



# Municipal Matters

New London, New Hampshire

May 1, 2020

## NEW SAFETY MEASURERS

**T**own offices will look a little different when they re-open to the public. One difference is the addition of plexiglass in the reception areas of the Selectmen’s Office and Public Works Office, where the public come in to transact business and ask questions of the Administrative Assistants. These barriers will increase safety between staff and the public, similar to what has been installed in grocery and convenience stores. Some areas, like the Town Clerk—Tax Collector office and Dispatching Center, already have such barriers.



As we begin the 6th week of the Governor’s Stay at Home order, and the 7th week of office closing to the public, plans are being made to resume

*Continued on page 3—Town Offices Changes*

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## Reminders from the Town Clerk- Tax Collector Office

Hours: Our office is currently closed to the public due to COVID 19. We are still here and conducting business as normally as we can given the situation.

- 1) If you are paying past due bills, please call our office to get a current total with interest before sending a check.
- 2) Thanks very much for everyone's patience while we all learn a new way of doing business. We are doing complicated transactions via mail or the drop box. Please call or email us first to confirm the documents that we need to complete your transaction before just dropping things off or mailing things in. Please also make sure to fill out all forms completely, accurately and according to the instructions given. It will help the transactions go much more smoothly and quickly.

**Will Kidder, Town Clerk-Tax Collector**  
**Lynn Lewis, Assistant Town Clerk-Deputy Tax Collector**

375 Main Street , New London, NH 03257  
 Phone (603) 526-1244 Fax (603) 526-9494  
 Website [www.nl-nh.com/clerk](http://www.nl-nh.com/clerk)

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## I want to be a K9 Vilo Supporter!

Here is my donation in the amount of: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 to help support the New London Police Department K9 Program.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to:  
 Town of New London K9 Fund

Mail to: 375 Main Street, New London, NH 03257

Thank you for your support!!




# SCAM ALERT



A message from the New London Police Department:

During the Covid-19 pandemic there has been an increase in computer scams. Some scams are specifically targeting aging adults in NH\*.

Examples of those scams are:

## Social Security Scam

Scammers claiming to be from the Social Security Administration (SSA) call a recipient and claim that due to the closing of SSA offices, the recipient's benefits will be interrupted unless he or she provides personal identifying information, such as a social security or bank account number. **Importantly, the SSA will not call a recipient unexpectedly and ask for personal information over the telephone.**

## Medical Scams

Scammers call aging adults and claim to be a family member, often a grandson or granddaughter, in need of money to treat COVID-19 symptoms. Sometimes the caller will ask the aging adult to send gift cards or cash for payment. **If you receive a call like this, you should hang up immediately** and call a trusted family member using a known phone number for them to verify this information.

Scammers also contact individuals by telephone, email, and sometimes in-person (although New London PD is not aware of in-person being a method used locally), offering COVID-19 home test kits, medicines, or vaccinations. **Currently, no vaccines, pills, potions, lotions, medications, or other prescription or over-the-counter products are available to treat or cure Coronavirus disease.**

## Stimulus scams

Scammers are calling, texting, and e-mailing aging adults claiming to work for federal agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service, and that they are in need of the aging adult's personal identifying information prior to stimulus payment disbursement. **Please know that no federal agency is going to call, text, or e-mail requesting social security, banking, or any other personal identifying information.** If you receive such a call, hang up. As with any scam telephone call, do not push any buttons for "more information." If you receive a text message or e-mail of this nature, delete it and do not click on any links within the message.

## Fake Charity Scams

Scammers are contacting aging adults claiming to be from reputable charities or otherwise fictitious charitable organizations, seeking donations for a variety of causes related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many of these scammers request payment in the form of gift cards or electronic currency, such as bitcoin. You should be skeptical if you receive a call unexpectedly from a "charity" requesting a donation. Donate only to charities that you know and trust and only after you independently verify that the payment/donation system is safe and secure.

*\*Information gleaned from NH Attorney General Gordon MacDonald's COVID-19 Scam Alert: Targeting Aging Adults. This news release was dated April 14, 2020.*

## Common indicators of online scams

- Email contains broken English with grammatical errors.
- Recipient's personal information is noted within the email.
- Email states that spyware or adware has infected your computer.
- The email provides a short window to make payment.
- The recipient is requested to pay in bitcoin, virtual currency, or gift cards.

