



KENNEBUNKPORT Town Review

A newsletter for the residents of Kennebunkport

Number 44

Spring 2026

New Fire Chief in Kennebunkport

The Town of Kennebunkport is pleased to announce the appointment of **Todd Zsiga** as the Town's next Fire Chief, following a competitive search process. Chief Zsiga brings more than 28 years of fire service experience in emergency response, leadership, fire investigation, and emergency medical services.

Chief Zsiga currently serves as a Lieutenant with the City of Portland Fire Department, where he has led fire suppression and EMS operations, supervised the Fire Investigation Unit, and managed complex emergency incidents. Throughout his career, he has built a strong reputation as a thoughtful leader, skilled communicator, and dedicated public servant.

In addition to his career service, Chief Zsiga has extensive experience working within on-call and volunteer fire systems, having served for many years with the Scarborough Fire Department and in leadership roles supporting the Peaks Island call company. His background provides a strong understanding of the unique opportunities and challenges faced by departments like Kennebunkport's that rely on call firefighters.

"Chief Zsiga stood out as a candidate who combines operational expertise with humility, professionalism, and a genuine respect for community-based fire service," said Laurie Smith, Town Manager.



Chief Todd Zsiga

"He understands the importance of building trust within the department, supporting firefighters through training and development, and ensuring the highest level of service to our residents and visitors."

Chief Zsiga holds associate degrees in Fire Science and Emergency Medical Services and is currently completing a bachelor's degree in Fire Administration. His certifications include Fire Officer I & II, Certified Fire Investigator, Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator, Paramedic, HazMat Technician, and several safety leadership credentials.

Chief Zsiga began his new role with the Town of Kennebunkport on Monday, May 4th.

Playground Fundraising Underway



Firefighter's Park in Cape Porpoise.

The Town of Kennebunkport, together with community members and supporters, has launched a fundraising campaign to build a new playground at Firefighters Park in Cape Porpoise. Community support is playing a vital role in bringing the project to life, with already \$25,000 raised.

Firefighter's Park is a cherished community space known for its peaceful setting and natural beauty. The planned playground will create a welcoming place for children and families to gather, play, and enjoy the park's scenic coastal surroundings for years to come.

The project's fundraising goal is \$200,000. Plans for the playground include firefighter-themed features that honor the park's name, nature-inspired elements that blend with the environment, and safe, engaging equipment designed for children of different ages and abilities.

"This playground will be an exciting addition to Firefighters Park and a valuable investment in our community," said Stephanie Simpson, Director of Parks and Recreation. "It will create a welcoming space where families can come together and children can enjoy safe, imaginative outdoor play."

Community support will play a vital role in bringing the project to life. Tax-deductible donations can be made online at www.kennebunkportrec.com (scan the QR code below left) or mailed to:

**FIREFIGHTERS PARK
PLAYGROUND FUND
Town of Kennebunkport
P.O. Box 566
Kennebunkport, ME 04046**

For more information
or to get involved in
fundraising efforts, contact
Stephanie Simpson at
207-967-4304 or
ssimpson@kennebunkportme.gov.



To donate, use the code above. At right, one example of the firefighter themed playground under consideration for Firefighter's Park.



TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT
P.O. BOX 566
KENNEBUNKPORT, ME 04046

PRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #454
Portland, ME 04101

TOWN OF KENNEBUNKPORT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

June 9, 2026

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE

To the voters of Kennebunkport: You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of this municipality will be held at Village Fire Station, located at 32 North Street, in said Town on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, at 7:50 a.m. for the purpose of acting on Article (1a) to elect a moderator. The polls for voting on Article 1 shall be opened at 8:00 a.m. on June 9, 2026, 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 10, 2026, 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

STATE PRIMARY ELECTION INFORMATION

On June 9, 2026, the State of Maine will hold a Primary Election for the offices of US Senator, Representative to Congress (both districts), Governor, all 35 State Senate districts, all 151 State Representative districts, and the following county offices, which vary depending on the county: Judge of Probate, Register of Probate, County Treasurer, Register of Deeds, Sheriff, District Attorney and County Commissioner.

Primary Elections determine each qualified party's nomination of candidates for federal offices and State and County offices. Party candidates who are elected at the Primary qualify to appear on the November General Election ballot.

Voters *not* enrolled in a party, may request either a Democratic or Republican ballot for the June 9th Primary Election.

If you have questions about whether you are enrolled in one of the qualified parties or have general election questions, please call the Town Clerk's Office at (207) 967-1610.

PLEASE NOTE: the last day to obtain an absentee ballot for this election is Thursday, June 4, 2026.

Voters *not* enrolled in a party, may request either a Democratic or Republican ballot for the June 9th Primary Election.

The local and state
primary elections will be
held on Tuesday,

June 9, 2026 at the

Village Fire Station, 32 North Street.

Polls will be open from 8 am to 8 pm.

Absentee ballots may be requested until Thursday, June 4th at 7:00 pm and must be returned by 8 pm on election day.

Ranked-choice voting will be used in the primary election only for the U.S. Senate and Governor's races. Therefore, one side of the candidate ballot will be ranked choice voting, and the other side of the ballot will be regular voting. Please read the instructions on the ballot carefully before making your selections.

Visit the State's website for more information at www.maine.gov/sos/cec/elec/upcoming/index.html or scan the QR code, right.



Maine SOS Election website

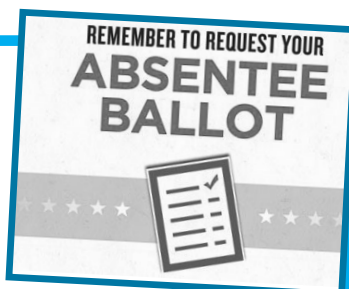
ABSENTEE BALLOTS NOW AVAILABLE

Absentee ballots are now available at the Kennebunkport Town Clerk's Office for the upcoming State Primary Election, Annual Town Meeting Election and the R.S.U. #21 Budget Validation and Referendum Election to be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, 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 4, 2026.

If you have any questions about absentee voting or to request absentee ballots, please call Tracey O'Roak, Town Clerk, at (207) 967-1610.

LAST DAY TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT – June 4th

Remember to request an absentee ballot for the upcoming June 9th Annual Town Meeting & RSU #21 Budget Validation Referendum Election by THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026.



Absentee Voting FAQ for the June 9th Election

■ Is there a difference between absentee voting and mail in voting?

All voting in Maine prior to Election Day is considered absentee voting. Five states (Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah and Washington) use a mail-in only system for voting. Maine allows voters to vote via absentee ballot OR in-person at the polls on election day.

■ How do I request an absentee ballot?

You may call us at (207) 967-1610 and request that we mail one to you. If you leave a voicemail message, please include a return phone number. We must actually speak to each voter personally when requesting over the phone. OR you may come to town hall to pick-up ballots to take home.

■ Who can request an absentee ballot?

Any registered voter may request an absentee ballot for themselves or an immediate family member.

■ Don't want to use the mail?

You can come to Town Hall to pick up ballots for yourself and your immediate family members. You

can then return the ballots to the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours or use our secure drop box installed by the sidewalk in front of the Town Hall.

■ Is there an outside drop box for ballots?

Yes! It is clearly marked for absentee ballots only and is located by the sidewalk in front of the Town Hall. Do not place absentee ballots in the black drop by the front door of Town Hall. This is not a State or Federally approved drop-box for ballots.

