



KENNEBUNKPORT Town Review

A newsletter for the residents of Kennebunkport

Number 42

Spring 2025

New Automated Trash & Recycling System Reminders!

■ **New Pick-Up Schedule & Routes:** Some collection days and routes have changed.

Please check the Town website for your updated pick-up day and instructions on where to place your carts.

■ **New Carts Required:** Casella will only pick up Town carts.

■ **Bagging Rules:**

- ▶ Trash must be bagged inside the trash cart.
- ▶ Recycling must be placed loose (unbagged) inside the recycling cart.

■ **Casella App Update:** The Casella app is a great tool to remind you of pickup schedules and recycling dos and don'ts.

■ **Cart Issues?**

If you:

- ▶ Need to exchange your cart for a different size, or
- ▶ Need a cart repaired,

Please contact **Liz Stone** at (207) 967-1616 or estone@kennebunkportme.gov.

SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING WEBSITE PAGE



■ **Labeling Carts:** You may label your carts with your address or name, but use a non-permanent label—the Town owns the carts.



The new automated waste collection system began May 5.

New Town Office Hours Starting May 5th

To better serve our community and support our dedicated staff, the Town of Kennebunkport is adjusting its office hours:

TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Friday: 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM (Noon)

PUBLIC WORKS (Highway and Wastewater) HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Friday: 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM

This schedule provides extended availability Monday through Thursday and reflects a growing trend in other Maine communities to offer flexible schedules that support both customer service and employee well-being. As we continue to compete for top talent in a challenging labor market, these changes help us remain an attractive and responsive employer while maintaining high levels of service to the public.

We appreciate your understanding and look forward to serving you during these updated hours.

Dune Restoration

On January 30, 2024 the Board toured Goose Rocks Beach to observe and discuss the aftermath of the recent storm events. One of the effects of the back-to-back January storms was the decimation of the sand dune field along the East Arc of Goose Rocks Beach. Following the example of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust, which restored a portion of the dune field encompassing their conserved beach lots in March, the Town presented a proposal to FEMA to restore the remaining dunes along Goose Rocks Beach's East Arc in the early fall.

During their October Board meeting, the Kennebunkport Select Board approved commencing the dune restoration work in anticipation of receiving the FEMA funding. FEMA approved the funding, and the work was completed in late October and early November. The dunes were built up and 7,000 cubic yards of sand were replaced and 57,000 plugs of seagrass were planted. Thus far,

the dune build up and planting have been successful.



Dune build-up and seagrass planting at Goose Rocks Beach.

Seasonal Reminder: Help Protect Our Wastewater System

Last July, the Kennebunkport Wastewater Treatment Plant experienced a major disruption due to the loss of essential bacteria used to treat wastewater. The likely cause? Harmful chemicals entering the system through toilets, sinks, drains, and manholes.

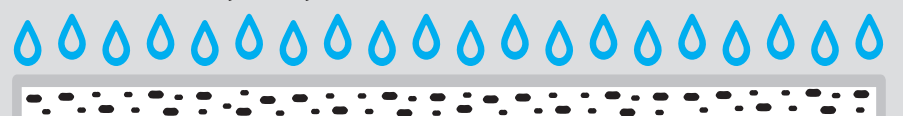
Our treatment process depends on natural organisms to break down and purify sewage. When improper materials are introduced, these vital organisms can be killed off—leading to system failures, environmental harm, and increased costs.

To keep our wastewater system functioning properly, please avoid disposing of the following materials down household drains or toilets:

• **Hazardous Chemicals:** This includes solvents, paints, pesticides,

industrial cleaners, and even unused or expired medications. These substances can kill the beneficial organisms our system relies on and may pass through untreated, polluting our waters and harming aquatic life.

- **Grease, Oils, and Fats:** These substances solidify in pipes, causing costly blockages and reducing treatment efficiency.
- **Non-Biodegradable Items:** Diapers, wipes (even those labeled “flushable”), feminine hygiene products, and plastics **do not** break down and can clog pipes and damage equipment.
- **Heavy Metals:** Elements like mercury, lead, and cadmium are toxic and create long-term environmental hazards, endangering both wildlife and human health.



By disposing of waste materials properly, you're helping to protect our environment, ensure public health, and preserve the efficiency of our wastewater infrastructure.

Questions?

Call the Kennebunkport Wastewater Department at 207-967-2245 to ask what is safe for disposal.

Let's work together to keep our system clean and our waters safe—thank you for doing your part!

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TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING June 10 & 11, 2025 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

To the voters of Kennebunkport: You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of this municipality will be held at the **Village Fire Station, 32 North Street, on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at 8:00 a.m.** for the purpose of acting on Articles numbered 1 and 1a (Election of Officers) as set forth in the Town Warrant.

The polls for voting shall be opened immediately after the election of the Moderator at 8:00 a.m. on June 10, 2025, and shall close at 8:00 p.m.

The continuation of said meeting will be held at the **Consolidated School, 25 School Street, on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.** for the purposes of acting on the Articles (Funding and Non-Funding Articles), as set out in the Warrant.

The Registrar of Voters will hold office hours at the polls to correct a name or address on the voting list, to accept the registration of any person eligible to vote and to accept new enrollments.

Attested copies of the Town Warrant as well as Sample Ballots are posted at the Town Offices, 6 Elm Street.

Copies of the Warrant can be viewed on the Town's website at www.kennebunkportme.gov/elections

A copy of the Town Report will be available by the first week of June and may be picked up at the Town Offices, 6 Elm Street; Bradbury Brothers Market, Main Street, Cape Porpoise; and Graves Memorial Library, 18 Maine Street.

Tracey O'Roak
Town Clerk

◆ Question 1: Town Ordinance Amendments to the Land Use Ordinance

By Galen Weibley, Director of Planning and Development

As climate resiliency continues to play an important role in planning in sea level rises and storm surges hitting properties along the coast, the Town of Kennebunkport is proposing amendments to the town's Land Use Ordinance to offer flexibility and greater guidance for projects in environmentally sensitive areas.

