



# ALEXANDRIA TODAY SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION

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

## Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office

The Town Clerk's office now has a new software system in place for Motor Vehicle transactions. The new system will only require one check for Motor Vehicle transactions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 603-744-3288.



## Alexandria Waste Management Committee 9/19



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

### Money in our Pockets

Net savings through March 2019 are \$1524. This includes our quarterly adjustment for glass, scrap metal/tin, and aluminum cans. There has been no revenue reported for copper in 2019. In an earlier communication, I indicated that as the result of modifications made to our program in October 2018, we were no longer recycling anything that did not result in positive revenue being generated. I have recently learned that the vendor processing our plastic has increased their processing fee to \$155/ton, which means that plastic is costing us more money to dispose of. However, market conditions being what they are these days, we are limited as to where we can dispose of our plastic waste; we can get a lower processing fee if we truck it to MA, but the hauling fee increases offset any saving there, and if we divert all plastics into the bulky waste, we increase the number of hauls for those containers, which has the net effect of offsetting any savings there. Based on the fact that the net cost to recycle plastic is approximately the same as not to recycle, the decision was made to accept the fact that it is going to cost us more to dispose of our plastic waste and continue to recycle those plastics for which there is still a market. By doing this we are continuing to keep a lot of plastic out of landfills and continue having a positive impact on the environment. We are maximizing our savings given our current facilities at the present location and we are handling the disposal of non-recyclable materials as efficiently as possible, given the current worldwide market conditions.

### What's New at the Transfer Station

New hours of operation. We are happy to announce that the transfer station is now open from 8:00 to 4:00 on Monday. Tony and the staff hope that by extending our Monday hours it will help those individuals who find it difficult to get to the transfer station on Saturdays. Also, please remember to pick-up your 2019 transfer station passes at the office. Stickers are free, but you will need to provide proof of residence. Landlords are reminded that tenants may be asked to provide verification that they are renting a local residence before being allowed to dispose of trash. A simple note from the landlord stating the tenant's name, the address of the property, and the dates involved is all that is needed – thank you.

Although it has been six months since we altered our recycling program to comply with new restrictions imposed by the vendors processing our recyclable materials, there is still a lot of confusion, especially in the area of plastics, as to specifically what can and cannot be recycled. Because plastic is used for so many different products, and the chemical components are subdivided into seven categories, defining what is recyclable under the new restrictions can be confusing. We've tried to simplify the process by picturing typical item that qualify; however, there are always the exception. Beginning in May processing facilities will be imposing a surcharge of \$160/ton for contaminated loads. That generally means no more than 10% of a load can contain non-recyclable material. To simplify things, there are pictures of the plastics we accept for recycling on the signs in front of the plastics bin and in pamphlets available at the transfer station and the town municipal building – only those items pictured should be thrown into the bin, other materials are considered 'contamination' and will result in a surcharge being charged. Items **NOT** accepted include; Styrofoam, plastic bags, package wrapping [hard/soft], furniture, toys and play-sets, all pot-like containers [including seedling pots and trays, all containers used for flowering plants, shrubs, and small trees].



Many of the afore mentioned items may carry the recycling symbol however, the chemical compound may not be acceptable by the vendors – if it's not pictured [even with a recyclable symbol on it], don't throw it in the bin, throw it in bulk waste.

### Every Individual Can Contribute

May is truly the beginning of spring here in New Hampshire; plants emerge from the ground to paint the landscape with vibrant colors and animals emerge from their nests, dens, and burrows often with newly born young to ensure the perpetuation of the species. What better time of the year to re-affirm our commitment to reuse materials that have fulfilled their original intent? This month I'm going to zero in on composting. People sometimes don't think of composting as a form of recycling; however, when you think about it, two of the objectives of recycling are to preserve our natural resources and extending the lives of our landfills by reducing the amount of waste discarded. Recently it was estimated that recyclable food waste and yard clippings from the lawns and garden make up about 30% of the material sent to landfills each year. The use of backyard composting can divert that material from landfills to help residents enjoy the benefits of fresh compost. Compost acts as a mulch enriching

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the soil, helping to retain moisture, and suppresses plant diseases and deter pests. Compost often reduces or eliminates the need for fertilizer.

Composting is easy and can be done indoors or outside depending on the size of your compost area. Instructions and tips for composting can be found on numerous websites including <https://www.epa.gov/recycle/composting-home#benefits>. You may ask, “won’t compostable materials break down in a landfill just as easily; and therefore, won’t adversely affect the landfill’s capacity?” The answer is; compost is the enriched material left as the result of material being broken down by the natural process of decaying. Although no longer in its original state, compost does have volume albeit less than in its original state. Additionally, landfill management techniques often call for covering waste material with some type of ‘top dressing’ to contain the material, speed the decaying process, and enhance appearances – this ‘top dressing’ further reduces landfill capacity.

Composting is something everyone should consider doing. It will require that you pay attention as to what you place in the compost bin [pile], be sure to keep it moist by applying water periodically during dry periods, and turning the pile over with a pitchfork every so often to keep it aerated – all of these tips are readily available as part of the instructions you’ll find on-line. Pre-made composting devices are available at home centers, garden and nursery facilities, and are often offered through local community groups such as garden clubs and conservation commissions. Hayneedle located in Laconia, NH has a wide selection you can order from their website; <https://www.hayneedle.com/>, search for compost bins.



Creative ideas for recycling, 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 to: [steve.whitman@hotmail.com](mailto:steve.whitman@hotmail.com); be sure to state “recycling comments” in the subject. In some cases, with the author’s permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues. You can visit the transfer station webpage on the town website [<http://alexandrianh.com/departments/transfer-station/>] for more information about the transfer station as well as links to recycling information sites. Thank you all for your continued support; thanks to you our program is working.

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## 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

### Office Hours

#### Selectmen's Office – 744-3220

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm  
Tuesday: 8 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 4 pm  
Wednesday: 10:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm  
*\*Must arrive 15 minutes prior to posted closing time\**

#### 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 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](mailto: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.nhdf.org/Community/Daily-Fire-Danger](http://www.nhdf.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](mailto:fire@alexandrianh.com)

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

*\*Please check website for up-to-date meeting schedule\**

Tuesday, September 3, 2019: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm  
Tuesday, September 17, 2019: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm  
Wednesday, September 18, 2019: Planning Board Meeting at 6:00 pm  
Wednesday, September 25, 2019: Conservation Commission Meeting at 6:00 pm  
Thursday, September 26, 2019: Selectmen's Office Closed

*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.*

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