

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



Alexandria Waste Management Committee



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

Trivia Quiz Question for the Month: The majority of the plastic products sold in the U.S. display the 3- arrow recycling symbol indicating that it can be recycled. What percentage of plastics recycled by the U.S. are actually recycled? (Answer at the end of article)

Money in our Pockets

In October, our total revenue received from recyclables was \$1251 generated by \$330 from aluminum cans and \$572 from light tin and misc. metal. There was also a quarterly adjustment for glass of \$349. Through October 2021, we have realized a net savings of \$10,242, which appears to make a yearly saving of \$12,000 realistic if we all continue to do our part. Keep up the good work. As you know, in addition to saving us money, your efforts to recycle have a positive impact on our environment and preserve our natural resources for all to enjoy.

What's New at the Transfer Station



There was no TSSC meeting 11/16; however, George did provide us all with an update. Erin has had two on-site meeting so far this month. The week of 11/8 she met with Ken, Paul, George, and a structural engineer Tim Shaw. The meeting was to review the structural layout and discuss the project in general. Tim will get back to us with his thoughts and suggestions, especially regarding the open-sided structure that would cover the area where household

waste, recyclables, etc. would be dropped off.

Erin returned to Alexandria 11/16 and again met with Ken, Paul, and George, as well as Keith and Jennifer D. to review Tim's comments/suggestions. The only suggested change was to move the 'recycling building' to the west end of the operation - that is, the end near Cass Mill Rd - to get it closer to utilities, water/sewer, and the employee building. During the meeting the preceding week, Tim Shaw suggested getting a professional estimator to look at costs for the various components of the project, the idea being to have those \$ numbers available for the TSS Committee the next time we meet, so that there can be a productive discussion about what we will present to the voters as a proposal for a bond issue. Other than a suggestion to use a professional estimator to establish the costs and styles of the various structures, Tim has made no further recommendations. No decision has been reached regarding the use of a professional estimator. There are still two outstanding issues which Erin is working on; the Eversource easement running through the property, and the need for an environmental impact study.

The committee hopes to present its recommendation as to the content for a warrant article to be presented to our residents in March 2022 requesting the funding needed for the transfer station to relocate and to become functional, as well as establishing a functional gravel pit. The SB will need to schedule a hearing in January, if there is to be a warrant article in March.



Ken has asked that I asked that I alert residents, that beginning the 1st of the year, some disposal fees will be increasing. Alexandria's fees are set to cover our costs to dispose of certain types of materials – we do not make a profit on any fees charged residents, and this continues to be our policy. You are all aware of the recent rise in the cost of everything, and trash disposal has not escaped this trend. Please know that we are doing everything possible

to control our expenses, and we thank you for your understanding. We have begun to recycle corrugated cardboard again. We now have a separate enclosed trailer dedicated to corrugated cardboard only. Please breakdown your boxes before placing them in the trailer – Remember, corrugated cardboard only. It has also come to our attention that hazardous waste and some construction debris are finding their way into the compactor. Only household waste is allowed in the compactor. To help control improper disposal of certain materials, beginning the 1st of the year, any black, contractor disposal bags will be subject to opening and inspection prior to dumping. Please remember, waste disposal is, for the most part, controlled by the state not the towns and transfer stations and landfills are merely complying with regulations. One final reminder to our residents; to allow for the transfer station to be properly secured, the gate closes at 3:45pm. Anyone arriving after that time will not be allowed to enter. Those in the process of unloading trash are expected to complete unloading no later than 4:00pm.

Every Individual Can Contribute



In the past, I've spent a considerable amount of time discussing the problems plastics pose to the pollution of our planet and why it is so important to recycle as much as possible. It can indeed be confusing, because what is accepted for recycling can and does change, a problem for people who bring in what they have amassed for months only to find that "the rules have changed" – frustrating and negatively impacting recycling plastics. Plastic recycling is subject to shifting market forces, not unlike the stock market. To keep abreast of the trends

and to redefine what is accepted — or not — to ensure that the materials that are in demand get recycled with a minimum of contamination is an ongoing battle for transfer station and recycling center staff.