■ **What are the proposed amendments?** Town staff has noticed an increase in climate resiliency planning by properties within the special flood hazard areas of town by elevating existing structures two feet above the base flood elevation (BFE). This solution offers short term relief of protecting properties but offers unique challenges with elevating structures. The proposed change would exclude stairs associated with elevating a structure from the lot coverage calculations and setbacks in an effort to give greater flexibility for non-conforming lots that are too small or can meet all the land use requirements. The state of Maine has also changed state law to expand the definition of building height for existing non-conforming structures to lift an existing structure two feet above the BFE measured from the sill to the roof instead of the existing grade to roof. This will help structures in special flood hazards that in some cases would not be able to comply because of building height restrictions.

The ordinance amendment also includes missing provisions from the State's Guidelines for Municipal Shoreland Zoning Ordinances (Chapter 1000) related to replanting and other performance stan-

dards for operating or conducting a project within the Shoreland Zone.

■ **What is Shoreland Zoning?** The state of Maine requires municipalities to adopt a Shoreland Zoning Ordinance for enforcement of environmentally sensitive areas of a community (250 feet of a coastal & freshwater wetland, river and 75 feet from the normal high-water line of a stream). Towns are required to update their Shoreland Zoning Ordinance standards as updates are made by the legislature and department. Provisions include replanting trees, erosion protection standards, preserving existing vegetated shorelines, placement of buildings and division of new lots and reducing density and residential impact on active shorelines.

■ **What happens if the Town doesn't update Shoreland Zoning standards?** Failure for a Town to adopt and update their Shoreland Zoning Ordinance may cause the Department of Environmental Protection to take over enforcement of shoreland zoning permit applications and enforcement. This can cause longer delays with building permits and plan approvals because of the review by a state agency and take away local enforcement autonomy for communities who desire standards that fit their community's goals.

Copies of the ordinance amendment language can be found on the Town website and at the Town Hall and questions can be emailed to Galen Weibley, Director of Planning & Development gweibley@kennebunkportme.gov

BALLOT QUESTIONS FOR JUNE 10, 2025 ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

By Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk

◆ QUESTION 1 - AMENDMENT TO THE KENNEBUNKPORT LAND USE ORDINANCE

The proposed changes are intended to bring the Town's Land Use Ordinance into conformity with the State of Maine's Shoreland Zoning guidelines. Additionally, provisions have been added to allow homeowners to make their homes more resilient in the Shoreland and Resource Protection Zones without seeking a variance for necessary changes.

◆ QUESTION 2 - AMENDMENT TO THE KENNEBUNKPORT TOWN CODE, FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE

The proposed changes will add provisions in performance standards for development located in the AO Zone, which has been added to the FEMA flood maps in various areas in Kennebunkport following the adoption of the LOMR in July of 2024

◆ QUESTION 3 - AMENDMENT TO THE KENNEBUNKPORT TOWN CODE, SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE

The proposed changes will update the solid waste ordinance to align with the Town's new disposal contract.

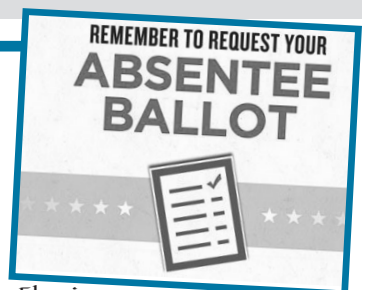
◆ QUESTION 4 - AUTHORIZATION OF ROAD USE AGREEMENT

The Agreement will allow the Town to maintain a public evacuation route during times of flooding or emergencies. The Town will make drainage upgrades totaling \$10,000.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS NOW AVAILABLE

Absentee ballots are now available at the Kennebunkport Town Clerk's Office for the upcoming Annual Town Meeting Election and the R.S.U. #21 Budget Validation and Referendum Election to be held on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, at the Village Fire Station, 32 North Street in Kennebunkport. **PLEASE NOTE:** the last day to obtain an absentee ballot for this election is **Thursday, June 5, 2025.**

If you have any questions about absentee voting or to request absentee ballots, please call Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk, at 967-1610.



◆ Question 2: Floodplain Ordinance Amendment

By Galen Weibley, Director of Planning and Development

In June voters will be asked to amend the Town's Flood Management Ordinance to include missing performance standards for the AO Zone. This is because with the adoption of the 2024 FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the Town of Kennebunkport adopted the model ordinance from the state of Maine to be in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program which excluded these standards. The reason these standards were not part of the model ordinance from the state was because the state was referencing the FEMA FIRM Maps set to take effect for one day before the Town's Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) took effect adding this zone back into the town's mapping.

■ **What is the AO Zone?** The AO Zone are areas in town that

experiencing shallow depth sheet flooding (think coastal bluffs where wave action causing ocean spray to fall down on a property) verses coastal flooding which is the result of high tides, wave actions and storm surges that can cause greater flooding levels.

■ **Why is the amendment needed?** This amendment will provide guidance to developers and homeowners who are considering new construction or projects within the AO Zone.

Copies of the ordinance amendment language and the new FIRM Maps with flood elevation levels can be found on the Town website and at the Town Hall and questions can be emailed to Galen Weibley, Director of Planning & Development gweibley@kennebunkportme.gov

STUFF THE BUS

- Help us fill the Parks and Rec bus with nonperishable food and household/personal supplies on Election Day, June 10th. Our goal is to stock the Community Outreach Services Pantry shelves, ensuring no resident goes hungry. We will also have a donation jar for cash or checks made out to Community Outreach Services, which will be used to purchase food from the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

THANK YOU!!!!



The Stuff the Bus Food Drive on Election Day.