■ How are absentee ballots processed?

Absentee ballots are processed and counted in the same manner as Election Day ballots. The difference is that the voter is putting their ballots in an envelope, which they sign and seal. When it is time to process the absentee ballots, we open the envelopes, separate the ballots and process them by using the same voter tabulation machines that are used on Election Day. This is done using several teams of election workers for accuracy as well as checks and balances.

■ How can I see what is on the ballot before I get to the polls on election day?

Sample ballots are available to view at Town Hall or on our website (www.kennebunkportme.gov/Elections) as soon as they are available. Information regarding registering to vote as well as ranked choice voting can also be found on the website.

■ Why do I continue to receive absentee ballot applications in the mail if I have already requested ballots?

The political parties as well as some special interest groups are mailing absentee ballot applications to voters. If you have already requested your ballots or if you wish to vote at the polls on June 9th, just disregard the mailings. We have no control over these mailings. If you aren't sure if you have already requested absentee ballots, please call the Town Clerk's office to confirm (207) 967-1610.

Please feel free to contact the Kennebunkport Town Clerk, Tracey O'Roak, at 207-967-1610 or toroak@kennebunkportme.gov

BALLOT QUESTIONS FOR JUNE 9, 2026, ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

By Tracey O’Roak, Town Clerk

◆ QUESTION 1 –AMENDMENT TO THE KENNEBUNKPORT LAND USE ORDINANCE

The proposed amendments relate to section 240-10.7 the parking performance standards to allow applicants under site plan review process to provide for alternative parking configurations that deviate from the self-parking model that is found under this section. Possible alternative parking configurations can be stacked or valet parking controls on a property that demonstrates how the property owner will manage the parking of customers, guests and patrons to their site. Emergency Services need to sign off on any alternative parking plan to ensure that access to the structure is not impeded by the new parking plan and layout.

◆ QUESTION 2 – TO SEE HOW MUNICIPAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH 2026 WINTER PRELUDE WILL BE SHARED BETWEEN THE TOWN AND THE EVENT ORGANIZERS.

This is a non-binding advisory question to determine how residents would like the Town and event organizers share the costs of Prelude. The options are as follows:

- A. All municipal costs associated with 2026 Winter Prelude shall be paid in full by the event organizers, with no expenditure of municipal funds
- B. Up to \$17,500 of municipal costs associated with the first weekend of 2026 Winter Prelude shall be paid from municipal funds, with the balance of municipal costs to be paid by the event organizers
- C. Up to \$35,000 of municipal costs associated with the entire 2026 Winter Prelude event shall be paid from municipal funds, with the balance of municipal costs to be paid by the event organizers

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS EXTRA HOURS

The Kennebunkport Town Clerk/
Registrar of Voters
will hold evening hours at the
Kennebunkport Town Hall
on Thursday, June 4th until 7:00 PM.
in order to conduct absentee voting,
to register any person eligible to vote
and to accept any enrollment/address
changes for the upcoming
June 9, 2026, State Primary Election,
Annual Town Meeting Election and
RSU #21 Budget Validation
and Referendum Election.

◆ QUESTION 1 – Land Use Ordinance Revisions

The Town of Kennebunkport will consider amending the Land Use Ordinance this June. The change amends section 240-10.7 to allow for **Alternative Parking Plans** that deviate from individual’s independent parking on the lot. This means that a property owner which is proposing a commercial use can request the Planning Board to allow for stacked or valet

parking instead of the current regulations that require parking independently on the lot by guests or patrons. This alternative plan requires approval by both the Fire and Police Chiefs and Planning Board to ensure public safety in the event of an emergency on the site. A copy of the proposed amendment can be found at Town Hall with the City Clerk for review before the June ballot.

◆ ADVISORY QUESTION 2: Winter Prelude Funding

At the June election, voters will be asked to weigh in on how municipal costs associated with the 2026 Winter Prelude event should be shared between the Town and the event organizers. This question is nonbinding and advisory, meaning it is intended to provide guidance to the Selectboard regarding community preferences.

■ Why is this question being asked?

Winter Prelude is one of Kennebunkport’s most recognized annual events and brings significant activity to town each December. The event is run by the Kennebunkport Business Association, a separate nonprofit board.

During a recent review of the Town’s Mass Gathering Ordinance, adopted by voters in 1986, it was determined that the ordinance requires organizers of qualifying events (such as Prelude) to be responsible for municipal support costs. According to the ordinance, Prelude costs associated with operational needs, such as traffic management, public safety staffing, road closures, and crowd control, should have been billed directly to the event organizers. Although this was the case early in Prelude’s history, over the past few decades the Town has absorbed some of these costs, and more recently most of those costs. As Prelude has grown, so has

the Town’s costs associated with providing these critical operational needs.

Given that for the Town to continue to pay these costs would not formally align with the current ordinance, the Selectboard has brought the question back to the voters to gain clarity.

■ What are the options on the ballot?

Voters may choose one of the following advisory options:

◆ OPTION 1

All municipal costs associated with 2026 Winter Prelude shall be paid in full by the event organizers, with no expenditure of municipal funds.

◆ OPTION 2

Up to \$17,500 of municipal costs associated with the first weekend of 2026 Winter Prelude shall be paid from municipal funds, with the balance of municipal costs to be paid by the event organizers.

◆ OPTION 3

Up to \$35,000 of municipal costs associated with the entire 2026 Winter Prelude event shall be paid from municipal funds, with the balance of municipal costs to be paid by the event organizers.

■ Where do the numbers come from in the ballot question?

Municipal costs may include services such as police staffing and traffic control, fire and EMS support, Public Works support and barricade placement, street closures and safety measures, and coordination with County emergency planning agencies.

\$35,000 is the estimated cost that the event organizer would have to pay if costs were billed fully for the event. \$17,500 is half of the cost, so 50% from the Town and 50% from Kennebunkport Business Association.

Given that the majority of these costs are associated with weekend events, such as tree lightings and parades, the choice to pay half the costs would essentially have the Town pay for the first weekend and the event organizers pay for the second weekend.

■ What Happens Next?

Because this is an advisory question, the Selectboard will undertake the steps necessary to implement the wishes of the voters. This will likely be an amendment to the Mass Gathering Ordinance to be brought to voters in November of 2026.



DON'T FORGET!

Casella App

The best way to stay up-to-date with trash and recycling pick-up in Kennebunkport is to download the Casella app! The Casella app is great for reminders about pick-up days, information on what can be recycled, and access to easily report missed collection and other issues.



To download the app in the Apple App Store scan this QR code:

To download the app in the Google Play Store scan this QR code:



Don't forget to sign up for notifications and email alerts from our website and through Documents on Demand for Minutes and Agendas. Scan the QR code or visit our website for more information.



Register for e-notifications

Composting in Kennebunkport

The Solid Waste and Recycling Committee, with the Selectboard's approval, has launched a pilot composting program to reduce the Town's waste disposal costs and cut methane emissions. Two collection bins for kitchen scraps have been installed at the Public Works garage (105 Beachwood Ave) and are serviced weekly by Mr. Fox Composting.



For more information about composting in Kennebunkport visit the composting page on our website at www.kennebunkportme.gov/Compost or scan the QR code.