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Generally, recycled plastics have a very small profit margin, and all this volatility is created in an attempt to keep down expenses while maximizing the recycling effort. Some materials are recyclable but accepted only in specific locations, so it's too costly to ship. Styrofoam (#6) is a good example. It can theoretically be recycled, but it must be taken to specific facilities set-up to process the material. That facility charges a fee to accept it, on top of transport expenses. Cardboard and paper have always found a market. Sixty-seven percent of paper and cardboard in the US was recycled in 2017, according to Columbia University; however, recycling facilities are accepting only corrugated cardboard and 'office waste paper' and most facilities require it to be baled. Aluminum is the most recyclable of all materials, as it does not degrade. Aluminum beverage cans have enjoyed a steady growth market and are expected to continue to be in high demand. Mixed metal recycling is being fine-tuned, but processing techniques are expensive. Glass is enjoying an increase in both recycling and reusage, but here again specialized equipment is needed and not always available at a nearby location. However, even though most plastic products display the recycling symbol, plastic and our ability to manage our usage remains our biggest single threat.

So, if most plastics "are recyclable," why is it then that 78% of plastic waste is not recycled and ends up in countries with the weakest waste regulations — impoverished nations in Asia and parts of Africa? As worldwide concern over plastic pollution pressure grew, and the concept that plastic was a harmful, unacceptable material that had no recyclable value, a campaign was launched in the U.S. that created the branding of plastics with the 3-arrow recycle symbol inside of which was a number classifying the type of plastic. Once those triangles and numbers were invented touting that plastics can be recycled, a torrent of plastic poured into recycling centers, even though the industry knew that recycling most of it was not feasible. In 2018 the EPA calculated that only 8.7 % of plastic received from the U.S. was being recycled. In 2018, China, the largest market for recycled plastics, tighten its import regulations and no longer accepted recycled plastic shipments. This opened the door for the impoverished nations to provide a market for these goods. However, these nations that were now accepting the overflow recyclable waste had no mean of disposing of the unwanted materials after removing the most desirable materials, and simply disposed of what they chose not to use. Not having effective waste management regulations in place, most of the unusable waste ended up in the oceans. In the case of plastics, that amounted to an estimated 88 million tons per year. That is equivalent to one dump-truck full per minute.

Most plastics, theoretically, can be recycled once, or at the most twice, before they degrade. Collecting, sorting, cleaning, melting, and processing are a big expense requiring up-front investment in specialized technology. By contrast, virgin plastic, made from oil and gas, is cheaper and of better quality. And profitable. The oil industry makes over \$400 billion a year from plastic that mostly becomes trash.

Slowly, due to public pressure, investments in plastic recycling factories are growing. Still, it's an economic equation. Currently oil prices are up, making recycled plastic more attractive. However, the oil/plastics industry anticipates a rosy future. Plastics production is expected to double again in 20 years and almost quadruple by 2050. Think about it, and if you'd like some inspiration, view the Great Pacific Garbage Patch at: Great Pacific Garbage Patch in 2021: We Need to Reduce Plastic Consumption | A Little Bit Human.

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; be sure to state "recycling comments" in the subject. In some cases, with the author's permission, comments may be printed in subsequent issues.

Answer to trivia question: Only about 25% of the plastic produced in the U.S. is recycled. If we recycled the other 75% we could save 1 billion gallons of oil and 44 million cubic yards of landfill space annually. Using aluminum or glass containers is always preferable over plastic. In 2018 the EPA calculated that only 8.7 % of recycled plastic received oversea from the U.S. was actually being recycled.



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Town Hall Preservation

Hopefully by now you've noticed the new paint job on the front and driveway side of the building. Doesn't it look great!! The painting is being done as a joint effort with volunteers and professionals (JLT Painting). I'd like to thank John Thompson for his flexibility in getting this done, and Sue Cheney and Deb Heaman for their help in painting - which included scraping, sanding, priming and *then* the final coat; I couldn't have done it all on my own. The "Town Hall" lettering has been repainted and the Grange sign removed. Have no fear, the sign will go back up once it is restored.

Many of you have asked why we waited so late to get started; that's because the work wasn't to begin until Spring 2022 but John had an opening and we jumped on it. Thanks to Mother Nature for keeping the temps above normal; it was getting iffy there towards the end.

Next up is the porch side and rear. While the rear of the building isn't in rough shape the porch side is a different story. We are currently looking at what needs to be done and how we can prevent the rot from re-occurring over the next couple of decades.

If you or your organization is using the building for events, I ask that you <u>please</u> don't use duct tape on any of surfaces especially those that are painted. The tape residue gets left behind and damages the finishes.

Selectmen's Office



With winter fast approaching, we thought it might be beneficial to remind residents about our current winter sand availability policy and ordinance regarding plowing snow across road.

Policy Regarding Availability of Sand:

- Sand is available behind the Municipal Building (47 Washburn Road).
- Residents of the Town of Alexandria are allowed to fill up five 5-gallon buckets with sand for use on their property.
- The filling of pick-ups or other trucks and use by contractors is prohibited.
- Removal of sand by residents at the Highway Garage on Mundy Road is prohibited.
- The fine for a violation of this policy is \$100 per incident.