◆ Question 3: Solid Waste Ordinance Revisions

The Board of Selectmen recently authorized the Town Manager to negotiate an extended contract with Ecomaine for the disposal of our Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling. We are also beginning automated pick up on May 5, 2025 by Casella. This will result in the need for changes to Chapter 342 - Solid Waste Rules and Regulations, as well as Chapter 179 Chapter 2 - Kennebunkport Solid Waste Ordinance.

Key Changes and Revisions are as follows:

1. Waste Hauling Permit (§ 342-2)

Contract Updates: References to the 2012 Waste Handling Agreement with Pine Tree Waste/Casella in Westbrook must be updated to reflect the new agreement with Ecomaine.

Permit Requirements: Clarification is needed on contract dates in Chapter 179 (§ 179-6 and § 179-11).

Financial Responsibility: Town-contracted haulers must demonstrate financial responsibility specifically for delivery to Ecomaine, while non-contracted operators must do so for any licensed facility.

Hauler Regulations: References to Pine Tree Waste/Casella in Westbrook's regulations should be updated to Ecomaine's regulations.

Hazardous Waste Notification: Haulers must notify Ecomaine rather than Pine Tree Waste/Casella if loads contain hazardous waste or come from a potentially hazardous source.

Permit Revocation: Any references to Pine Tree Waste/Casella in Westbrook in § 342-15(C) should be changed to reflect Ecomaine's regulations.

2. Approved Disposal Sites (§ 342-3)

Primary Disposal Site: Acceptable waste should be directed to Ecomaine or its backup facilities, replacing Pine Tree Waste/Casella in Westbrook. If necessary due to breakdowns, Town should approve alternate disposal location.

3. Fees and Placards (§ 342-4, § 342-5, § 342-6)

Hauler Fees: Fees will now apply to vehicles hauling waste no longer being picked up by the Town Contracted Company/Hauler.

Town Responsibility for Tipping Fees: The Town will only pay tipping fees for

town-contracted haulers delivering to Ecomaine, and non-contracted haulers must cover their own disposal costs.

Placards: As the Town is no longer covering tipping fees except for town-issued carts, Haulers may no longer need facility placards. We are still requiring the Haulers to placard their vehicles for identification purposes.

4. Waste Collection and Containers (§ 342-7, § 342-9)

Curbside Collection Limitations: Only waste collected within Kennebunkport and delivered to Ecomaine by town-contracted haulers will be paid for by the Town unless otherwise authorized by the Board of Selectmen.

Container Requirements: After May 5, 2025, only town-issued carts (one for trash, one for recycling) will be accepted for curbside collection.

Ownership of Carts: While the property owners will be keeping the carts for their service, the Town will retain ownership of the carts.

Waste Placement Rules: Group collection location and storage must be approved by and authorized by the Town.

5. Enforcement and Compliance (§ 342-10, § 342-11, § 342-15)

Fines and Violations: Fines of up to \$1,000 remain in place, but references to outdated agreements (Chapter 179-6, 2012 contract) must be replaced with the Ecomaine requirements.

Customer Lists: The requirement for haulers to submit customer lists will no longer be required since the Town no longer covers non-contracted hauler tipping fees.

Permit Suspension/Revocation: References to Pine Tree Waste/Casella in § 342-15(C) must be updated to reflect Ecomaine's hauler regulations.

6. Other Administrative Updates

Effective Date: Updated to July 1, 2025 to reflect the new contract start date.

Terminology Updates: All references to Pine Tree Waste/Casella in Westbrook should be replaced with Ecomaine, and all citations to Chapter 179, Article II must be reviewed and updated where necessary.

These changes will ensure that the Town's solid waste policies align with the new agreement with Ecomaine and reflect current waste management practices.

◆ Question 4: Enhancing Emergency Access to Goose Rocks Beach

By Galen Weibley, Director of Planning and Development

This June, Kennebunkport voters will be asked to approve a proposed agreement between the Town and the Goose Rocks Beach Voluntary Road Association that will enhance emergency access to the Goose Rocks Beach neighborhood during flooding events.

Over the past several years, we've seen rising sea levels and more frequent severe storms intermittently flood key public roads leading to Goose Rocks Beach, such as Dyke Road and New Biddeford Road. When these roads are impassable, residents have limited or no safe evacuation route from the area.

To address this concern, the Town has worked with a local private road association to explore an alternative evacuation route. This effort led to the development of a Road Use Agreement with the Beaver Pond Road and Prescott Road Association—also known collectively as the Goose Rocks Beach Voluntary Road Association.

What's in the Agreement?

If approved, the agreement would:

- Allow the public and emergency services to temporarily use a portion of Prescott Drive, Summer Breeze Lane, and Beaver Pond Road during flooding emergencies.
- Enable the Town to make modest, one-time improvements to those roads, including:

- Clearing existing drainage pipes,
- Installing a drainage pipe at 16 Prescott Drive, and
- Applying gravel to re-grade and improve the road surface.

These improvements will be done primarily with Town resources and are estimated to cost less than \$10,000.

What Are the Benefits?

- Enhances safety and resilience for Goose Rocks Beach residents.
- Provides a reliable alternate access route during flooding.
- Achieves this without the Town taking over maintenance of the roads or assuming ongoing obligations.

The Town's responsibility ends after the agreed-upon improvements are completed, though the agreement allows for mutual flexibility if future maintenance is needed.

Why a Town Vote?

Because the agreement involves the use of private roads and public resources, it requires approval by Kennebunkport voters at the Annual Town Meeting in June. A yes vote will authorize the Town to enter into the agreement and make the proposed improvements.

This is a practical and cost-effective step toward ensuring emergency preparedness in one of our most vulnerable coastal neighborhoods.

Play Legos with the Planning Department!