Composting

Tax Club Applications Open in Late July

The Tax Club is a tax payment plan that taxpayers can utilize to assist in relieving the pressure of dual lump sum payments for Real Estate taxes. It works like a Christmas Club where the taxpayer and Town enter into an agreement that allows one to budget their obligation over an 11-month period. During this agreement period, interest will not accrue as long as the taxpayer is current with their obligation in accordance with the agreement.

Keep an eye out on our website and social media for a notification when applications become available in late July 2026. More information will be available at www.kennebunkportme.gov/TaxClub

Wastewater Fiscal Year Transition

The Town is transitioning the wastewater billing schedule from a calendar-year cycle to a fiscal-year cycle (July 1-June 30). This change will better align wastewater revenues with the Town's budget, financial reporting, and long-term planning for system operations and capital improvements.

As part of this transition, customers will see a **new temporary transition payment** during the changeover period. This payment is not a rate increase or an extra charge for additional services. Rather, it reflects wastewater service that is already being provided but must be billed in order to bridge the gap between the old calendar-year billing cycle and the new fiscal-year schedule.

Under the previous calendar-year system, wastewater billing periods did not align with the Town's fiscal year. To transition to the new schedule without skipping or duplicating service periods, a partial billing adjustment is required. This helps ensure the wastewater utility remains financially stable during the transition process.

Rather than requiring a single lump-sum payment, the

Selectboard approved a plan to spread the transition cost over ten years. As a result, a fixed transition amount will be added to each wastewater bill during that period.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Billing will transition to a two-payments-per-year basis
- Bills will be issued in November and May of each year
- A future transition payment will be added to each bill
- Wastewater revenues will align directly with the Town's fiscal-year budget

The Town understands that any change to billing can raise questions. This adjustment is necessary to ensure fairness, continuity of service, and responsible management of the wastewater system that protects public health and the environment.

If you have questions about your bill or the fiscal-year billing transition, please contact the Wastewater Division for assistance at (207) 967-2245.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support of the Town's wastewater system.

Stuff The Bus:

Voting Day is coming up which must mean it's time to STUFF THE BUS for COS! **Community Outreach Services** is celebrating their **35th year**, so we hope we can show up for their program. They have helped year after year for those in our community that need some assistance.

Our goal is to stock the Community Outreach Services Pantry shelves, so no residents go hungry. Non-perishable food items along with paper products and cleaning supplies are always welcome!

With the volunteers of the Kennebunkport Health Council, we will also have a donation jar present to accept cash or checks. Please make out your checks out to **Community Outreach Services**. These funds are used to purchase food from the Good Shepherd Food bank.

If you are an individual or family in need of food assistance, please reach out directly to Community Outreach Services to schedule a date and time that works for your family to "shop" at the food pantry. Go to COSkennebunks.org and click on the food link or call 207-985-3844 for more information.

Voting Day! June 9, 2026



Kennebunkport Village Fire
32 North St.

Non-perishable Foods

Cash Donations for Food Purchases



community 35 YEARS
OUTREACH SERVICES

Kennebunkport Market Update: Ensuring Fairness in Property Values

The Town is considering a **market update**, a faster and more cost-effective alternative to a full revaluation that still delivers fair, updated assessments.

What Is the Purpose?

The goal of any market update is to achieve **fairness and equity in property assessments** across all property types. When properties are undervalued, owners pay less than their fair share of taxes. Conversely, overvalued properties place an unfair burden on homeowners.

By aligning assessments with current market conditions, the town ensures that property taxes are distributed equitably among all residents.

Why Now?

The State of Maine recommends municipalities complete a revaluation every 10 years, or sooner if assessment ratios fall outside acceptable ranges.

- The Town of Kennebunkport's last statistical update was completed in 2022, improving the town's ratio from 84% to 100%.
- For the upcoming 2026–2027 tax year, the ratio has dropped to 75% (adjustable to 83% within allowable limits).

While still within state guidelines, this downward trend signals a growing gap between assessed values and actual market conditions.

This shift also impacts exemptions:

- Homestead Exemption: decreasing from \$25,000 to \$20,750
- Veterans Exemption: decreasing from \$6,000 to \$4,980

Updating values now will help keep assessments accurate and maintain consistency for taxpayers.

Residents are encouraged to stay informed and reach out to the Assessing Department with any questions at 207-967-1603 or blogan@kennebunkportme.gov.

Property Fraud Alerts

Recently, many residents have asked about a surge of television and online commercials warning homeowners that criminals can steal your identity — and even your home — by fraudulently transferring your deed. These ads often encourage you to enroll in their monitoring service for an annual fee to “protect” your property. The good news is that it's **not as simple as these commercials make it seem**.

While deed fraud can occur, there are checks and balances within the recording system designed to help prevent and detect fraudulent activity. Recording a deed requires formal documentation, and the process leaves a clear paper trail. It is not something that can be done casually or without doc-

umentation.

Even better, the **York County Registry of Deeds offers a FREE fraud alert service**. By signing up, you will receive an alert anytime a document is recorded in your name. This provides peace of mind without the need to pay for a private subscription service.

Residents are encouraged to sign up directly through the Registry of Deeds at www.searchiqs.com/fraudalert

This simple step allows you to monitor recordings tied to your name at no cost.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding your property, deed, or assessment records, please do not hesitate to contact the Assessor at 207-967-1603 or blogan@kennebunkportme.gov.

Kennebunkport's New Permitting Software—GovWell

The Kennebunkport Planning and Development department is in the process of migrating to GovWell: a permitting software that will allow residents to track the progress of their permits and applications live as staff processes them. From the GovWell dashboard, users will be able to submit building permits and Planning Board applications, file code complaints, and view

live information about active permits and applications. The Planning Board application process has completely shifted to GovWell and the building permit application process opened in May.

A video tutorial can be found on the Planning Board page of the Town website that walks the user through the entire process of submitting an application through GovWell.

To view the resident portal, simply type app.govwell.com/kennebunkport into your browser, or scan the QR code to the right.

If you have any questions about GovWell please do not hesitate to reach out to the Planning and Development office.



Officers Join Kennebunkport Police

Officer Megan

Lawrence recently joined the Kennebunkport Police Department as our newest full-time officer, but she is no stranger to the community she now serves. Since 2022, Megan has worked seasonally with the department as a Community Service Officer, assisting residents and visitors during the busy summer months in both Dock Square and Goose Rocks Beach. Through that role, she became a familiar and friendly presence around town while gaining valuable experience and insight into public safety.

Megan earned her associate's degree in chemistry from the University of Southern Maine, bringing a unique scientific background



to the department. She began her field training program on January 20th and is scheduled to attend the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's 18½-week basic law enforcement training program this August.

Looking ahead, Megan has a strong interest in the forensic side of law enforcement. She hopes to learn more about crime scene processing and investigative techniques that rely on chemistry and scientific analysis, areas where she can combine her academic background with her work in policing.

Please join us in welcoming Officer Megan Lawrence to the Kennebunkport Police Department. We wish her the very best as she begins her career in law enforcement and continues serving the community she already knows so well.

Officer Drew

Bunick joined the department in November as Mildred L. Day's newest School Resource Officer. SRO Bunick brings 10 years of law enforcement experience, including eight years with the University of Southern Maine Public Safety Department as both an officer and investigator, and two years as a Deputy Judicial Marshal at the Portland Judicial Center before becoming a valued member of our team. He also holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Westfield State University.