Snow Plowing Ordinance: Plowing of Snow into Roadways

To promote the safe and orderly passage of the motoring public on the Town's roads, free from obstructions and obstacles created by the removal or depositing of snow, the Town of Alexandria hereby adopted the following ordinance on February 5, 2019. No person shall by himself or by his agent or agents throw, push or put any snow or ice into or across any and all Town roads, including Class V and Class VI, or to deposit snow within the traveled portions of Town roads. Across any and all Town roads shall mean pushing snow from one side of the road to the other where snow would be deposited within the right-of-way of any road. Traveled portion shall mean any part of the roadway in which vehicles would travel or within the shoulders of said roadway.

Any person who violates the provisions of the Snow Plowing Ordinance shall:

- Receive written warning for first offense
- Subsequent offenses shall be subject to a fine of \$25 for each occurrence

BROADBAND COMMITTEE

The Selectmen recognize broadband services are critical for the town's development, businesses, emergency services, students and our residents' quality of life. The Selectmen are establishing a Broadband Committee as an advisory committee to the Select Board to research, evaluate, and report of technologies and infrastructure improvements that bring a high standard of broadband internet service throughout Alexandria at competitive costs. The committee will work with regional, state, and national agencies to foster a unified approach to future broadband development.

The Selectmen are looking for volunteers to serve on the committee. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please email a letter of intent with qualifications to alexandrianh@metrocaset.net or to Selectmen's Office, Town of Alexandria, 47 Washburn Road, Alexandria, NH 03222.



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2021 Tax Rate Calculation

(2021 Tax Rates per \$1,000 valuation)

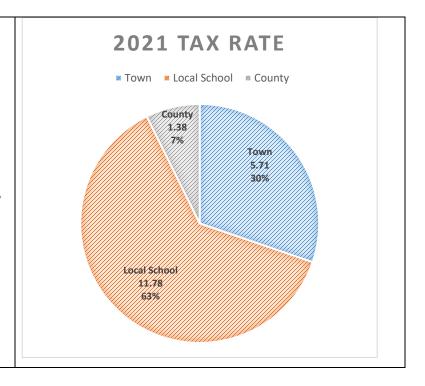
Municipal \$5.71

County \$1.38

School* \$11.73

Total \$18.82

*School tax rate is the local education and state education tax rate combined that goes to Newfound Area School District (SAU4)



TAX RATE HISTORY

Year	Tax Rate	Town	Local Education	State Education	County	Assessed Valuation	Property Tax Commitment
2021	\$18.82	\$ 5.71	\$10.29	\$1.44	\$1.38	\$288,719,358	\$5,415,107
2020	\$27.92	\$9.32	\$14.41	\$2.20	\$1.99	\$198,181,477	\$5,501,385
2019	\$24.04	\$6.46	\$13.44	\$2.17	\$1.97	\$197,038,051	\$4,661,061
2018	\$22.78	\$6.13	\$12.63	\$2.21	\$1.81	\$197,218,893	\$4,423,245
2017	\$25.17	\$7.16	\$14.03	\$2.22	\$1.76	\$196,640,493	\$4,872,832

TOWN BUDGET HISTORY

Year	Amount Voted to Raise	Veterans' Credits/Overlay	Revenues	Unassigned Fund Balance Used to Offset Taxes	Total Amount Raise by Taxation	Property Valuation
2021	\$2,401,781	82,462	(746,751)	(89,880)	1,647,612	288,719,358
2020	2,538,815	81,712	(660,896)	(112,965)	1,846,666	198,181,477
2019	2,383,049	76,735	(1,038,077)	(150,000)	1,271,707	197,038,051
2018	1,779,580	56,279	(626,470)	i	1,209,389	197,218,893
2017	1,961,348	58,263	(610,751)	-	1,408,860	196,640,493

Abatements: If you receive your tax bill and disagree with the value of your property that is being taxed, you can file for an abatement. An abatement is a request to refund some of the taxes paid on a property. Abatement requests generally fall into two broad categories: physical description errors and valuation opinion differences. To receive a copy of your assessment record card that shows what is listed for the physical description of the property and property value, please contact the Selectmen's Office at alexandrianh@metrocast.net or 603-744-3220. Property assessment information is also available on our website at alexandrianh.com. Abatements can be submitted after you receive your second issue tax bill but must be received in the Selectmen's Office by March 1st.



