

Hillsborough, New Hampshire

NEWS FROM THE TOWN

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June - August 2023

From the Town Administrator



There is so much going on in Hillsborough right now that it's hard to know where to start!

Some of you may have seen some activity at the Woods Woolen Mill Site on West Mill Street a couple of weeks ago.

This is the site of an old mill which was removed by grant money last summer/fall last year. The shoreland stabilization/reclamation plan is being worked on by Streamworks PLLC, with additional grant funds Hillsborough was awarded. We recently planted about 50 tree saplings on the hill where the administrative building was once housed. These saplings were donated by Merrimack River Watershed Council and should add some additional greenery once they mature.

Have you also seen some increased activity at the old Associated Electric Building? That's because various testing is going on at that site. There are many barrels of liquid within the buildings that are being tested by the Spill Response Team through the Department of Environmental Services, as well as testing of the various wells on the property by Sanborn, Head and Associates. This work is also being funded through a grant which was awarded for this project and managed by NHDES. Although testing was done on this property years ago, in order to get updated levels in order to know how to move forward. Air quality testing is also being conducted on a couple of sites to find out if they continue to be affected by some of the past uses of the property. We're grateful for private property owners who agreed to work with the contractors in order to allow us to fully assess what we're looking at moving forward.

The Selectboard held a work session to assess what worked and didn't work with the parking this past winter and finalize updating the regulations and updated signage for our public parking areas. While they have revisited overnight parking permits due to tenants from privately owned apartment buildings utilizing the lots

without moving, this will not affect normal day to day visitors to the downtown area.

The social media questions about the downtown sidewalk project and Dominos have reached our ears. I'd just like to say that yes, the sidewalk project is still progressing and because it is funded through a federal program (they are paying 80% of the project), it sometimes moves extremely slowly due to all the hoops and agencies that are involved. Final plans for that project after changes to drainage and a few other things were made, are in the hands of NHDOT so we're waiting to hear about any questions, comments, etc. they have. We're getting ready to send notices out to property owners along the strip about easements and will be meeting with individuals about those over the next couple of months. Make no mistake, we all want this project to be done and over with after so many years! As far as Dominos goes, yes, they are still coming. They went before the Planning Board to make a change to their site plan recently but are still on track to build.

The Selectboard meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building. Meeting minutes of those meetings, as well as the minutes for other committees and boards can be found @ <https://www.town.hillsborough.nh.us/>. You can also sign up to receive direct notifications by clicking "Subscribe to News" on the main page of our website. There, you can choose any that are of interest to you so that you'll receive notification when information and minutes are posted.

We currently have openings on various committees and boards (Conservation Commission, Zoning Board alternates, Economic Development Committee, etc.) so if you're interested in getting involved, please email me at Laura@Hillsboroughnh.net.

In closing, I'd like to congratulate the Hillsboro/Deering Class of 2023 on their upcoming graduation and wish them the very best as they embark on their future!

MANAHAN

Our Manahan Summer Camp begins on June 26th with the weeks for Middle School ages being June 26th – July 21st and the Elementary School ages, as well as extra weeks for Middle School for those who have enrolled, being July 24th – August 18th. The Annual Beach Dance/Cookout is scheduled for June 23rd with June 30th as a rain date.

Manahan Park is open from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. Alcohol, drugs, fireworks, and smoking are NOT allowed in our parks or on any town-owned property. Dogs are also not allowed on the beach, in the pavilion, or within the picnic area. There are several trails which dogs can be walked on, but owners must pick up after their pets. Please be courteous and make everyone's visit to our beautiful beach enjoyable.

The Selectboard will be talking about plans to replace the beach house at Manahan this year and what that looks like moving forward. The current beach house has been at the park for many, many years and is in rough shape so it's time to look at an updated building to service current and future needs.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department is grading roads, cleaning out ditches, smoothing out shoulders, and getting everything prepped for scheduled repairs and paving projects that will happen in the late summer.

Moving forward throughout the next several months, roadwork in various areas of town will also be taking place so be on the lookout and please, always drive cautiously through construction zones. 2023 projects include Central Street from W. Main to Myrtle Street; Myrtle Street between School St. & Church St.; Loon Pond toward E. Washing Road.

PARKS DEPARTMENT

Our Parks Department crew is working at getting everything spruced up for the busy use of our fields and parks over the next several months. One of the major projects this year will be the tennis courts getting rebuilt and there will also be an addition of a pickleball court.