Since joining the department, SRO Bunick has already made a strong positive impression. Staff and students have consistently shared great feedback, and his enthu-



siasm for school engagement is evident in everything he does. He is fully committed to school spirit days, often going all in with creative outfits and costumes that bring extra energy and excitement to the school environment. His willingness to participate and have fun has made him a familiar and welcome presence, and he brings smiles to students and staff alike while continuing to build strong, positive relationships within the school community.

In addition to his work within the school, SRO Bunick works diligently alongside his fellow district School Resource Officers to provide important training and support to staff. This includes instruction on topics such as ALICE training and Stop the Bleed, helping to ensure staff are well-prepared and confident in responding to critical situations.

Fire Department Farewells

This year, we see big changes in our Fire Department with both Fire Chief John Everett and Fire Administrator Richard Stedman retiring on May 1.

Jay Everett has been Fire Chief in Kennebunkport since 2018, when he joined the department as a 35-year veteran of the fire service, previously in service as a Deputy Fire Chief in the City of Portland and a District Fire Chief in Kennebunk. Since then, he has demonstrated his dedication to the fire service, leadership ability, and commitment to the community.

As Fire Chief, Jay serves on the Town's Public Safety Committee. Through his work

on this committee, as well as his efforts in community education, he has provided the town and the residents with processes and procedures to help us prepare and endure emergency events in our community. His dedication to the well-being of our community was once again exemplified during our last severe coastal storm. Chief Everett has developed and fostered relationships with other departments and organizations. He is an extremely approachable leader for all town residents.

Another valuable member of the Fire Department - Richard Stedman - started volunteering for the Town in the early

2000's and was hired full-time in 2010. He shaped the department in many ways and helped multiple chiefs to create the Fire Department as we know it today. Prior to fire service, Richard worked for private companies across Maine and Massachusetts. He has a lot of respect from fellow firefighters and peers in the field.

We will deeply miss Jay and Dick, as they brought a lot of wonderful ideas and changes to the department and community. We wish them all the best in the next chapters of their lives as these are definitely well-deserved retirements.

NEW FACES

In addition to
Officer Drew Bunick,
Officer Megan Lawrence,
and Chief Todd Zsiga,
we have welcomed the following
people to our staff



JEN BROOKS
Director
Public Health



KEVIN LITTLE
Operator
Public Works

Eric Labelle Named Public Works Leader of the Year

In April, Eric Labelle, the Town of Kennebunkport's Director of Public Works and Town Engineer, was named Public Works Leader of the Year by the Maine Chapter of the American Public Works Association. The award recognizes more than a decade of outstanding service and leadership in the public works profession.

Eric joined the Town in 2018 as Deputy Director, bringing with him a career that began in 1989 at the Kennebunk Sewer District. He stepped into leadership during a critical moment for the department and successfully guided it through significant operational challenges, strengthening both performance and team capacity.

Known for blending technical expertise with forward-thinking management, Eric has led major advancements in infrastructure systems, including the implementation of modern monitoring and asset management technologies. His leadership has also driven key resilience projects, such as improvements to Cape Porpoise Pier and the Pier Road Causeway,

helping protect the community from coastal impacts.

Beyond local work, Eric is an active leader in the public works field at both the state and national levels. He has contributed to policy discussions, presented at major conferences, and even testified before Congress on environmental issues. He is also dedicated to mentorship and community service, including volunteering with Special Olympics Maine.

Eric's career reflects a deep commitment to public service, innovation, and strengthening the communities he serves.



Community Care Since 1943: The Kennebunkport Health Council

By Jennifer Brooks, Director of Public Health

Did you know that we are the only town in the State of Maine with its own Public Health Department? The only other municipalities in Maine with public health departments are the cities of Bangor and Portland. The ability to serve both our residents and visitors in this way is truly unique and reflects a level of community care that many other communities could benefit from. The team at the Public Health Department takes this opportunity very seriously and serves with great pride.

The origins of the Public Health Department date back to 1943, when members of the Kennebunkport community recognized the importance of caring for residents while many doctors and nurses were away serving during World War II. At the time the Kennebunkport Health Council was founded, Mrs. Charles Nadeau and

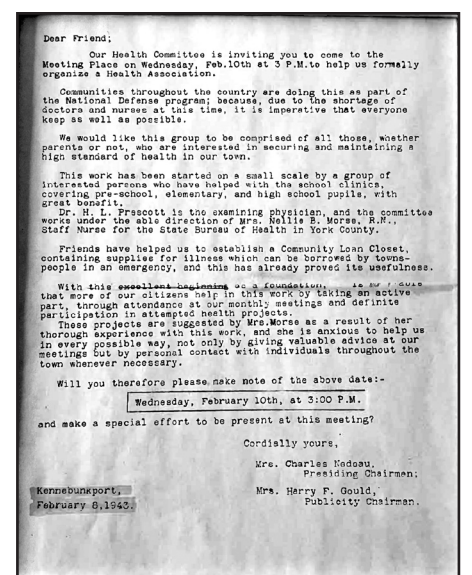
Mrs. Harry Gould shared

"we would like this group to be comprised of all those, whether parents or not, who are interested in securing and maintain a high standard of health in our town."

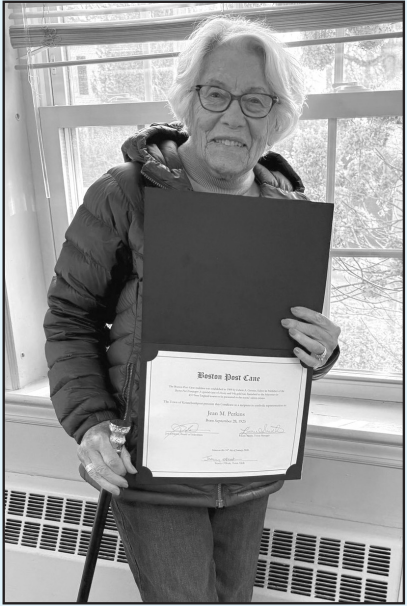
Now, 82 years later, the Public Health Department continues to

collaborate closely with the Health Council through initiatives and programs such as Stuff the Bus for COS, the Baby Bag Program, the Medical Loan Closet, and many other community efforts.

It is important to know your history, appreciate where you have been and where you continue to put effort into. With that, the Public Health Department would like to personally thank the Health Council for their continued support it provides the community.



1943 document – Health Council formation.



Jean M. Perkins

Boston Post Cane Awarded to Jean M. Perkins

On January 14, 2026, Jean M. Perkins was awarded the Boston Post Cane at Kennebunkport Town Hall. She received the award from Anne Chretien, Deputy Town Clerk, who nominated her for this honor.

Jean celebrated her 100th birthday in September. Congratulations Jean!

The Boston Post Cane tradition was established in 1909 by Edwin Grozier, Editor and Publisher of the Boston Post Newspaper. On August 2, 1909 in letters sent to 700 Boards of Selectmen of towns in Maine, Massachusetts,

New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, Grozier asked them to be trustees of the 700 ebony, gold topped canes that he had contracted to be made during the previous year.

A special cane was then presented to the governing authority in 431 towns in New England who responded to the letter, to be presented as an honor to each town's oldest resident.

The recipient held the honor as long as he/she lived within the town's boundaries.