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Payments for tax bills can be made online via electronic check or credit card by visiting our website at alexandrianh.com and clicking on the "Property Taxes Review/Pay Online" button. Service Fee: We are using Invoice Cloud to process your actual payment. To cover the cost of the transaction, Invoice Cloud charges a service fee, the amount of which depends on the method by which you choose to pay and the costs to Invoice Cloud associated with processing that type of transaction. Electronic checks (ACH) are charged a flat fee of \$0.95 per transaction. Credit and debit cards are charged 2.95% of the amount being paid. For instance, if you are paying \$100 by credit card, the service fee will be \$2.95.





Making a Partial Payment? Partial payments can be made by adjusting the Payment Amount on the Check Out Page.



Alexandria Conservation Commission By Jennifer Tuthill, Alexandria Conservation Commission

Nests of endangered turtles are surprisingly found in a secluded site; a protected species of bird settles in to breed at a neverbefore-located area; a rarely seen and unique plant is discovered growing in an unusual place.

What are we supposed to do next? What is the "best" thing to do?

These are questions that every conservation commission and association deals with, or at the least will eventually contemplate and discuss because at some point it is very likely to occur.

The topic of "what is the best thing to do" often results in two different behaviors. Once word gets out amongst friends and the general public, a predictable response is to want to go and see it since the animal or plant is endangered, or rare. There exists in many of us a hunger to add such a sighting to our experiences. Who wouldn't want to see an extremely rare plant or animal which may not even exist years from now?

For other people, the desire to protect the plant or animal can become a priority. But really, can we do both? Can an organization or person actually create an environment that allows the animal the privacy and safety it needs to exist, as well as allow the public access for viewing?

This is not easy to answer. It depends upon the animal/plant, of course. In many cases it is not possible to do both. As habitat encroachment affects more and more species, we know this can cause population decline and extinctions. The simple act of building paths through the brush where turtles nest creates a change in nesting appeal. Paths for walkers, bike and dog traffic provide easier access to nests and turtles by predators, any of which can result in turtle death. Although saving a specific environment for specific bird, lizard, grass or tree seems pretty straightforward, once protected, habitat often changes because the public wants access to the novel plant or animal. The walking, talking, biking public change the protected environment. Can the public be encouraged to come and safely view active nesting and hatching? How much intrusion can the turtle/bird/salamander etc. handle, or really should there be any intrusion at all?

By visiting the very habitat, we are trying to protect we must be aware that we create a scenario where we can drive the animal further into danger. Have we helped this creature propagate and thrive through our protection, or have we hastened their demise as a result of added environmental stress? What is a good balance, and how do we judge it?

There are no hard and fast, or easy, answers to questions such as these. There is a lot to discuss and much information and research to use in planning for protection of various species. We cannot always help by opening up chosen living spaces to curious and loving admirers. Should we, and can we, as species protectors, ever simply leave the animal totally alone and ignore it as much as possible so that it can survive and produce viable offspring? Do you, your organization or mine, have the self-control to not visit, not organize viewing days, photography platforms and the like? More importantly, will the general public allow hands-off behavior once information has been shared and an area put into do-not-visit status? Is it acceptable to simply keep the information about location and species a well kept secret and hope that benign neglect will do the trick?

Most of us believe that education and information serve as driving forces for our behaviors. There are no absolute right or wrong answers regarding protection of certain species. Most of us, however, truly believe the animals have a right to be here. Let's work to keep it that way



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66th Annual Santa's Village & Craft Fair

When: Friday 12/10 6 pm to 8 pm; Saturday 12/11 2 pm to 5 pm; Sunday 12/12 2 pm to 5 pm

Cost: Canned Food Donation

Join the TTCC for this magical annual event! Vist Santa's Elves as they work on toys & wrap presents, enjoy on of Mrs. Claus' famous cookies, check out the awesome North Pole train station and spend time with Santa!

Visti the TTCC's BIGGEST Craft Fair while you wait! Tables still available for rent. For more information, contact the TTCC at 603-744-2713.



TTCC Teen Council's PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

Open to any parents in the Newfound Area that want a "kid-free" night! The TTCC's Teen Council offers this popular program throughout the school year. Teen Council members will be on hand to be sure your kids are well supervised and having a great time while you have a "night off". The kids will enjoy lots of fun activities, dinner, snacks, arts & crafts, prizes * more!! Space is limited, sign up right away!!

COMMUNITY CENTER 2021 DATES: 10/23, 11/20 & 12/18
Program is for ages 4 & up and costs \$15 per child.

Program runs from 5 pm – 10 pm at the TTCC!



