

## TOWN NEWS – MAY/JUNE 2020

### HAMPTON FALLS BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Edward B. Beattie, Chairman; Louis Gargiulo Vice Chairman; Mark R. Lane, Selectman

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Thank you for your understanding.

### BRUSH DUMP

The Town's **Household Waste Collection Day** is scheduled for Saturday **May 30**, 8 am to 2 pm at the Hampton Falls Brush Dump at the corner of Drinkwater and Parsonage Roads.

Dump stickers are not required for this Household Waste Disposal Day; instead, a **\$10 per trip fee** will be charged.

#### ITEMS ACCEPTED FOR DISPOSAL ON MAY 18

White Goods	Appliances, such as refrigerators, washing machines, hot water heaters, and dryers
Bulky Items	Large items, such as sofas, chairs, rugs, mattresses
Tires	The Town policy regarding the disposal of tires at the brush dump is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Only tires of 19" rim size or less</li><li>• No more than 8 tires per household</li><li>• No commercial tires</li><li>• \$2.00 for each un-mounted tire</li><li>• Tires mounted on rims prohibited</li></ul>
Electronics Recycling  HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAY ONLY	A container is available for the recycling of electronics. <u>Acceptable items \$20 per item:</u> computers, computer monitors, printers/copiers/scanners/fax machines, televisions Projection televisions \$35 each
*Freon Removal	\$25.00 fee for appliances containing Freon
Propane Tank Disposal	\$5.00 fee for 5, 10, 20-lb. tanks \$20.00 fee for 30, 40 100-lb. tanks
Wood Disposal – Only clean, untreated wood, that is able to be burned	Auto/SUV/6' bed Pickup/6' Trailer: \$10 8' bed Pickup: \$15 (w/sideboards, add \$5) Large Truck/12'trailer: \$20

**NO BRUSH, STUMPS, OR HAZARDOUS WASTE (EXCEPT MERCURY-Hg) ARE ACCEPTED ON HOUSEHOLD WASTE COLLECTION DAY**

Please visit the Trash and Recycling web page for detailed information.

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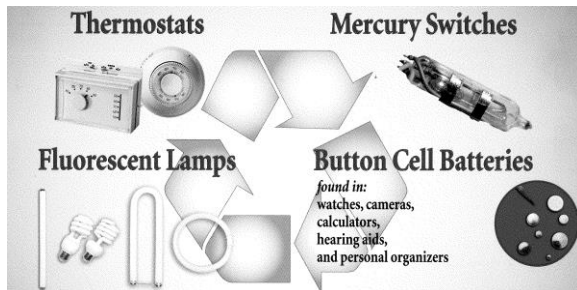
Edward B. Beattie, Chairman; Louis Gargiulo Vice Chairman; Mark R. Lane, Selectman

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### Disposal of Certain Products Containing Mercury (Hg)

The Town of Hampton Falls has benefited from a grant sponsored by the Town's disposal contractor, Covanta Energy. A Universal Waste Shed is located at the Town's Brush Dump for the purpose of collecting certain products containing mercury; specifically, thermostats, mercury switches, florescent lamps, button cell batteries and alkaline batteries.



Residents can also dispose these items during the annual Household Waste Collection Day on May 30. Thank you for your help in disposing of these items in a safe manner and protecting the environment!

Stephanie E. Grant - [townclerk@hamptonfalls.org](mailto:townclerk@hamptonfalls.org) - 926-4618, Ext. 1

### 2020 DOG LICENSES

The 2020 dog tags are available from the Town Clerk's office (in person or on-line). **ALL DOGS IN TOWN SHOULD BE LICENSED BY APRIL 30** each year as required by state RSA 466:1. Rabies vaccination certificate(s) are only required if rabies expiration date has expired. **Each dog not licensed by May 31 will automatically receive an additional \$25 civil forfeiture (RSA 466:13).** If you no longer own a dog(s), call 926-4618; Ext. 1, or E-mail us at [townclerk@hamptonfalls.org](mailto:townclerk@hamptonfalls.org); and we will remove your name from the list.

### VEHICLE REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Please show photo I.D. for all motor vehicle transactions (for your insurance fraud protection).