Celebrating 50 Years of Historic Recognition

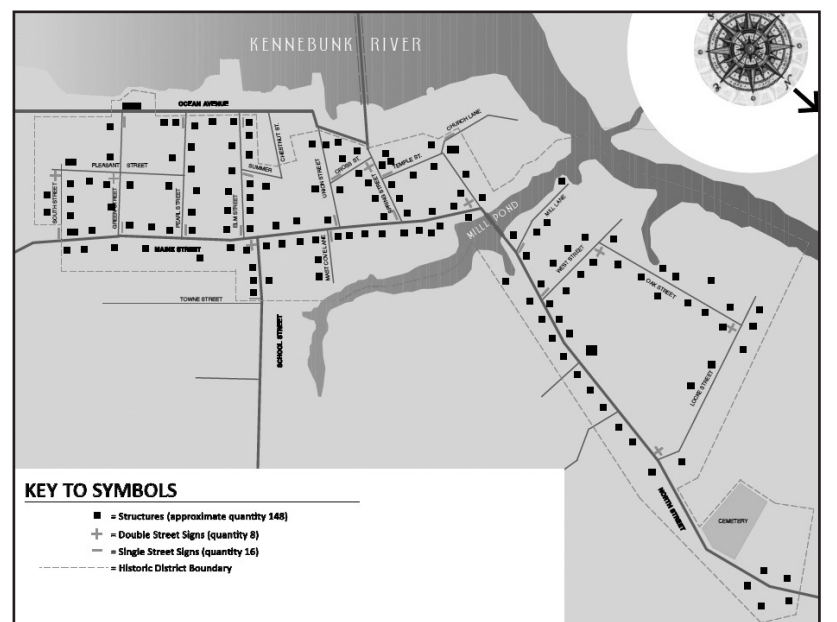
On **May 6, 2026**, the Town of Kennebunkport marks the **50th anniversary** of the designation of its first historic district on the National Register of Historic Places.

Originally recognized on May 6, 1976, the district centered around Dock Square and the surrounding village area was honored for its architectural and cultural significance. The designation recognized a remarkable collection of residential, commercial, civic, and religious buildings that reflect many periods and styles of American history and contribute to the unique character of the community.

This anniversary coincides with the nation's Semiquincentennial and serves as

an opportunity to celebrate Kennebunkport's longstanding commitment to preserving and appreciating its historic heritage. Town officials emphasized that the observance is commemorative in nature and does not create any new regulations, design standards, property restrictions, or changes to existing ordinances.

Through a formal proclamation, the Kennebunkport Selectboard recognized May 6, 2026, as the 50th Anniversary of the Town's first nationally recognized historic district and encouraged residents and visitors alike to reflect on the community's shared history and enjoy a stroll through the village.



America's 250th Anniversary

July 4, 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and communities across the nation are celebrating this historic semiquincentennial milestone.

Locally, several organizations are commemorating the anniversary with special events and programs. **The Louis T. Graves Memorial Library** will host a variety of events throughout the summer, including an interview with Ken Burns on July 30. **The Brick Store Museum in Kennebunk** is presenting the exhibition *From Many, One: Results of Revolution*.

In addition, the Brick Store Museum will be hosting one of only 26 surviving copies of the Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence from July 30 through August 1. This historic copy, part of the collections of the Maine Historical Society, will travel across the state and be displayed in all 16 counties. During the document's three-day stay in Kennebunk, visitors

can enjoy special activities, educational programs, the *From Many, One: Results of Revolution* exhibition, and the rare opportunity to view the Declaration itself. Visitors are encouraged to reserve a timed-entry ticket through the Maine Historical Society website.

The Town of Kennebunkport will celebrate the anniversary during the July 16 Concert in the Park hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department and featuring **The Dock Squares**.

You can learn more about Maine's celebration of the 250th anniversary at maine.gov/sos/america250me



Get Involved: Join a Town Board or Committee

Your voice matters in shaping the future of our community. Serving on a board or committee is a meaningful way to get involved, share your expertise, and help guide decisions that affect daily life in Town. Whether your interests are in planning, recreation, history, conservation, or finance, there's a place where your perspective can make a difference.

Volunteers bring valuable insight and ensure that a wide range of community voices are represented. These groups meet regularly, advise the Selectboard, and play an important role in preserving the character and wellbeing of our Town.

If you've ever thought about contributing your time and skills, now is the perfect opportunity. You can apply online at www.kennebunkportme.gov/ApplyBoards or by contacting Town Hall. If you have any questions please contact the Town Clerk, Tracey O'Roak by calling (207) 967-1610.

Take an active role in your community—consider serving today!



New Vernal Pool Protections – What Does It All Mean?

As we listen to the chorus of spring peepers in the twilight hours, we are reminded of the important role vernal pools play in the ecosystem of Kennebunkport. Vernal pools are indentations found in forested wetlands that are filled with water during the spring annual snowmelt but become dry depressions the rest of the year. This environment is crucial for protecting amphibian species to avoid predation of their egg masses by various fish species in open water bodies. The State of Maine has recognized the importance of these important wildlife habitats by offering special protections to vernal pools classified as “Significant Vernal Pools” (SVP). But what makes a vernal pool significant? To qualify, a vernal pool must be a breeding habitat for the following species and contain an abundance of egg masses that meet the threshold below:

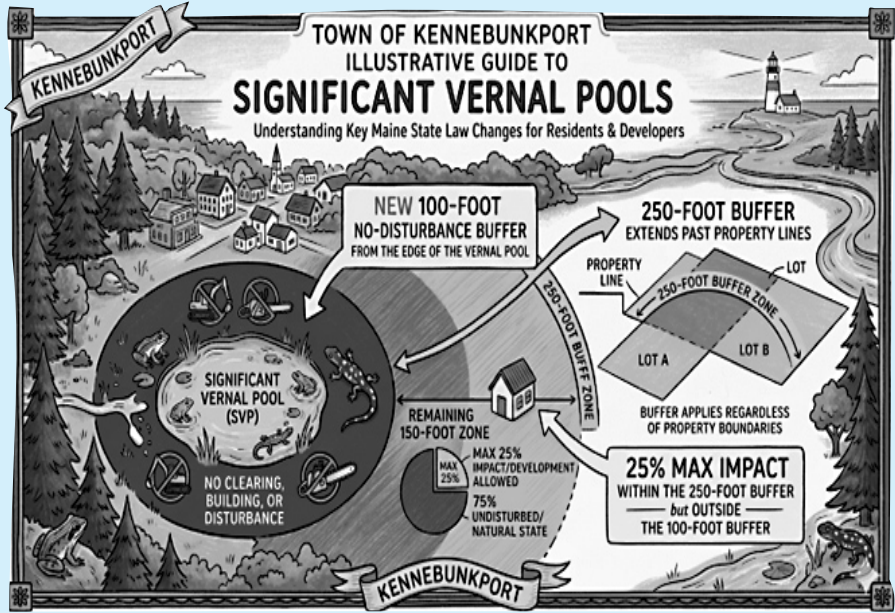
Species	Abundance Criteria
Fairy shrimp	Presence in any life stage
Blue spotted salamanders	Presence of 10 or more egg masses
Spotted salamanders	Presence of 20 or more egg masses
Wood frogs	Presence of 40 or more egg masses

What changed in LD 497?

- Significant Vernal Pools are now protected beyond a property line, which was not the case when the rules were put into place decades ago.