DANBURY WINTER MARKET

FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH NOVEMBER - MAY

The Blazing Star Grange #71 of Danbury NH sponsors the <u>Danbury Winter Market</u> to help sustain our local area, strengthen our local economy, maintain our rural landscape thru saving small family farms that preserve our green space. Our market season runs the first Saturday of November thru May from 9 to noon. Two changes this season - the time! and we're going an extra month with our in person

market. Blazing Star Grange encourages your support of our Danbury Winter Market Vendors. Local farms provide a strong anchor in the security of local food supply and they, along with our artisan, strengthen our regions economy.

<u>The online ordering system</u> opens on Saturday, October 23 at 7:00 AM. *Market Location: Grange Hall, 15 North Road, Danbury NH, a stone's throw from the intersections of routes 4 & 104. For information contact Donna at 603-768-5579.*



LUMINARY WALK

Fri, Dec 17, 20215:00 PM on Sat, Dec 18, 20218:00 PM Slim Baker Foundation

At dusk, the Worthen Trail to Inspiration Point will be lit by ice luminaries. This self guided event follows the luminaries to the top where you can enjoy the night sky during the darkest time of the year! This outdoor event is free and open to the public,

no registration required.



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Office Hours

Selectmen's Office - 744-3220

Monday: 8 am to 4 pm
Tuesday: 8 am to 4 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: 8 am to 4 pm Saturday: 8 am to 4 pm

*Must arrive 15 minutes prior to posted

closing time*

Police Department 744-6650

Chief David Suckling

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday 8 am to 2 pm

Highway Department - 744-6516

Paul Sirard, 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.

Conservation Commission

To contact the Conservation Commission:

e-mail: info@alexandrianh.com

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.nhdfl.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 FIRE DEPARTMENT

PHONE: (603) 530-2229 FAX: (603) 744-3165 Emergency: 911 fire@alexandrianh.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Please check website for up-to-date meeting schedule – These meeting dates and time may change due to the ongoing concerns with COVID-19. Meetings will always be available to the public and we will be making efforts to have the meetings live streamed. Please also email info@alexandrianh.com with any questions or concerns you would like included in the public meeting.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm

Tuesday, December 14, 2021: Budget Committee Meeting at 6:00 pm at Town Hall, 45 Washburn Road

Wednesday, December 15, 2021: Planning Board Meeting at 6:00 pm Tuesday, December 21, 2021: Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 29, 2021: Conservation Commission Meeting at 6:30 pm at Alexandria Village School, 44 Mount

Cardigan Road

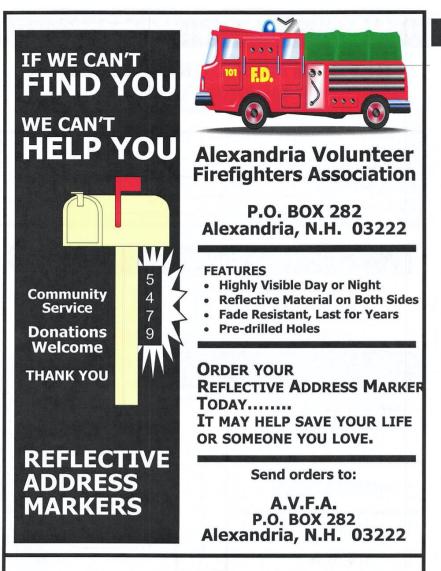
All meetings are held in the Conference Room at the Municipal Building (47 Washburn Road) and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Selectmen: All appointments and agenda items for Selectmen's meetings must be submitted to the Selectmen's Office by 4:00 pm the Thursday before the meeting. The Selectmen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

Selectmen's Meetings can be viewed on Atlantic Broadband Channel 24 on Mondays at 8pm, Wednesdays at 9 am, and Saturdays at 3 pm.



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ALEXANDRIA VOL. FIREFIGHTERS ASSOC.

REFLECTIVE ADDRESS MARKER ORDER FORM

Please complete the following information:

Name		
Address		1000
City, ST Zip		
Phone Number		
Address N	umber Reque	ested
Note: If your address has fe YOUR NUM	wer than 5 digits, please X those b BER WILL NOT BE CHANGED.	oxes not used
Mounting Prefe	rence	
HORIZONTAL		
VERTICAL (CHECK ONE)	V	14
(CHECK ONE)	E	5
	R	4
HORIZONTAL	T I DON WEI	ATIONS 7
	C WEI	COME 9
SEND TO:	A	J
	L	
A.V.F.A.		
P.O. BOX 282		
LEXANDRIA, NH 03222		