By Nadia Crockett-Current, Code and Planning Coordinator

If you could snap your fingers and be in the town of your dreams, what would it look like? If you didn't need to get any permits, what would you build? Come answer these questions with the Lego game the Town Planners have created to teach residents about the planning process! The Planning Department is excited to announce that you and a team of five other residents will soon be able to join one of our game sessions and put on your planner vests. We would like to make these sessions as accessible as possible, so we will be hosting them in various location around Kennebunkport and at different times of day for ease of access. *We currently have 3 sessions scheduled, which will all run approximately 2 hours:*

- Thursday, June 5 at 10am at the Village Fire Station
- Tuesday, June 10 at 6pm at the Graves Library
- Saturday, June 27 at the Goose Rocks Fire Station

If you have any questions about the game, or need help registering for a session, please contact Nadia Crockett-Current at ncrockett-current@kennebunkportme.gov or (207) 967-1614.

<https://forms.office.com/r/ThCVS9Aa0b>

Scan this code or type the link into your browser to register for a game session!



Join the BAR: The Best Board You've Never Heard Of!

If you've ever wanted to serve your community without the stress of constant meetings, have we got the opportunity for you! The Town of Kennebunkport is looking for volunteers to serve on the Board of Assessment Review (BAR)

What is the Board of Assessment Review (BAR)?

In the state of Maine, when a property owner believes their assessment is unfair or inaccurate, they can file an abatement with the Tax Assessor. If they disagree with the Assessors' decision, they can appeal to the BAR for a second look. The board listens to the case, reviews the information, and determines whether an adjustment should be made. It's an important

process that ensures property owners are being taxed fairly.

While some municipal boards are busy year-round, the BAR only convenes when there's an appeal to consider.

If you're interested in volunteering for the Board of Assessment Review, reach out to Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk, for more details.

Tracey O'Roak,
toroak@kennebunkport.me.gov
207-967-1610.



generally positive. The communications strategy lays out priorities and scope of work for the team, with a timeline indicating when certain town events and communications need to happen, and when there are times available for new projects.

Three logo options were presented, all drawing inspiration from Kennebunkport's rich maritime history - including the lobster and shipbuilding industries - and its reputation as a destination for visitors seeking an authentic coastal Maine experience. Having a municipal logo is becoming increasingly common. These logos are typically used for websites, social

media, brochures, and signage. However, they do not replace the official town seal or flag, which continues to be used on legal documents. Additionally, a logo can change and be updated to reflect the current goals and direction of an organization while a seal remains an anchor of the organization's history and mission.

The Selectboard voted and selected the second logo presented, a blue circle with a white anchor in the middle. This design plays off an established icon, taking its center graphic directly from the Town flag. Since the logo was chosen it has been seen on flyers, social media, and the website.



Understanding the Chemicals in Our Waterways

by Susan Kaagan Kennebunkport Conservation Commission

In 2023 and 2024, the KCC conducted water testing at five locations throughout Kennebunkport. This summary provides key findings from those tests—specifically, where and when certain chemicals were found at levels above limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What We Found

Several commonly used lawn and garden chemicals were detected in our water samples at levels above EPA safety thresholds. Here's a breakdown of the most significant findings, along with examples of product names you might recognize:

- 2,4-D – A weed killer found in products like Weed B Gon and Weed Away, detected above limits in nearly all tests. This chemical is a main ingredient of Agent Orange.
- Atrazine – A pre-emergent herbicide (prevents weed seeds from sprouting), found over the limit in every sample. Common brand names include Harness and TopHand.
- Azoxystrobin – A fungicide used in products like Ortiva and Heritage, elevated only in the June 9, 2024 sample.
- Dethy atrazine – A breakdown product of Atrazine and Simazine, consistently over the EPA limit.
- Desethyl atrazine – Another breakdown product of Atrazine, over the limit in two samples.
- Dimethenamid – Used to control crabgrass and weeds, exceeded the limit three times at one site (Frontier Herbicide).
- Diuron – Controls mildew and unwanted vegetation, exceeded the limit in multiple samples (Karmex, Adama).
- Fipronil – An insecticide often found in pet treatments like Frontline. Detected above limits in two locations. This product is banned in food applications and harmful to bees



and aquatic life.

- Fluroxypyr – A herbicide found in TrooperPro, exceeded the limit once.
- Simazine – A pre-emergent herbicide found in three locations during the most recent sampling (Aquazine, Prince).

Why This Matters

Some of these chemicals are classified as Restricted Use Pesticides (RUPs)—meaning they can legally only be applied by licensed professionals. Their presence in our water raises concerns that:

- These chemicals may be mis-used or improperly applied by licensed applicators.
- Runoff from treated areas is making its way into local water sources.

Violations can result in fines, and enforcement is managed by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control.

Fipronil, in particular, is a serious concern. It's toxic to water-dwelling wildlife, contributes to the decline of honeybee populations, and is commonly used in tick control applications.

For a full list of RUPs, visit the [Maine Board of Pesticides Control website](#).

Looking Ahead

Fipronil is a broad-spectrum insecticide used widely in both home and agricultural applications. It is now classified by the EPA as a possible human carcinogen.

A proposed bill in the Maine Legislature (March 2024) aims to delay bans on agricultural pesticides containing PFAS—harmful “forever chemicals.” Currently, the legislative is now considering whether to extend that delay from the original proposed date of 2030, to 2032.

For more information, visit [Beyond Pesticides](#), a national resource on pesticide safety and alternatives.

Kennebunkport Public Health Services

Kennebunkport Public Health department offers skilled nursing care, general assistance, and social services to residents and guests. **For more information, call 967-4401 or visit our webpage on the town website.**

Our **FREE** durable medical equipment closet (LOAN CLOSET) includes crutches, walkers,

commodes, and shower chairs, available to residents and guests. Check with us before you buy!

If you have suggestions on how we can help, please let us know. Our services are funded by town taxes and private donations. Visit and subscribe to our website for programs, resources, and offerings.

Apparel Impact: How It Benefits the Community

Did you know that **85% of clothing ends up in the trash**? Apparel Impact is here to change that. Founded in 2014, Apparel Impact is a New England-based company with a mission to change the way we think about clothing. By focusing on textile recovery, the company aims to reduce landfill waste, create local jobs, and support underserved communities. Apparel Impact has grown to become a leader in textile recycling, partnering with municipalities, businesses and non-profits to host clothing recovery bins. These bins collect clothing, shoes, and accessories, ensuring they are re-used, upcycled, or recycled rather than discarded.