- The buffer of protection remains 250 feet from the edge of an SVP. However, the law was changed to add a 100 foot no disturbance buffer from the edge of an SVP which means no development activity can take place within the 100 feet of the vernal pool.
- Development outside the 100-foot non-disturbance buffer but within the 250-foot buffer may be impacted by no more than 25% disturbance.
 - Disturbance and development proposed within the 250-foot buffer requires a Natural Resource Protection Act (NRPA) permit from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

Illustrated generated by Gemini AI 4/22/2026



State Law Changes in Local Zoning

Towns across Maine will be kickstarting community conversations to update their local municipal zoning. As the Maine Legislature continues its goals of addressing the high cost of housing, a series of bills have been enacted and signed into law by the Governor to address this complex issue. At the crux of the issue is the high entry point, the cost to land, associated with 40,000 square foot lot size and exclusionary single-family zoning. The latter part was addressed with the adoption of LD 2003 in 2023 requiring municipalities to allow multiple units on a lot of land to include accessory dwelling units (ADU). Since then, the legislature has enacted subsequent bills LD 1829 (2025) and more recently LD 2173 (2026) to circumvent local planning and home rule authority by requiring changes to the dimensional standards of the municipal Land Use Ordinances.

What you need to know

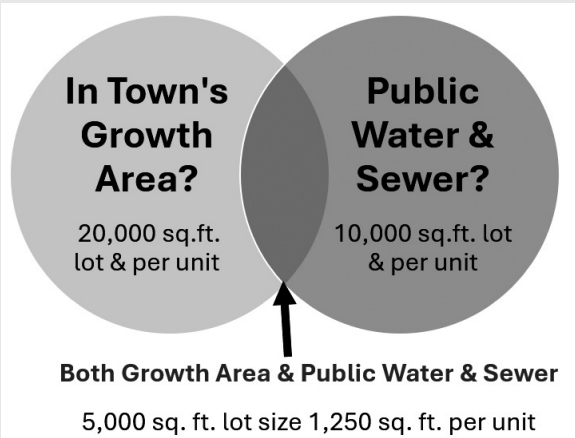
LD 1829 and LD 2173 are changing the residential lot size requirements when land has access to public water and sewer facilities and/or is located within the Growth Area of Kennebunkport. These growth areas are established as part of adopted the Town's Comprehensive Plan which is the Town's vision for where the community desires growth to take place while preserving the character for the future.

Lot Size & Density - Two questions to ask:

1. Is my property located within the Growth Area?
2. Does my property have access to public water and sewer connections?

- If yes to both, the lot size requirement changes to 5,000 square feet and allows for a total of four units on said lot (1,250 sq. ft. per unit)

- If Yes in Growth Area but no water and sewer, the minimum lot size will be changed to 20,000 square feet per unit
- If Yes for access to public water and sewer but no in the growth area, the minimum lot size will be changed to 10,000 square feet per unit.
- If no to both, the lot size and density requirements remain the same under existing zoning. This will most likely be the case in part of the Free Enterprise Zone and all of Farm and Forestry Zone which are not connected to utilities and remain in the Rural Growth Area of Town.



*Caveat to consider is if a property is located within a coastal barrier system, Shoreland Zone or floodplain, the lot size and density will be different.

What Other Changes are in the bill?

- LD 2173 limits town's ability to cap the total number of permits issued to a developer for a subdivision or proposed housing development to 35% of the total available in a growth area/year
- The Town will need to update the total permits issued per year in the Growth Area from 4 to 7 growth permits. Transitional and Rural areas

remain the same.

- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) may be issued for two-family and three-family homes on a lot
 - Prohibition of one per lot will still be in place and language will need to be updated in the Town ordinances
- Affordable Housing Projects may exceed building height by 14 feet
 - This changes the building height for affordable housing projects to 49' in most of town and 44' in coastal areas of the Town
- Makes 3-4 units proposed on a lot as a permitted use instead of conditional use requiring Planning Board approval
 - This will change Multiplex in Town from conditional use to permitted use

What's next?

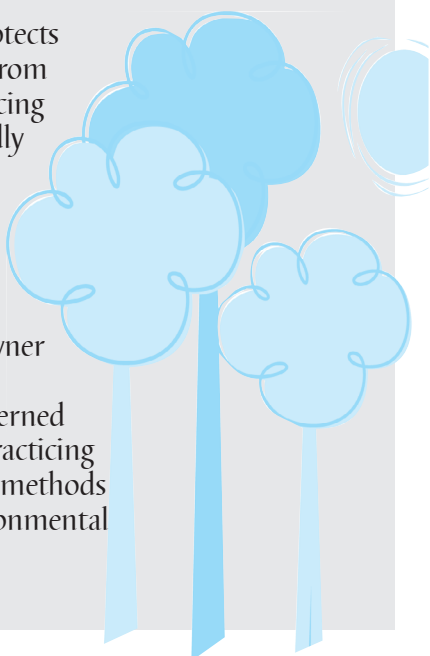
The Growth Planning Committee will begin conversations regarding these changes in partnership with our planning partners at Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission and Maine Office of Community Affairs to better understand the nuances in the legislative changes before proposing amendments for consideration by the voters. Residents and interested parties are encouraged to keep up with the latest discussions and developments by subscribing to news alerts and agenda postings which will have meeting and zoom invite links for the Growth Planning Committee and Selectboard. The Town has until July 2027 to enact changes to the ordinances which at that time are set to be in place statewide. If municipalities fail to adopt the changes subscribed to under the law, developers and property owners may be able to challenge the Town's existing land use ordinances in state court.

Synthetic Pesticides, Herbicides & Fertilizers Impact Our Waterways & Local Economy

The Kennebunkport Shade Tree Committee is concerned about the immediate and long-term environmental and economic damage from synthetic pesticide, herbicide and fertilizer use. Using these synthetic chemicals harms pollinators and native species. These products cause excess chemicals to run off into our waterways, worsening water quality, increasing ocean acidification, creating algae blooms, and damaging marine life. All of this pollution impacts local fisheries and marine businesses. In addition, artificial turf contributes microplastics to our waterways as well as leaching harmful chemicals, metal and organic micropollutants.

Since 1970, 30 towns and cities in Maine have enacted ordinances restricting the use of pesticides and many have addressed fertilizers and herbicides. The City of Portland, for example, has enacted a Land-care Ordinance “that restricts the use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides on all public and private property except in limited circumstances. The ordinance establishes organic land care methods as the primary means to care for and maintain property in Portland, including lawns, gardens, athletic fields, parks, and playgrounds.”

Further, state law protects municipal residents from restrictions on practicing environmental-friendly lawn care and landcare practices. Maine state law – LD 649 (Title 33, §61451) – ensures that homeowner associations (HOAs) cannot prohibit concerned homeowners from practicing alternative lawn care methods which mitigate environmental impacts of synthetic chemical use.



Cut Energy Costs with Free Home Upgrade Help

Heating and electricity are among the largest household expenses for Maine residents, and many homes could benefit from upgrades that make them warmer in winter, cooler in summer, and more efficient year-round. However, figuring out which improvements to make and how to take advantage of available incentives can be complicated. To simplify the process, Kennebunkport, and the towns of Kennebunk, Kittery, Ogunquit and Wells, collaborated to develop the **Southern Maine Energy Navigator** program. The program is designed to make home upgrades easier to understand and more affordable.

Through this program, Kennebunkport residents have access to a free resource that helps determine which upgrades to prioritize, explore funding options and financial incentives, and review quotes. Homeowners can connect with a trained Energy Navigator who provides individualized, no-cost guidance. This support is not tied to any product or contractor, it is simply to help residents understand their options and make informed decisions about their homes.