## **Protect yourself from a scam:**

- \* Do not open emails or attachments from unknown individuals.
- \* Monitor your bank accounts regularly.
- \* Use strong passwords and do not use the same password for multiple sites.
- \* Never provide personal information of any sort via email.
- \* Ensure security settings for social media accounts are activated and set at the highest level of protection.
- \* Verify the web address of legitimate websites and manually type the address into your browser.

**If you believe you have been a victim of a scam please report it to the New London Police Department immediately at 603-526-2626 and also go to [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov) (the Internet Crime Complaint Center of the FBI) and file a complaint online.**

## Assessing Mail Notice

For those of you that have acquired a building permit in the past year, and those with ongoing construction, you will soon receive a letter of value change. Some of you may receive a value change letter that is not associated with a building permit. Reasons for that could be; a data change I reviewed through a real estate listing or visible change I noticed in the field such as a generator, shed, etc. These things would have been added to the property record card. I implore everyone that receives a letter to review the attached property card as some of the building permits had to be estimated due to the distancing of Covid-19. If you recognize any flawed data, please e-mail our office at [landuse@nl-nh.com](mailto:landuse@nl-nh.com) or call 526-1243. Property values during Covid-19 are without a doubt a concern to everyone. I monitor the market closely and will continue to do so. The tax bill you receive in May is based on assessed values as of April 1, 2020. Here's some useful information using a start date of March 1, 2020 - April 30, 2020

- \* There are 17 active home listings in New London. Average assessment to asking price = 86%
- \* There have been 7 home closings. Average assessed value to sale price = 87%
- \* There are 5 active commercial listings - the highest is removed based on the Current Use Land Value. Average assessment to asking price = 86%
- \* There are 8 active / pending sale condominiums. Average assessment to asking price = 78%
- \* 1 condo sale—Assessment to sale price = 69%

*Stay safe, Kristen McAllister*

*Town Offices changes, continued from page 1*

welcoming members of the public in town offices in a safe manner. Plans will include protocols that will allow appropriate spacing between people who are waiting in line. This will present challenges due to the limited space in the offices and hallways. In the past it was not unusual for three or four customers to be waiting to register cars or several people in the selectmen's office looking at property records or seeking notary services —this cannot continue if we are to maintain six feet between people.

Town offices staff appreciate the patience and cooperation shown by New London residents during these challenging times. Suggestions for ways to improve the safety of the public office areas can be sent to Kim Hallquist, Town Administrator: [townadmin@nl-nh.com](mailto:townadmin@nl-nh.com)

# TRACY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Library building is closed  
but the  
Digital Library is Open!



Weekday Story Times on Facebook Live



Virtual Book Discussion



Get a Temporary Library Card



Download Ebooks and Audiobooks  
with NH Overdrive and Hoopla



Stream Movies and TV Shows with  
Hoopla and IndieFlix



Learn a New Craft with Creativebug



Research Your Family History with  
HeritageQuest and Ancestry



Find Links to Local Assistance Info. and to  
Learning and Entertainment Sites

and More!

EMAIL US AT [INFO@TRACYLIBRARY.ORG](mailto:INFO@TRACYLIBRARY.ORG) OR  
CALL AND LEAVE A MESSAGE AT (603) 526-4656

Visit us at [www.tracylibrary.org](http://www.tracylibrary.org)  
and follow us at  
[facebook.com/tracylibrary](https://facebook.com/tracylibrary)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

The New London Town Offices  
will be **CLOSED** on  
**Monday, May 25, 2020**  
in observance of Memorial Day.



## Be Aware, Be Prepared, and Be Responsible When Hiking

Spring in New Hampshire is an invigorating time to enjoy the outdoors as wildlife emerges, trees bud, and birds return. In the wake of the COVID-19 public health emergency, many Granite State residents are spending this spring exploring their back yards and local trails and learning more about what their immediate surroundings have to offer for recreational opportunities. Being engaged with the outdoors is important for people's physical and mental health, and connecting with nature helps to enhance the current remote learning experiences of many students in the state.