Apparel Impact is a family and veteran-owned business that focuses on textile recovery and community support across the country. They are highly regarded for their commitment to giving back and improving the environment.

Kennebunkport is proud to host Apparel Impact textile recovery bins, located at the Village Fire Station and the Police Station. These bins have already made a significant impact by diverting textiles from the waste stream and giving them a second life. But the benefits go beyond environmental sustainability—they extend to the heart of the community. How? Kennebunkport Public Health department can request textile resources from Apparel Impact helping families in need gain access to essential resources. With this relationship the Public Health department can obtain textiles in emergencies, such as house fires or financial hardships, providing resources to affected families.

Spring cleaning is here! As you go through your closets, consider donating items you no longer need or want to our local bins. Here is a list of items they accept:



Clothing

- Men's Clothing
- Children's Clothing
- Coats/Jackets
- Undergarments
- Towels
- Women's Clothing
- Vintage Clothing
- Winter Gear
- Sheets

Accessories

- Hats
- Bags
- Backpacks
- Belts
- Ties
- Bathrobes
- Purses
- Pocketbooks
- Duffle Bags
- Gloves
- Scarves
- Jewelry

Footwear

- Sneakers
- Heels
- Sandals
- Boots
- Slippers
- Dress Shoes
- Flats
- Flip Flops
- Cleats

All items must be dry and free of odor or mold. Items do not need to be in wearable condition. Unwearable items will be recycled in other ways, such as being used for insulation.

For more information, visit [Apparel Impact](#).

Celebrating Those Who Give Back

By Hope Mowry-Wall, Communications and Events Specialist

The Town of Kennebunkport hosted our second annual Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast on Thursday, October 10th at Atlantic Hall. This event is our chance to thank those who volunteer for the Town of Kennebunkport throughout the year on Boards, Committees, and at events. Russ Grady, 2024 Spirit of America Award recipient, spoke on the importance of volunteering and giving back to the community. And Lisa Mills and Don Wessels from Ocean Ave. band provided live entertainment.

The event was made possible in large part by sponsorships from M&T Bank and Kennebunk Savings, as well as donations from Mornings in Paris and Cape Porpoise Kitchen. Thank you to ev-

everyone who came together to help make this event a success and most importantly, thank you to our volunteers, who have dedicated their time and talents to our community.



Photo courtesy of Bob Dennis.

POLICE DEPARTMENT SUMMMER UPDATES

By Christopher Simeoni, Chief of Police

With summer approaching, the Police Department is addressing parking concerns on the Causeway related to the Pier Project. The Causeway will be reduced to one lane, with an automatic traffic light managing traffic flow. However, due to construction, parking will be limited. The Police and Public Works Departments are working together to improve messaging by clearly marking parking spaces and properly designating no-parking areas to minimize confusion and prevent parking violations. Parking in these areas will be strictly enforced.

Continuing with parking enforcement updates, the Town has adopted new parking fines effective May 1st. The

fine for parking at Goose Rocks Beach without a permit will increase to \$80, up from the current \$65. Handicapped parking violations will result in a \$265 fine, compared to the current \$210. Fire lane violations will also incur a \$265 fine, significantly higher than the current \$35. All other parking violations will carry a \$50 fine, up from the current \$35, and late fees for payments made after 30 days will increase to \$25, up from \$20. These updated parking fines bring the Town in line with other local communities and aim to encourage voluntary compliance with Kennebunkport's parking ordinances. The Police Department remains committed to

ensuring the safety of both residents and visitors above all else.

We are excited to introduce Officer Lawrence 'Larry' Angis and Dispatcher Isabelle Oleson, who are joining our department to support our commitment to serving and protecting the community. Officer Angis brings 27 years of law enforcement experience, having served the Town of Buxton and City of Biddeford before becoming a valued member of our team. He is also a proud veteran of the United States Army. Dispatcher Isabelle Oleson, while new to public safety, comes to us with a strong background in

customer service. She earned her associate's degree in business administration from York County Community College and currently runs her own residential cleaning business. Please join us in welcoming them both, and we are grateful they have chosen our beautiful town to serve and protect!

Thank you for your continued support as we work to improve our department and serve the community. Together, we will ensure that Kennebunkport remains a safe and welcoming place for all.

BIRD SAFETY

Lights Out Kennebunkport

(Between 11 PM-6 AM)!

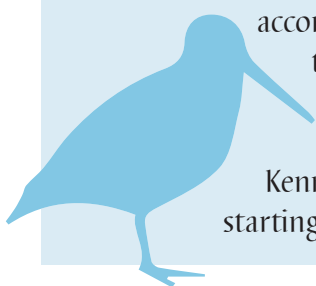
Spring is upon us in the Port and now is the time to do your part to protect our feathered friends. Each year a mass migration of birds travel great distances to Maine to sing beautiful notes, breed, raise chicks and enjoy the warm summer sun before making the same distance to overwinter in the south. Unlike our typical Maine "Snowbirds", our feathered compatriots travel during the evening hours (between 11pm-6am). Just this small action of turning off exterior, landscaping and interior lights help reduce the 253 million bird casualties that take place annually in the United States. You can sign up for forecast alerts here for when the peak migration times are but generally southern Maine begins seeing peak migration in May. : <https://birdcast.info/migration-tools/local-migration-alerts/>

To learn more what you can do, visit: birdcast.info/science-to-action/lights-out/heres-how-you-can-make-a-difference/

If you do need to use light at night, use warm light sources of < 3000 Kelvin and install motion sensors to minimize outside light for only when needed. These small actions lead to savings in your electric bill and may have benefits to reducing the disruption of your natural sleep cycle (circadian rhythm). Studies are now illustrating the possible harmful effects that blue light from smart phones/tablets and cool (blue) led light sources can have in disrupting human's circadian rhythm and production of melatonin.