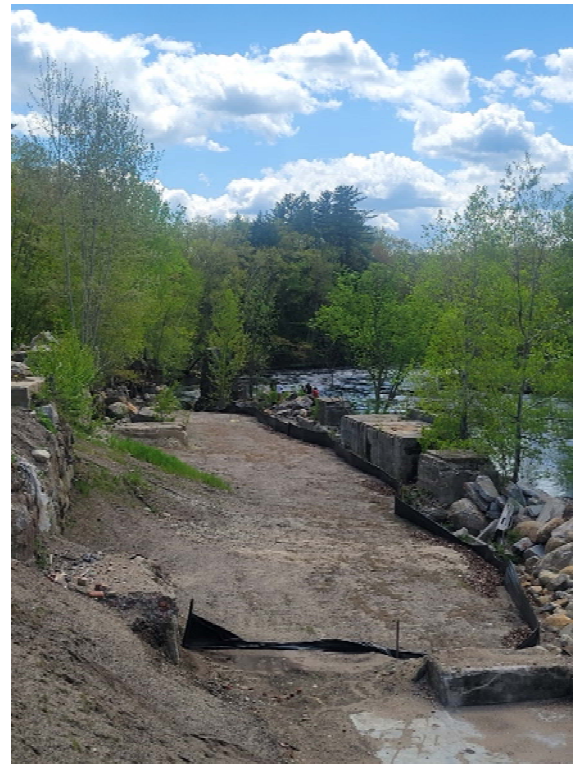
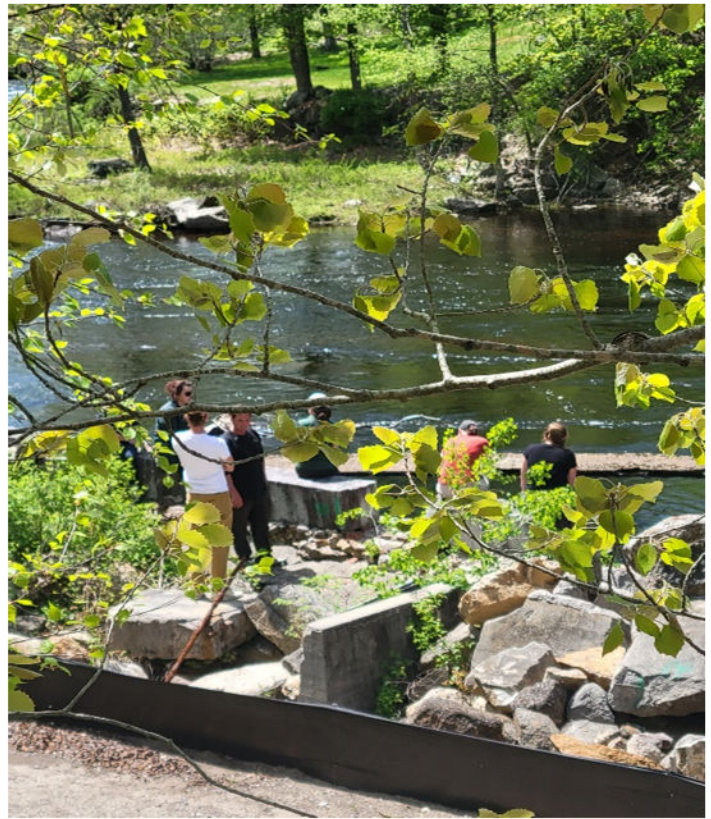
Are you aware that you can reserve various areas in our parks? If you're interested in using the pavilion at Manahan Park, Grimes Field, Butler Park, or our Clubhouse, forms are available on our website @ <https://www.town.hillsborough.nh.us/files/> under "Parks and Recreation."

TRANSFER STATION

We currently have an opening for a full-time Transfer Station Facility Attendant. This person will be responsible for directing the public in the placement and separation of municipal solid waste and to work with and assist the Facility Manager in the day-to-day operation and care of the Transfer Station. They will also conduct visual inspections of loads, maintaining cleanliness and neatness of facility, assessing, and collecting fees as required, using, and performing routine/preventative maintenance on all equipment, machinery, and tools, etc.

Minimum Qualifications: Applicant should have or be able to obtain a Certification from the State of New Hampshire as a Solid Waste Facility Operator and NH weigh masters' license. A High School Diploma or GED plus three years of experience in solid waste disposal operation. Knowledge of State and Federal Laws pertaining to safe working conditions and hazardous materials, OR any equivalent combination of education and experience which demonstrates possession of the required knowledge, skills, and abilities.

This position is part of the Hillsborough Town Employees AFT Local #3912, AFT-NH, AFL-CIO union with a wage scale of \$18.36 to \$23.26 and a generous benefits package. Please mail or drop off resumes/applications to Laura Buono, Town Administrator, 27 School Street, PO Box 7, Hillsborough, NH 03244 or email Laura at Laura@hillsboroughnh.net. The Town of Hillsborough is an EOE.



Woods Woolen Mill Site Day



Camp Manahan

Registration for Camp ends on June 4th. If you have any questions please email manahanbeach@gmail.com

Beach Dance will be on June 23rd!

(rain date June 30)

From the Conservation Commission

The Hillsborough Conservation Commission currently has three full membership openings as well as alternate member openings. If you are interested in conservation and conserving Hillsborough's natural resource, and would like to join the Commission, we currently meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month in the training room at the Hillsborough Police station. You must be a resident of Hillsborough to become a commission member.



Happenings at the Police Department

Chief Chris Parsons

I am pleased to announce that William Bannister has been promoted to Sergeant. Sergeant Bannister is a Hillsboro-Deering graduate and has been with Hillsboro PD since 2012. Sergeant Bannister is a Lieutenant with the Deering Fire Department and a Sergeant with the United States Air Force. He is a great asset to the community, and I am pleased to promote him. Congratulations!