-Renewals and transfers require the original, current registration(s) RSA 261:168 (copies are to be kept in your vehicle(s)).

-A notarized Power of Attorney is required when signing a title application for another person (even your spouse).

-Please allow time for processing your transactions by arriving as far in advance of our closing times as possible.

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-A limit of 2 “regular” (renewals) vehicle transactions per person 15 minutes prior to close. Financial closeouts are required and take time to process.

-All transactions may be done through the mail if you can’t get in to our office (call 926-4618, Ext. 1 or E-mail us ([townclerk@hamptonfalls.org](mailto:townclerk@hamptonfalls.org)) for instructions.

-Only ONE check required payable to “Town of Hampton Falls” which now includes town and state fees for your vehicle registration(s).

-All Major Credit/Debit Cards are accepted for payment. An additional 2.95% credit/debit card fee (percentage of your total amount) applies to all card transactions. This is a fee charged by the credit card company, not a fee charged by the Town of Hampton Falls.

Cash payments should be as close to the amount due as possible -- no large bills please (we keep limited cash).

### **INTERNET VEHICLE RENEWALS**

We recommend completing your vehicle renewal(s) over the internet. Please go to the Town Clerk’s web page ([www.hamptonfalls.org](http://www.hamptonfalls.org)) and go to motor vehicle for instructions. You will receive your registration(s) and decal(s) through the mail. Renewals over 3 months late and residents wanting to make changes, complete transfers or obtain new plates will still need to come into the office.

### **FILING FOR A MARRIAGE LICENSE**

Please call ahead to schedule an early afternoon appointment when coming in to apply for a new marriage license. Limited staff prevents us from being able to process a license “on the spot.” The cost is \$50 and requires both persons’ IDs and final divorce or death certificates if filing for a subsequent marriage other than your first.

### **VITAL RECORDS AND 3-YEAR DUMP STICKERS ON-LINE**

You can request “certified” copies of NH Birth, Death, Marriage and Divorce certificates on-line by choosing Vital Records on the town web page. Limited staff prevents us from being able to produce certified copies “on the spot.” Requests for self-cling, 3-year brush dump stickers are available on-line or from the Town Clerk’s office at a cost of \$30 each.

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### TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE CLOSED FRIDAYS

<b>TAX COLLECTOR – Stephanie E. Grant – 926-1848, Ext. 1</b>
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**IMPORTANT!** Many of you are using online banking, please schedule your payment to arrive on or before the due date. Most systems require 5 – 6 days to deliver a payment. **Please do not postdate your check**, by law we cannot hold your check in the office until the posted check date. The check will be returned to you if the check is postdated and could result in the payment being late and incurring interest.

The first tax bill for 2020 will be mailed in May and will be due in July. In addition to mailing your payment you can deposit a check in the lock box by the Town Hall front entrance or in the hallway outside of the Tax Collector's office. If you would like a receipt, please provide us with a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

You can also make payments online at [www.hamptonfalls.org](http://www.hamptonfalls.org), on the home page under useful links you will find view/pay tax bill. Please be aware that there is a \$0.95 bank fee for using an online check or 2.95% to use credit cards (this fee is charged by the credit card company not by the Town of Hampton Falls).

Tax liens were executed for 2019 delinquent taxes on April 13, 2020. Interest on delinquent taxes is calculated daily. Please go online or call this office to obtain an accurate balance due. If you have any questions regarding your taxes, interest, setting up a payment schedule or need copies of your paid receipts for the IRS, please call the tax office at 926-4618 ext. 1.

Many of you have inquired about the State claim forms for Low and Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief. If you have qualified for the program in prior years, the claim form will be **sent to you** after May 1, 2020. If you would like to apply for the program and have not done so before, the (DP-8) Forms will be available in Town Hall after May 1st. Call (603) 271-2192 or go to [www.revenue.nh.gov/forms/low\\_mod\\_program.htm](http://www.revenue.nh.gov/forms/low_mod_program.htm) for more information.