While this spring represents a renewed natural connection for many, all outdoor enthusiasts must be aware that recreation this spring requires personal awareness, preparation, and responsibility for oneself and toward others while continuing to practice the recommended social distancing of six feet on all trails, at all trailheads, and in common areas such as parking lots. "People must be aware of their physical limitations, weather conditions, and know when to turn back," said Fish and Game Law Enforcement Chief Colonel Kevin Jordan. "This is not the season for challenging hikes or dangerous backcountry adventures in ever-changing spring conditions. It is imperative that people enjoying New Hampshire's natural resources exercise a high degree of caution. Unsafe and irresponsible behavior puts first responders at extreme risk of injury and exposure to COVID-19 because social distancing becomes very difficult to manage in search and rescue situations," concluded Jordan.

Colonel Jordan also strongly recommends that hikers be prepared and carry with them the top 10 essentials for changeable spring weather conditions and unanticipated emergencies:

Map, Compass, Whistle, Pocket Knife,  
Extra Food and Water, Flashlight or Headlamp,  
First Aid Kit/Repair Kit, Matches/Firestarters,  
Warm Clothing - Sweater or Fleece Jacket,  
Long Pants (wool or synthetic), Hat (wool),  
Rain/Wind Jacket and Pants

Read more about safe hiking at [www.wildnh.com/outdoor-recreation/hiking-safety.html](http://www.wildnh.com/outdoor-recreation/hiking-safety.html).

Outdoor enthusiasts are also encouraged to purchase their voluntary annual Hike Safe card for 2020. Card sales help defray the costs of training and rescue equipment for NH Fish and Game Law Enforcement Conservation Officers, preparing them to come to your aid if the unexpected happens.

Valid for the calendar year, the 2020 Hike Safe cards cost \$25 for an individual, or \$35 for a family, and are good for the calendar year ending December 31, 2020. The price is the same for both residents and nonresidents.

Cards can be purchased online at [www.wildnh.com/safe](http://www.wildnh.com/safe) and at New Hampshire Fish and Game Department Headquarters, 11 Hazen Drive, in Concord.

Purchasing a hunting or fishing license also provides you with the same protection as a Hike Safe card. In addition to Hike Safe card revenues, Fish and Game's Search and Rescue Fund is supported by a \$1 fee collected for each boat, snowmobile, and OHRV registered in New Hampshire.

It's your responsibility to hike safe. Be sure to follow the hiker responsibility code by being knowledgeable about where you are going and what the local weather and terrain conditions will be, leaving your plans with someone, turning back in inclement weather or if you are running out of daylight, and planning for emergencies. Visit [www.hikesafe.com](http://www.hikesafe.com) for more information.



## NEW LONDON HIKING TRAILS

With more and more people using the town's hiking trails, the New London Conservation Commission wants to send out a few reminders. When you go out on the trails, still maintain social distancing. If you take your dog with you, be sure the trail allows dogs, be sure your dog is on a leash, and pick up after your dog. Also remember that the ticks are out there too. The black-legged variety, also known as the deer tick, carries diseases more than 40% of the time. These diseases include Lyme disease, which can cause serious and even life threatening conditions in humans. Protect yourself from ticks and thoroughly check for ticks when you get home. Be safe, be smart, and stay healthy.

Photo:

New signage for new cut over trail on KCC East. Hikers can now walk through to the stone wall and over to other loop of KCC.

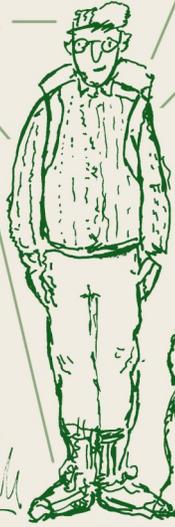


# It's Lyme Time!

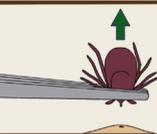


## Protect Yourself Against Lyme Disease

- 1 Walk in the middle of trails; avoid sitting on logs and leaning on trees.
- 2 Wear a hat, tuck in hair, if possible.
- 3 Wear a long-sleeved shirt fitted at the wrist.
- 4 Wear shoes, no bare feet or sandals.
- 5 Wear long pants tucked into high socks or duct tape around pants.
- 6 Consider Deet for skin and permethrin for clothes.
- 7 Wear white or light-colored clothing to make it easier to see ticks.
- 8 Do tick checks immediately and 3 days after outdoor activity.
- 9 If you find a tick, remove it carefully and save it.
- 10 Ask your veterinarian about protection for your furry friends.