By following these simple steps during the annual migration you will be saving lives, saving money, and looking out for your own health. It's not very often you can

accomplish so many things in one fell swoop, so let's turn our lights out Kennebunkport starting this May!



NEW FACES



ADAM CURTIS - OPERATOR PUBLIC WORKS



MATTHEW LEGENDRE - OPERATOR PUBLIC WORKS



ELIZABETH STONE - ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/PAYROLL CLERK PUBLIC WORKS/FINANCE



LAWRENCE ANGIS - OFFICER POLICE DEPARTMENT



MORGAN MARTINEZ - OFFICER POLICE DEPARTMENT



ISABELLE OLESON - DISPATCHER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Climate Resiliency Committee Update

The Climate Resiliency Committee (CRC) has had an active couple of months meeting with Town departments and outside organizations to move forward their goals. They have recently been focusing on developing a partnership with UNE, to give students an opportunity to research for a local municipality. The students will be working

on a feasibility study for placing a solar farm on the old Kennebunkport landfill, a project the CRC believes can help the Town build climate resilience while saving on energy expenses. Research is anticipated to wrap up by the end of April, at which point the CRC will be able to decide if the project seems like a possibility for the Town. Stay tuned!

PROJECT UPDATES SPRING 2025



Infrastructure Resiliency Projects

With the completion of the Pier Road Causeway project last summer, the Town turned its attention to the Head of the Harbor on Pier Road and the Wandby Beach area of Ocean Avenue. Both of these locations frequently experience the impact of high tides king tides and storm surges, causing road closures and damage to infrastructure and surrounding properties.

Head of the Harbor

A neighborhood meeting for the Head of the Harbor project was held last summer in August. The engineers will be bringing forward

concepts to the Selectboard this summer.

Wandby Beach – Ocean Avenue

Woodard & Curran finished the final design for the Wandby Beach project on Ocean Avenue and have applied for permits. In January 2025 the Town submitted a grant request to Maine EMA for a Hazard Mitigation Grant which would provide 80% of the \$3 million estimated cost of the project. The Capital Improvement budget contains the towns match which will hopefully be approved in June.

Wastewater Project Updates

By Peter Conroy, Director of Operations for Wastewater

■ Treatment Plant Upgrades Summary

Since last fall, the treatment plant has undergone several major upgrade projects, including improvements to dewatering equipment, the SCADA system, aeration mixers and bridges, and control panels. Each of these upgrades enhances the plant's operational efficiency, sustainability, and ability to meet evolving regulatory requirements.

■ SCADA System Upgrade

The SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system upgrade marks a significant step forward in operational efficiency, reliability, and cybersecurity. The project involved replacing outdated hardware and software with advanced technologies that enable improved data acquisition, real-time monitoring, and automated process control. These enhancements support smarter decision-making and more streamlined operations across the entire infrastructure.

■ Aeration Mixers and Bridges

Upgrading the aeration mixers has improved the efficiency and effectiveness of the biological treatment process. Modern mixers enhance oxygen transfer rates, ensuring optimal conditions for microorganisms to break down organic matter. The result is reduced energy consumption, lower operational costs, and improved system performance. Additionally, the new mixers are more durable, require less maintenance, and contribute to a longer equipment lifespan.

To accommodate the new mixer designs, bridges were installed in the aeration tanks. These structures allow for optimal placement of the mixers, maximizing their performance and supporting the long-term sustainability of the treatment process.

■ Dewatering Equipment – Centrifuge Installation

In response to updated regulations, the plant replaced its belt filter presses with centrifuges for dewatering. Centrifuges efficiently separate solids from liquids,

significantly reducing the volume of biosolids requiring disposal. This leads to cost savings in both transportation and landfill use. Furthermore, centrifuges improve the quality of treated water by removing finer particles than previous methods and offer continuous operation with minimal human intervention. Their compact design also conserves valuable plant space.

■ Control Panel Upgrades

Replacement of the computers inside of the control panels allows for automation of the equipment contained in the plant. These modern panels offer advanced automation, real-time monitoring, and remote access. Operators can quickly identify and resolve issues, optimize system performance, and minimize downtime. Integrated with the upgraded SCADA system, the new panels enhance data collection, energy efficiency, and regulatory compliance.

■ Variable Frequency Drives

Replacing the Variable Frequency Drives in the facility was a critical upgrade that significantly enhanced operational efficiency and reliability. These units regulate the speed and torque of pumps allowing for better energy management and process control. Over time, older VFDs become inefficient, prone to failure, or incompatible with modern systems. By replacing outdated units with newer, more advanced models, facilities can reduce energy consumption, minimize maintenance costs, and ensure smoother, more responsive control of wastewater processes. This upgrade supports sustainability goals and compliance with environmental regulations.

■ Looking Ahead

These upgrades collectively enhance the performance, reliability, and sustainability of our wastewater treatment operations. Staff continues to utilize asset management software and our sustainability plan to identify and prioritize future projects that will further improve plant efficiency and environmental stewardship.

Pier Project Updates

By Frank Orr, Cape Porpoise Pier Harbormaster

The long-awaited Cape Porpoise Pier Rehabilitation Project began this fall with Prock Marine Company as the contractor. The work is being performed in stages to ensure continuity of services for the boaters and commercial fishermen who use the pier. The Harbor Master's office has been moved to the contractor trailer at the top of the hill across from 77 Pier Road.

The pier will be rebuilt in two sections, maintaining two active hoists and at least 100 feet of usable pier frontage for the duration of the project. The most significant impact on the normal services provided is that no gasoline or diesel fuel will be available for sale at Cape Porpoise Pier until the new fuel system is installed, which is currently projected for mid-June.