Looking ahead to the summer. The PD participated in the Special Olympics Torch Run from Hillsboro to Concord on June 1 and will participate in the Torch Run from Concord to Durham for the Summer Games on June 2.

The PD will also be participating in a lot of grant funded enforcement. This money is provided to the PD from New Hampshire Highway Safety to lower fatal motor vehicle crashes. We will be out on dedicated patrols for DWI, Speed, and Distracted Driving. Also we received grant money from NH Fish and Game to patrol areas of Town with our UTV. This UTV was purchased using grant money through NH Department of Justice.

Thank you for all your support and if anyone has any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me.

Department of Land Use and Economic Development

Spring is here and the Planning Board is busy at work. The Board is working with Matt Taylor from the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission on developing the Gateway Zone that will be located along Antrim Road and up to the Antrim line. The goal is to create an overlay zone that will preserve the Commercial Zoning and add a mixed-use component that will maximize flexibility and allow some residential development.

This year the Planning Department submitted three proposals for the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. This is a process that priorities projects throughout the region and is a great reference to use when applying for grants. The proposals include the final clean-up and redevelopment of the Woods Woolen Mill site, the cleanup of the Associated Electric site and a plan to improve pedestrian and bicycle travel lanes along Henniker Street and up to Grimes Field. The project ranking process is just beginning, and we will soon see how our projects rank within the region.

The Planning Board is also considering zoning changes for Town Meeting 2024. Among the changes being considered is reviewing the uses that currently require Special Exceptions and changing some of them to Conditional Use permits. This will help applicants who would ordinarily need to go through two processes, (one for a Special Exception from the ZBA and Site Plan approval from the Planning Board) and combining them into one step with the Planning Board. This will streamline the approval process and make it easier to bring business to town.

The Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment are actively seeking alternate members. Being an alternate is a great way to learn how your town boards run and gives you an opportunity to participate in the process. If you are interested in getting a closer look at the way land use decisions are made, please contact Planning Director Robyn Payson at robyn@hillsboroughnh.net with a letter of interest expressing which board you are interested in serving on. If you have any questions about being an alternate, please feel free to reach out. I will be happy to answer your questions.

From the Fire Department

Reminder that everyone is required by state law to have a burn permit to kindle any kind of fire pit or brush pile on their property. If you are not the home owner then you need to have the home owner's written permission to have a fire pit or brush pile burn.



It is BBQ time, it is recommended that grills are not allowed on your deck. It's a law, if you are living in a multi-family dwelling, no grills are allowed on a deck. Here are some safety tips for the summer.

SAFETY TIPS:

- Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, at least 10 feet away from deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended.
- Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.



CHARCOAL GRILLS

- There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use. Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.
- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- Keep charcoal fluid out of reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are electric charcoal starters which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.
- When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing in a metal container.



Most of all, have a safe and happy summer!

What's Happening at the Library

Artist of the Month for June: Paula Kerouac will have her work on display in our Gilbert Room all month, stop in to take a look!

June 6: How To's Day – Create a Spring Wreath using painted clothespins. Reserve your spot by May 30th so that we have enough supplies. 1pm or 6:30pm

June 10: Seedy Saturdays - What's Bugging You? Robin will answer your garden pest questions, 10-11am.

June 17: NH Author Meet and Greet from 10am-12pm. Books from each author will be for sale, or bring your own copies to be signed. Authors participating: Karen Coulters, Ellen Reed, Marge Burke, SM Stevens, David Gonthier, Judith Sanders, Lisa Matthews, Sue McPhee, Chris Philbrook, Susie Spikol, Judy Bibbins, Jessie Salisbury, Debbie Farr, and Kathy Stoughton.

June 19: Summer Reading begins! This summer's theme is All Together Now. When you stop in to sign your kids up we are asking for one item for Hillsboro's Food Pantry, together we can help our community (please check the expiration date!). Kids pledge to read books all summer to earn prizes and adults and teens will earn raffle tickets for each book read or listened to towards our weekly raffles.

June 24: Seedy Saturdays – Weeds! How do we get rid of weeds? How can we keep them from returning? Robin will answer all your questions from 10-11am.

Join a book group this summer! We have 4 groups available for adults: Popular Fiction, Mystery, Cookbook and Military History. Give us a call or stop in if you might be interested, 603-464-3595.

Knitting Purls, Mondays 1-3pm: a crafting circle, bring whatever project you are working on. Others are willing to help you learn a new skill or help with a project you are working on.

Adult Games, Thursdays 1-3pm: Scrabble and Cribbage are played weekly.

Butler Park Concert Series

7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

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| June 29 | East By Jazz |
| July 6 | Will Hatch & Co. |
| July 13 | Freese Brothers Big Band |
| July 20 | Sheep Dip |
| July 27 | Endless Skies Band |
| August 3 | April Cushman Duo |
| August 10 | Decatur Creek |

Check the Towns website for further dates!