Lyme Disease is transmitted by a tiny tick, most often the size of a poppy seed.



Remove tick with tweezers. Pull straight out as close to the skin as possible. Save tick in container and call doctor.



## Notice of pole replacements in New London

GZA GeoEnvironmental of Bedford NH is coordinating with Eversource to replace 14 poles in New London with temporary wetland impacts as part of a larger regional maintenance plan to the M127 Transmission Line across multiple towns. According to GZA, pre-construction meetings took place in mid-April and work will begin shortly north and northwest of Pleasant Lake along the Eversource right-of-way that crosses over **Whitney Brook, Whitney Brook Rd., Wilmot Center Rd., Great Brook, Morgan Hill Rd. and Little Brook.**

GZA has noted that the existing utility poles, which are in the range of 60-70 feet above grade, must be replaced due to environmental damage in order to maintain the safety and reliability of the electrical infrastructure. The project will require temporary wetland impacts for access to utility poles and for work pad placement around poles to stage equipment. Timber matting will be used to prevent and minimize compaction in wetlands temporary wetland impacts will be restored, seeded and mulched. All work has been permitted by the NH Department of Environmental Services and statutorily requires Eversource to utilize best management practices when working in or around wetlands. A copy of the state SBN application was sent to the town clerk back in February and is on file at the town office and at the NH Department of Environmental Services. Connor Jennings, Community Relations Specialist for Eversource, states that *"keeping the lines of communication open is important to us. We will continue to provide regular project notifications via mailings, phone calls and email. If you would like to discuss our work with us, please call 1-888-926-5334 or email us at NHProjectsInfo@eversource.com."*

**Thank you kindly to all the K9 Vilo Supporters** for making a donation last week. Taking care of a dog is a commitment and we thank you for becoming a Vilo supporter. To become a Vilo Supporter, please use the donation coupon on page one and drop it off at the Town Office. Checks should be made out to **Town of New London K9 Fund.**



**Watch future editions of *Municipal Matters* for a list of K9 Vilo Supporters!**

CENSUS 101

## Taking part is your civic duty.

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



United States Census Bureau

## US Census 2020

New London is currently at 35% response rate, up from 19.8% as reported in the April 6th edition of *Municipal Matters*. In 2010 New London managed a 65% rate; let's do better in 2020! Tell your friends—complete the census!



[www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov)

## NEW LONDON TRANSFER STATION

# Rolling with the times!



Drop & Go Stations



Keeping it moving



Signage simplified!

Thank you all for your patience and participation in our new processes. Together we can succeed!



Watch for updates here



Sorting through

## BRUSH & METAL DISPOSAL CENTER

74 Old Dump Road. Hours of Operation:

**MAY**

Tuesday, 8 am – 3:30 pm

Thursday, 8 am – 3:30 pm

Sunday, Noon – 4 pm

**TRANSFER STATION STICKERS REQUIRED**

Town Offices are **CLOSED** to public traffic.

Please go online to complete transactions like property taxes, vehicle registration & sewer bills:

[www.nl-nh.com/pay](http://www.nl-nh.com/pay)

You can get applications for permits, credits & exemptions: [www.nl-nh.com/forms](http://www.nl-nh.com/forms)

Please call us for assistance

Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: 526-1245

Main number: 526-4821

Emergency information line: 526-9444

**Municipal Matters** is published by the staff of the Town of New London. Kimberly Hallquist, Town Administrator, 603-526-1240. Email: [townadmin@nl-nh.com](mailto:townadmin@nl-nh.com)



Sponsor a child to go to  
**Summer Day Camp!**

The New London Recreation Department is asking you for your help in sending one or more children to our Summer Day Camp.

Some New London parents are facing difficult choices as they try to find a safe and affordable camp for their child(ren) during the summer months. We have received requests for partial or full scholarships to help defray the cost of camp. Please help by donating towards our camp scholarships.

**Just \$125 will send one child to Summer Day Camp for one week.**

Donations may be made in any amount. Please make checks payable to "New London Recreation Department" and put in the memo "camp scholarship program."

Mailed donations to:  
New London Recreation Department  
375 Main Street  
New London, NH 03257

Thank you,  
Scott Blewitt, Recreation Director