Project Milestones through January 2025:

- **November:** The temporary trestle bridge was installed to maintain access to the south end of the pier while the north end is under construction.
- **December:** The wooden portion of the north end of the pier and the office/bait shed were demolished. The underground fuel storage tanks were removed at this time. The punt floats were reconfigured and are accessible



by a ramp off the Chowder House deck.

- **January:** Approximately 30 feet of the stone and earthwork portion of the pier was removed. Reconstruction started in mid-January, and the first sheet piles of the new structure were driven on the 22nd of the month.

By the time the project is done, Cape Porpoise Pier will be almost completely rebuilt, with the entire structure raised two feet higher than the current elevation. The new office and bait shed will be built on the same footprint as the old building, but on a much stronger foundation and designed to protect the building in the event of flooding, like we saw during the storms in 2024. A new fuel system will be installed, including new underground storage tanks placed higher up the hill on Bickford Island to make them less vulnerable to flooding during storms.

Parking on Pier Road Causeway during Construction

Parking at Cape Porpoise Pier is extremely limited while construction is going on. There will be a single lane closure on the Pier Road Causeway while this work is done to allow for additional parking along the sidewalk (see map). One lane will be left open to alternating traffic with temporary traffic lights.



Town Hall Building Committee Update

The Town Hall Building Committee, comprised of members of the public, Town staff, and Selectboard members, continues to explore the best way to address the need for a new Town office space with concerns regarding cost, efficiency, and renewable energy. Utilizing input from a public workshop in September 2024, the committee recommended that the 32 North Street site be utilized for the project due to lower site cost development, better location for solar energy, lower environmental impact, and with much less natural area being disturbed.

There are also potential synergies with the existing Fire Station building. The committee unanimously recommended the 32 North Street site to the Selectboard. (The Selectboard concurred in their January 9th meeting). The committee is currently working with the design team and consultants to select the best building components and energy choices while balancing costs and environmental considerations and benefits to the community. The committee should be ready to present its findings to the public during this upcoming summer.

Summer is Coming!



GOOSE ROCKS BEACH FAQ

- ◆ **When are parking stickers required?**
Parking stickers are required from the beginning of Memorial Day week-end through Labor Day during the hours of 8:00 AM. and 5:00 PM.
- ◆ **Do I still need a sticker if I live in Kennebunkport?**
Any vehicle that parks in the marked spaces along the beach requires a sticker.
- ◆ **Can I purchase stickers for my out-of-town guests?**
You may purchase non-residents stickers for guests' vehicles. Or you can let them use your vehicle with the resident sticker already affixed.
- ◆ **Do I have to purchase a sticker for the whole season?**
You may purchase daily or weekly stickers at kiosks located at the beach.
- ◆ **Where can I buy parking stickers?**
Seasonal beach stickers may be purchased at Kennebunkport Town Hall. Weekly and daily stickers can be purchased at one of the two kiosks located at the Goose Rocks General Store or on the corner of Kings Highway and Proctor Avenue.
- ◆ **Can I walk my dog on Goose Rocks Beach?**
Dogs are allowed at certain times of the day, depending on the time of year.

*** Dogs must remain 200 feet from Piping Plover Nesting Areas ***

Times	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	Noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm
April 1 through June 14	Dogs must be leashed														
June 15 through Labor Day	Dogs must be leashed			No dogs allowed on the beach						Dogs must be leashed					
Labor Day+1 through September 15	Dogs must be leashed														
September 16 through March 31	Dogs may be unleashed, if under voice control (VC)				Dogs must be leashed				Dogs may be unleashed if under VC						
Times	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	Noon	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm

BEACH STICKER UPDATES

There have been some changes to the beach stickers this year. First, the prices will be as follows:

- Taxpayer sticker: _____ \$10 each – limited to 2
- Non-resident daily sticker: _____ \$40 – purchased at kiosks at GRB
- Non-resident weekly sticker: _____ \$200 – purchased at kiosks at GRB
- Non-resident seasonal sticker _____ \$325 – purchased at town hall or taxpayer purchasing extra stickers

The second change is that the stickers will be *affixed to the inside of the car* this year. They will still be located in the bottom left corner of the rear window but will just now be inside.

Maine Healthy Beach Program:

By Alison Kenneway, Director of Public Health

This summer, from Memorial Day through Labor Day, Kennebunkport Public Health Department and Maine Healthy Beaches will monitor our beaches. Maine Healthy Beaches is a statewide effort to ensure water quality and protect public health on Maine's coastal beaches.

Beaches will be tested biweekly for Enterococci bacteria, which indicates fecal contamination. Test results will be available on the Kennebunkport Public Health Department and Maine Healthy Beaches

websites. Advisories will be posted for bacteria levels over 104 MPN per 100 milliliters set by the EPA, recommending the public avoid water contact. Advisory signs will be at beach entrances, and rainfall advisories will be posted after 1" or more of rain within 24 hours due to increased runoff bacteria.

For more information, visit the [Maine Healthy Beaches website](#) or the [Kennebunkport Public Health Department website](#).

Beach Wheelchair Rentals Now Available

Did you know the Parks & Recreation Department offers a beach wheelchair for rent? It's available for just \$15 per day and can be conveniently reserved online at Kennebunkportrec.com.

Rentals are available from **May 18 through October 31**. The wheelchair is stored at the **Tides Beach Club** and can be picked up there for use at **Goose Rocks Beach**. A special thank you to the Tides Beach Club for partnering with us to provide this valuable service to both locals and visitors.

For any questions or to learn more about the beach wheelchair, please contact the

Recreation Department at 207-967-4304.



Gearing up for Summer Fun with Parks and Recreation

By Stephanie Simpson, Director of Parks and Recreation

Get ready for another season of fantastic live music and fun at the Summer Concerts in the Park! After a year where the weather didn't always cooperate, we're thrilled to bring back an amazing lineup of bands for 2025. Join us at Parsons Field (20 Recreation Way, right next to Consolidated School) for a memorable evening filled with great music, delicious food, and good times. Bring your lawn chairs or blankets, sit back, and enjoy the tunes of three incredible bands, while indulging in tasty treats from local food trucks and refreshing beverages courtesy of Batson River Brewing & Distilling. We'll have fun activities for the kids too, including face painting and a bounce house!