In addition to technical guidance, homeowners that qualify as low- or moderate-income can also receive funding to help cover the cost of heat pump installations and weatherization projects.

The program is off to a strong start and has served over 40 homeowners in the participating communities. Energy Navigators have helped homeowners secure roughly \$90,000 in Efficiency Maine rebates and provided an additional \$87,000 in financial support to eligible households, with 100% project costs covered for low-income households. Most projects

have combined heat pump installations with weatherization improvements, helping families save energy and lower bills, all while making their homes more comfortable.

“Thank you so very much for providing this free resource for the community! It can be so challenging to navigate all the energy efficiency programs, so it is very helpful to have a person to speak to about it that is not trying to sell you something in particular but rather providing resources and information. We appreciated the help and will be using their advice when making changes in the coming year.”

–Kennebunk Resident

If you’re considering home energy upgrades but aren’t sure where to start or which incentives you may qualify for, an Energy Navigator can help you sort through your options.

The easiest first step is simply starting a conversation. You can visit the program’s website at energynavigatorme.org to learn more or schedule a call with an Energy Navigator!



Climate Resiliency Committee Update

The Town of Kennebunkport is taking seriously the challenges of sea level rise and climate change, and in 2023 a **Climate Action Planning (CAP) Task Force** was created to make recommendations to the Select Board. Among the many CAP strategies that emerged was the formation of a “Climate Resiliency Committee” to help implement community outreach projects and support town staff and boards. CRC began meeting in the June of 2024, led by Co-chairs Fred Stafford and Ben Midgley. John Kraeuter, David Jourdan, Cynthia Domine, Keith Zakarin, and Paul Henderson served on the inaugural committee, with Town staff assistance by Nadia Crockett-Curran and Select Board representation by Jon Dykstra and Marybeth Gilbert.

The committee decided to focus initial efforts on community outreach. The group considered developing a website offering

resources to assist with decisions on solar, geothermal and conservation options. Research revealed that the Southern Maine Planning & Development Commission (SMPDC) Energy Navigator program (www.energynavigatorme.org/) already provides this resource, so CRC decided to support it. We invited the Navigator team to participate in the Town Open House and have kept abreast of their progress.

The committee then considered activities at Goose Rocks Beach to monitor dune grass plantings (led by Kennebunk HS and UNE students), dune restoration (via a grant from DEP), and dune mapping with drones (a UNE project). As these projects mature, CRC will review progress reports and provide assessments to the Select Board.

More recently, CRC is considering the merits of solarization of Town municipal electricity needs. This is a follow on to an analysis

done previously by UNE students, sponsored by the Town, to consider the feasibility of a town solar farm on the former landfill. Though there are significant challenges to developing a large-scale energy generation facility at that site, a smaller solar generation system to cover municipal usage may be feasible. As a first step, the committee has assimilated electric usage data to understanding the scope of the issue. With the volunteer assistance of Maine Solar Solutions we have made an initial feasibility assessment and are currently following up with a few technical questions in advance of sharing our findings with the Select Board.

Now in its second year, CRC continues its work under the continued chairmanship of Fred Stafford, with most of the original committee membership in place. We meet monthly and invite new members to join our group at any time.

PROJECT UPDATES SPRING 2026



Dock Square Public Restrooms

Originally opened in May 2008, the **Dock Square Public Restrooms** were due for an upgrade. To better meet demand and address capacity concerns, the facility has been thoughtfully reconfigured within its existing footprint. The number of stalls has doubled—from four to eight—and now includes a separate family/accessible restroom.

Following approval by the Board of Selectmen in January 2026, construction began later that month and was completed by the end of April—just in time for the start of the busy tourist season. Much of the work was completed by Public Works employees, whose efforts helped make this project both efficient and cost-effective.



Cape Porpoise Pier Project

The Town of Kennebunkport is pleased to share a significant milestone in the **Cape Porpoise Pier Project**. Construction will be substantially completed in June 2026, marking the culmination of a major investment in the resilience and longevity of this important working waterfront.

While the construction timeline extended beyond initial projections, the project was successfully delivered within the approved \$8.6 million budget. The completed structure reflects careful planning and a commitment to balancing infrastructure needs with fiscal responsibility.

A key feature of the project is the elevation of the

pier by approximately two feet. This enhancement is designed to improve resilience against sea level rise and increasingly frequent coastal storm events, helping to safeguard the pier for years to come.

Final paving work is scheduled for Fall 2026 and will represent the last phase of the project. Once completed, the Cape Porpoise Pier will continue to serve as a vital hub for local fishermen, businesses, and the community.

The Town thanks residents, stakeholders, and visitors for their patience and support throughout construction and looks forward to the continued use and enjoyment of this revitalized waterfront asset.

S-Brook Project

This summer, the Town plans to put the **S-Brook Project** out to bid, focusing on the reconstruction of Maine Street between Elm Street and Greene Street.

The project will address ongoing drainage concerns within the S-Brook watershed and will include roadway reconstruction as well as sidewalk improvements. These upgrades are intended to improve infrastructure performance and enhance pedestrian safety.

WILDES DISTRICT RECONSTRUCTION

As we move into the 2026 construction season, the **Wildes District Road Reconstruction Project** is entering its final phase after several years of steady progress in Kennebunkport.

Crews will complete the last components of the drainage system this summer. This work is critical to the long-term health of the roadway—ensuring that stormwater is properly managed, reducing erosion, and helping prevent future damage from freeze-thaw cycles that are common in Maine.

In advance of the final paving, manhole structures along the roadway will be raised. This step ensures that all access points align correctly with the finished road surface. While it may seem like a small detail, properly adjusted structures are essential for a smooth ride and for avoiding dips

or bumps that can develop over time.

Once drainage work is complete and structures are set, the project will move to placing the second and final layer of asphalt pavement. This top course will provide a smooth, durable driving surface and represents the finishing touch on the reconstruction effort.

With these final steps, the Wildes District Road project—now in its fifth year—is on track for completion by the end of Summer 2026. The result will be a safer, more resilient roadway designed to serve residents and visitors for years to come.

We appreciate the patience and cooperation of residents throughout this multi-year project. Your support has been essential in helping bring this important infrastructure improvement to completion.

PLC #3 Replacement Completed at Influent Screening Building

We're pleased to share that PLC #3, a key controller in our influent screening building at the Wastewater Treatment Facility, will be replaced in June 2026 as part of our ongoing commitment to reliable and efficient plant operations.

The previous programmable logic controller (PLC) had reached the end of its service life. With discontinued manufacturer support, limited availability of replacement parts, and growing compatibility issues with modern systems, the risk of unexpected failures had increased. Because the influent screening process is the first line of defense in treatment, reliability at this stage is critical.

A programmable logic controller (PLC) is essentially the "brain" behind automated industrial processes. It continuously monitors inputs—such as flow levels, motor status, and equipment conditions—and makes real-time decisions to control outputs like pumps, screens, and conveyors.

Without a properly functioning PLC, these operations can become unreli-

able or even come to a halt.

The new PLC brings several important improvements:

- Increased reliability: Modern hardware reduces the likelihood of unplanned downtime
- Enhanced diagnostics: Operators can more easily identify and troubleshoot issues
- Improved integration: Seamless communication with current SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) and plant-wide automation systems
- Greater flexibility: Easier updates and modifications to control logic as operational needs evolve
- Simplified maintenance: Readily available parts and ongoing manufacturer support

This upgrade ensures that our preliminary treatment processes remain stable and resilient. By investing in modern control technology, we are reducing operational risk while positioning the plant for future improvements and system expansions.