<b>PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION – Lyn Stan, Chairwoman</b>
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The Parks and Recreation Commission continues to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. We recently welcomed new member Beth Forgione as our Secretary and expressed sincere gratitude to outgoing Selectman Larry Smith for his dedication and tributes to the Commission. At our last meeting, we re-elected, Lyn Stan as President and Karen Sabatini, Treasurer. Our other

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Commission members are: Pam Fitzgerald, Don Janik, Phil Chura and Tuesday Orluk. Karen Sabatini organized a group of longtime residents who are working to be a hub for the seniors in our town. Their goal is to complement existing services and foster ongoing community engagement by providing programs, activities and services that support independent living.

Now that spring is here, we are pulling together the plan of attack for Governor Weare Park. Mark Lane continues to schedule the teams and leagues that use the field. We are still looking for volunteers to help maintain Governor Weare Park. You may have noticed that the Governor Weare Park sign is in need of revitalizing. We have reached out to our local boy scouts for assistance to freshen up the sign.

Castleberry Fair craft show continues to be a big draw for our town and is scheduled to take place on the Town Common May 9 and May 10 and September 19 and 20. We appreciate the Fire Department's support in cooking hamburgers and hot dogs for these two weekend events.

Art on the Common is scheduled to make its return on Saturday, June 6. This fine art show brings in respected artists from around the region to display their work on our Town Common. T

The Recreation Commission will again be sponsoring the Summer Camp program run by Lincoln Akerman's art teacher Stacey Bellen. Camp this year is scheduled to run from July 6–July 31. The camp provides kids with many fun-filled activities and recreation, it continues to be a big hit for Hampton Falls children.

The 2020 Summer Concerts and Cool Wheels series is scheduled to kick off on Thursday, June 18 with the Santana Tribute Band Abraxis including Cool Wheels. Please go to Friends of the Hampton Falls Bandstand social media pages for the full line up and updates.

Mark your calendars, the children's program featuring Wayne from Maine will be at the Fire Station Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> 6:00p.m. This 50-minute show is a musical adventure through various musical styles designed for the young and young at heart. Audience participation is always encouraged.

Last fall, we decided to postpone ordering Bandstand Memorial Brick Pavers until spring thus allowing our neighbors and friends to purchase during the holiday season. By purchasing a brick paver, you not only help to maintain our beautiful bandstand on the common but you also become a part of our town's history. Thank you! Paver orders will be placed within the next few weeks.

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The Parks and Recreation Commission is always looking for people to complement our team. Do you have a passion to build community spirit or have creative ideas and want to help encourage social bonds? If you can answer YES, please consider joining our team.

#### **FIRE DEPARTMENT- Jay Lord – 926-5752**

Spring is here and we remind you of a few items and other services that HFFD offers besides emergency ambulance and fires calls.

- Time to renew your annual fire permits for fire pits, Chimineas, or portable fire rings (brush piles still need a separate 1-day permit).
- Check your batteries in smoke and/or carbon monoxide detectors.
- Fire extinguishers should be turned upside down and shaken if they have been motionless for a long period of time and gauges should be in the 'green.'
- We teach CPR and First-aid classes.
- We offer blood pressure checks and baby seat vehicle installations.
- We will do a home fire safety inspection and help you develop a fire safety plan.
- Provide information on 'emergency preparedness kits.'
- We offer fire extinguisher classes.
- Station tours / Q&A for kids of all ages are available anytime.

#### **BUILDING INSPECTOR - Mark Sikorski – 926-1848, Ext. 5**

**MOSQUITO CONTROL** - The mosquito control program begins in April. Crews check swamps, woodland pools, ditches, salt marshes, storm drains and other shallow, stagnant water for mosquito larvae. When mosquitoes are found, insecticides are used. We all need to do our part to protect our families from this potentially life altering illness. The steps are simple and only require a little diligence by making sure standing water is not allowed to pool in little, or unused items like old tires, playground equipment, sandboxes, or anything that can hold water for the larvae to breed.

Residents who do not want their wetlands treated may use Dragon Mosquito's No-Spray Registry online at [www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry](http://www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry) or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, P. O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include your name, physical address, phone number, and a description of your property with boundaries. Residents who would like to have their stagnant water checked for mosquitoes may call the office at **734-4144** or email [Info@DragonMosquito.com](mailto:Info@DragonMosquito.com). There is no charge for this service. Contact them for more information on spray dates, location, materials used, precautions or other concerns.