Best of all, these concerts are free—so don't miss out on the fun!

2025 Summer Concert Dates:

- June 26 – The Ben Lyons Band
- July 17 – Joan Kennedy
- August 21 – The Dock Squares

A special thank you to our generous sponsors, **Kennebunk Savings and Pack Maynard Real Estate**, for making these concerts possible.

Mark your calendars—concerts run from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. We can't wait to see you there!

Exciting Summer Camps for Kids – Enroll Today!

Looking for the perfect summer activities for your child? We've got you covered! This year, we're offering a variety of fun and educational camps that your kids won't want to miss. From exploring marine science to unleashing creativity, there's something for everyone!

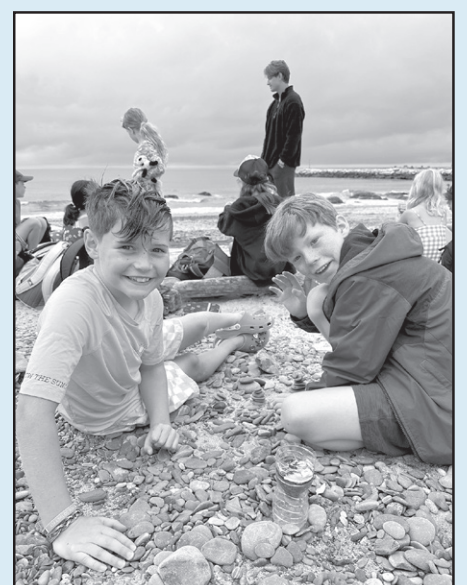
Visit our website at kennebunkportrec.com



for all the details on our exciting summer camps, including:

- **Marine Science Camp** – Dive into hands-on learning by the water!
- **Art Outside Camp** – Let your child's creativity run wild in the great outdoors!
- **Leadership Camp** – Build confidence and leadership skills in a fun, supportive environment!
- **Mad Science Camp** – Unleash the scientist within with fun, interactive experiments!

Plus, we're offering tennis lessons for kids,



where they can learn the game, improve their skills, and have a blast!

Be sure to check out all of our summer offerings. You might just find the perfect camp for your child – or even something for you!

The Parks & Recreation Department offers programs and events for all ages all year! Join us and get in on the fun!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MAY

MONDAY, MAY 26TH

- ◆ MEMORIAL DAY PARADE ◆ 9:30 am

JUNE

THURSDAY, JUNE 5TH

- ◆ LAST DAY TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT.

Town Clerk's Office will be open until 7:00 pm for absentee balloting and voter registration.

SUNDAY, JUNE 8TH

- ◆ BARBARA BUSH'S COMMUNITY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

7:00 am-3:00 pm at Gooch's Beach & River Green

TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH

- ◆ POLLS ARE OPEN 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM. ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE DUE BY 8 PM.

Polls are open 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Village Fire Station at 32 North Street. See pages 2-3 for additional election and voting information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH

- ◆ KENNEBUNKPORT'S ANNUAL OPEN TOWN MEETING

will be held on Wednesday, June 11th at 6:00 pm. This is a new date and time as approved by the voters. 8:00 am at Kennebunkport Consolidated School at 25 School Street. For further information see page 2.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15TH

- ◆ NO DOGS ALLOWED ON THE BEACH FROM 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, MUST BE ON LEASH AT ALL OTHER TIMES.

THURSDAY, JUNE 26TH

- ◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – THE BEN LYONS BAND 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Consolidated School) For more information please see page 7

WATER TESTING

By Alison Kenneway,
Director of Public Health

Over 1,000 Kennebunkport households rely on well water. The Department of Health & Human Services recommends periodic testing for bacteria, radon, arsenic, copper, and lead: annually for dug wells and every three years for artesian wells.

From June 1-15, we are partnering with Nelson Analytical to offer free well water testing kits. Pick up your kit at the public health office, collect your samples, and deliver them to Nelson Analytical in Kennebunk for reduced testing prices. Pricing varies by test, and results are confidential.

Payment (cash, debit, credit, or check to Nelson Analytical) is due at drop-off. This simple step can significantly impact your family's health.

For questions, contact the public health office at 967-4401.

SAVE THE DATES:

Well Water Testing-
JUNE 1ST-JUNE 15TH,
Drop off your kit at Nelson
Analytical during these
dates at your convenience!

Meet Us at the Museum

The Louis T. Graves Memorial Public Library has passes to seven different museums throughout Maine for all Kennebunkport residents and patrons to visit for half-price or free. Brick Store Museum, Ogunquit Museum of Art, Seashore Trolley Museum, Children's Museum of Maine, Portland Museum of Art, Coastal Botanical Gardens, and Strawberry Banke.

Please come by or call us at 207-967-2778 to reserve a pass for a particular day (some passes are seasonal).



JULY

FRIDAY, JULY 4TH

- ◆ JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

THURSDAY, JULY 17TH

- ◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – JOAN KENNEDY

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Consolidated School) For more information please see page 7

AUGUST

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21ST

- ◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – THE DOCK SQUARES

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Consolidated School) For more information please see page 7

SEPTEMBER

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND

- ◆ DOGS ALLOWED ON BEACH AT ALL TIMES OF DAY, MUST BE LEASHED

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

- ◆ DOGS MUST BE LEASHED FROM NOON TO 5:00 PM, MAY BE UNLEASHED AT OTHER TIMES IF UNDER VOICE CONTROL

OCTOBER

ZOMBIE DASH

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10TH at the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust at 57 Gravelly Brook Road, Kennebunkport.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11TH

- ◆ HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

8:00 am-1:00 pm at the Public Services Department, located at 36 Sea Road, Kennebunk.