GOOSE ROCKS BEACH FAQs



Please note there is a new beach permit system starting this summer! Please visit our website for more information www.kennebunkportme.gov/Parking

- ◆ **When are parking permits required?**
Parking permits are required from the beginning of Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day during the hours of 8 am and 5 pm.
- ◆ **Do I still need a permit if I live in Kennebunkport?**
Any vehicle that parks in the marked spaces along the beach requires a permit.
- ◆ **Can I purchase stickers for my out-of-town guests?**
You may purchase non-resident permits for guests' vehicles. Or you can let them use your vehicle with the resident permit already associated with the license plate number.
- ◆ **Do I have to purchase a permit for the whole season?**
You may purchase weekly permits online or you may purchase daily or weekly permits at kiosks located at the beach (at the Goose Rocks General Store or on the corner of Kings Highway and Proctor Avenue).
- ◆ **Where can I buy parking permits?**
Seasonal (resident and non-resident) beach permits must be purchased online. Weekly permits may be purchased online OR you may purchase a weekly or

daily permit 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	

Maine Healthy Beach Program:

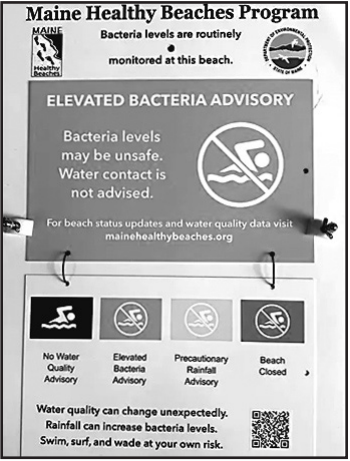
By Jennifer Brooks, Director of Public Health

The Kennebunkport Public Health Department and Maine Healthy Beaches are continuing their long-standing partnership to 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.

You will see new signs this year being put up around our beaches. This is the standard sign used by all Maine Healthy Beach sites. Advisories will be posted right from these signs, 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](http://MaineHealthyBeaches.org) or the [Kennebunkport Public Health Department website](http://KennebunkportPublicHealth.org).



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 17 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.



Get Ready for a Summer Full of Fun!

Summer is right around the corner, and we're excited to once again offer a season full of fun, connection, and community here in town!

One of the highlights of the summer will be our **Summer Concert Series**, held at **Parsons Field (next to Consolidated School)** from **6:00-8:00 PM**. Bring a blanket or chair, gather your friends and family, and enjoy some great live music in a relaxed outdoor setting.

This year's lineup includes:

- **June 25 – Pieces of Eight**
- **July 16 – The Dock Squares**
- **August 13 – Traveler**

Each concert will feature *food trucks, beer vendors, and fun kids' activities*, making it a great evening out for all ages.



We are incredibly grateful to our generous sponsors—**Kennebunk Savings, Pack Maynard Realty and Associates, and Fidium**—for helping make this series possible.

In addition to the concerts, we're offering a wide variety of **summer camps** for kids of all interests. Whether your child enjoys strategy, creativity, science, or the outdoors, there's something for everyone. Popular options include:

- **Chess Wizards**
- **Circuit Lab**
- **Outside the Lines Art Camp**
- **Marine Science Camps**

For more information on these camps and all of our summer programs, please visit www.kennebunkportrec.com. *We look forward to seeing you this summer!*



Goose Rocks Beach Parking Updates

This season, Goose Rocks Beach parking permits will be issued through a new online system powered by Passport. Previously, visitors could buy daily and weekly passes at the two Flowbird machines at the beach, but seasonal resident and non-resident permits were available only in person at the Town Clerk's Office. That restriction tied residents to Town Hall hours and created a significant administrative bottleneck.

To improve efficiency and accessibility, staff proposed implementing a combined Flowbird + Passport system. In this model, Flowbird would continue to provide the on-site hardware, while Passport would supply the permitting software. The existing Flowbird machines were reconfigured to operate

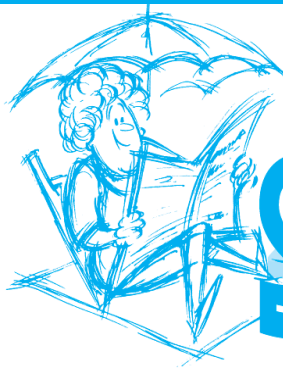
using license plate recognition, allowing daily and weekly parking rates to continue to be purchased directly at the machines. Passport provided an online permitting portal and the on-site pay-to-park code, which streamlined the resident parking process.

Each taxpayer should have received a letter in mid-April with specific instructions on how to obtain the permits.

This approach modernizes the Goose Rocks Beach parking operation, reduces in-person transactions, improves convenience for residents, and significantly decreases manual workload for Town staff.

For more information about parking in Kennebunkport visit www.kennebunkportme.gov/Parking

Type of permit	Online Portal	Kiosks at the beach
Resident Seasonal	Yes	No
Non-resident Seasonal	Yes	No
Weekly	Yes	Yes
Daily	No	Yes



KENNEBUNKPORT SUMMER CALENDAR

MAY

MAY 25TH

◆ MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Kennebunkport Town Offices closed



JUNE 15TH

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

JUNE 25TH

◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – PIECES OF EIGHT

6:00pm – 8:00pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Kennebunkport Consolidated School)

For more information please see page 11.



JUNE



THURSDAY, JUNE 4TH

◆ LAST DAY TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

Town Clerk's Office will be open until 7 p.m. for absentee balloting and voter registration.

LAST DAY TO REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

Remember to request an absentee ballot for the upcoming June 9th Annual Town Meeting & RSU #21 Budget Validation Referendum Election by Thursday, June 4, 2026

TUESDAY, JUNE 9TH

◆ POLLS ARE OPEN

8 AM – 8 PM.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE DUE BY 8 PM.

Polls are open 8:00am to 8:00pm at the Village Fire Station at 32 North Street.

See pages 2-3 for additional election and voting information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH

◆ KENNEBUNKPORT'S ANNUAL OPEN TOWN MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10TH AT 6 PM.

at Kennebunkport Consolidated School at 25 School Street.

For further information see page 2.

JULY

JULY 3RD

◆ KENNEBUNKPORT TOWN OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 4TH

◆ JULY 4TH FIREWORKS

JULY 16TH

◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – THE DOCK SQUARES

6:00pm – 8:00pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Kennebunkport Consolidated School)

For more information please see page 11.

AUGUST



AUGUST 4TH

◆ NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

AUGUST 13TH

◆ CONCERT IN THE PARK – THE TRAVELER

6:00pm – 8:00pm; 20 Recreation Way (next to Kennebunkport Consolidated School)

For more information please see page 11

SEPTEMBER



SEPTEMBER 7TH

◆ KENNEBUNKPORT TOWN OFFICES CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 8TH

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

SEPTEMBER 16TH

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

WELL WATER TESTING

By Jennifer Brooks, 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.

This year, between **May 20 to June 3rd and June 24th to July 8th**, 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. If you have interest in PFAS testing, you will need to pick up a separate test kit

from Nelson Analytical.

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

For questions, contact the Public Health office at 967-4401