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**CONSIDERING A SUMMER PROJECT?** - With warm weather on our doorstep, the projects we envisioned during the winter are now on the shortlist. Before you spend your hard earned money, remember that permits are required for most, if not all building projects in or around your home. There are many things to factor in such as setbacks from property lines and wetlands. Adding a bedroom or accessory dwelling to your home may require a new septic design. Time must be allocated for design and approval. Do you know where your underground utilities and septic system are located before any digging is done? Call the building office as part of the planning process. We can help get everything in place.

### CONSERVATION COMMISSION – Mary Ann Hill, Chair

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at Town Hall

The Conservation Commission continues to work with the Society for Protection of NH Forests to fund the conservation easement on the Clay Brook Forest (Toppan Lane Ox Pasture). An excellent description of the conservation value of this property can be found in the 2019 Town Report and at <https://forestsociety.org/project/clay-brook-forest>. Questions about the easement for this property can be addressed to Anne Truslow of the Society at [atruslow@forestsociety.org](mailto:atruslow@forestsociety.org) or 603-224-9945. Donations may be sent to:

The Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests  
54 Portsmouth St.  
Concord, NH 03301

Checks should be made out to the Forest Society with “Clay Brook” in the memo line.

Additionally the Commission is selling wine glasses with an etched pattern of deer and trees and the Commission’s name. The pattern is reminiscent of an antique pattern called Deer and Pine. We hope to host a wine tasting to promote the sale of the glasses after the Covid-19 crisis passes. The Society is also pursuing grants. While no site walks are planned at the moment, residents are welcome to hike the trails. Remember to leave only your footprints behind.

In February, the Commission accepted the donation to the town of three parcels of land abutting the salt marsh off of Depot Road. The property was donated by the Sanborn Family. Mary Ganz did the deed transfer work pro bono for us. Thank you, Mary.

One of the Conservation Commission’s responsibilities is to oversee the proper use and protection of Town-owned natural resources. To that end, we will be organizing trail work at the Raspberry Farm and Marsh Lane Properties in 2020. On February 2 and 9, Karen Ayers organized

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a work party at the Raspberry farm. All who participated shared a feeling of accomplishment. Thank you to all who attended. We hope you'll join us at Marsh Lane for more outdoor fun.

The Commission's usual roadside cleanup day was postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. However, we encourage residents to use the stay-at-home order to clean up along their own road frontage.

Goals for 2020 include: reclaiming the trail on the Marsh Lane property which has been obliterated by rampant vegetative growth, improving our on-line presence by posting our mission statement, Natural Resources Inventory, and conservation plan on the Conservation Commission page of the Town website, continuing efforts to control invasive species on Town lands, continuing education in the protection of our unique natural resources, and possibly a pollinator garden area at the Raspberry Farm. With the threat of global warming and sea rise. we will need to address marsh migration. Come join us to hear more.

### HERITAGE COMMISSION - Beverly Mutrie, Chair

The Hampton Falls Heritage Commission has been on hiatus until the end of the COVID-19 stay in place order from Governor Sununu.

We will continue with research and formatting of the Historic Resources booklet and the write-up for the David French (Aberdeen Farm or Dr. Bailey's) property at the corner of Nason and Exeter Roads. David graciously allowed our group to visit and tour inside his house to record its architectural features before it passes to a new owner. We have had pictures taken of both the barn and the house and will be assembling a written summary for the Heritage Commission's archives.

We encourage residents interested in keeping our beloved town visually historic, yet still modern in function, to contact us for information on restoring your house or barn, finding contractors for specialized jobs, and doing necessary maintenance. One of the mantras of old barn specialists is to "remove vegetation and grade the soil so water flows away from the foundation." That and if you "keep a good roof on it, they {barns} will last for a good long time." There's truth in both, plus maintenance chores can reduce cabin fever. That's a twofer!

Once the all clear sounds, the Heritage Commission will be resuming monthly meetings and are in need of volunteers who have a passion for old structures and would like to keep our Town's historic charm. Please fill out a volunteer form and/or get in touch with the town to contact me.

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