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 last 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

BURN PERMITS

Burn permits can now be obtained online - <http://www.nhfirepermit.com/>

All categories of burn permits are also available in the Selectmen's Office during normal business hours.

Before burning, please check the daily predicted fire danger.

Visit www.nhdfi.org/Community/Daily-Fire-Danger

The daily fire danger rating may also be obtained by calling the Division of Forests and Lands wildfire information line (toll free): 1-866-NH-FIRES (866-643-4737)

ALEXANDRIA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

158 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH

PHONE: (603) 530-2229

FAX: (603) 744-3165

Emergency: 911

fire@alexandrianh.com

Meeting minutes, newsletters, alerts and other helpful information is updated on the Town's website on a regular basis.

Visit us at www.alexandrianh.com or find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/alexandrianh>



ALEXANDRIA TODAY OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Please check website for up-to-date meeting schedule

Tuesday, October 2, 2018:	Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, October 3, 2018:	Budget Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm
Tuesday, October 16, 2018:	Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, October 17, 2018:	Planning Board Meeting at 6:00 pm
Wednesday, October 24, 2018:	Conservation Commission Meeting at 6:30 pm
Tuesday, October 30, 2018:	Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm

*All meetings are held in the Conference Room at the Municipal Building (47 Washburn Road) and open to the public unless otherwise noted.
Selectmen: All appointments and agenda items for Selectmen's meetings must be submitted to the Selectmen's Office by 4:00 pm the Thursday before the meeting. The Selectmen hold work sessions as needed at 5:00 pm prior to the meetings.*

Planning Board: Items to be included on the agenda must be received 21 days prior to the meeting.