

December

The Monthly Hilltopper News & Happenings



City of Somersworth City Hall

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878

City Hall Hours

***Monday - Friday**
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

***Wednesday**
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



Save yourself time and a trip to City Hall by registering your vehicle online. Online vehicle registration is easy, safe and secure!

For your convenience, you can pay motor vehicle registration by credit cards. For more information on E-registration process click [here](#)

Board & Committee Meetings this Month

City Council Meeting [view agenda](#)

Monday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Government Operations Committee [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, December 7 at 5:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Board [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, December 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission [view agenda](#)

Wednesday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m.

School Board [view agenda](#)

Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

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The Mayor's Corner

Seasonal Test

The lights, carols, parades, food, laughter, and all of the traditions are meant to give us a daily boost of excitement and remind us that despite this often being the most physical, and mental trying time of the year, there is hope and light will prevail.



There is often a striking universal balance that occurs this time of year. We balance between yearning to embrace the happiness that is surrounding us and resisting the weight of the fatigue which has overcome most of our bodies and souls. Yes, November and December are hard. I must admit, I am often lost when individuals allude to the “stress” of the holidays. I could never embrace how being thankful, or surrounding yourself with those you love, could be “stressful”. However, nature and the universe always have a way of testing us.

The physical elements of the months and days that encompass the holiday season put to the test the resiliency and fortitude of our individual constructions. The stripping of light and extended periods of darkness, blue skies replaced with a blanket of gray, and a lifeless cold hard earth, all testing our strength to overcome. Not one of these descriptions put any of us on a path towards an abundance of inner self-worth or a willingness to extend gratitude. However, for millennia, the circle has continued to turn and somehow during the darkest and often most hopeless months of the year, the light breaks through and we celebrate.

We celebrate.

We celebrate how each of us have been given another moment in time to gather at a table, around a tree, lighting a Menorah, or singing in church.

We celebrate.

We celebrate the sensory overload of the smell of pies and cookies, fresh brewed coffee, and meals that only taste good at home.

We celebrate.

We celebrate those who join us in spirit, by sharing stories and laughter of the times that we were altogether, knowing that each time they are named and spoken of, they are with us, sharing in the warmth and love that extends to their world beyond.

We honor.

We honor traditions which have lasted for thousands of years, as well as the new ones we have started, all bonded together by the universal thread of humanity.

We extend.

We extend the happiness, the hope, and the blessings we have been given to those who are struggling, for all of us struggle, all of us lose hope, experience darkness, cold and loss. When we reach, guide, remember those moments, and feel for those who are there for whatever reason, our inner light radiates, and the hidden magic of the season and holidays is revealed.

The joy in cold is seeking warmth. The joy in darkness is welcoming the return of light. Loneliness is defeated by companionship and friendship and love, love will overpower and win against all. This season, extend the warmth. Welcome and spread the light. Overcome and help others defeat loneliness, and let love continue to win against all.

For Somersworth we are "On the Move"! and our "Future is Now"
" We are a Community" " We are Achieving Progress and Greatness" "Let our
Journey Continue" as we Venture Forward United as Hilltoppers!

WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!

Mayor Dana S. Hilliard



Parade Route:

Berwick from Wilson Street then straight across to Allen St. (Rt 236) turn right onto Sawmill Hill Rd down to the bridge crossing into Somersworth on to Market St , onto High Street turn left onto Constitutional Way ending at the American Legion

What's Happening at Somersworth Library

**December Events at Somersworth
Public Library**

**Lots of fun and cheer this month and
a big contest.**



Gingerbread House Contest for All!

Complete a registration form. Drop off an edible creation sitting on a base no larger than 18x18 between December 1 and December 8. Enter into 1 of 4 categories; kids, teens, adults or family. Attend the December 21 **SOLSTICE PARTY** for the announcement of winners, but you can still win if you're not there. Take home your creation by December 30.

SOLSTICE PARTY! It's big. There's cake.

Wednesday, December 21 from 5:30 – 6:50

Music in My Pockets by the great Jeff Warner

It's family friendly. Come listen to music and sing, if you want. Celebrate the winter solstice like the Druids, but while warm and eating cake.

Bigger People Activities

Down the Common by Ann Baer - Book Discussion

Tuesday, December 13 from 5:30 – 6:15

Read, listen, discuss. Copies at the library.

The Thirteenth Day by T. Coraghessan Boyle - Short Story Discussion

Friday, December 16 at 2:00

How does the writer put forth his/her ideas in 10-20 pages? What bits do you like? What details stay with you? Copies at the library.

Little People Activities

Family Story Time, Tuesdays at 10:30am

There might be a craft or a special game, maybe a song and definitely some fun stories.

STEAM & Play

Wednesdays from 4:00-5:00, except for December 21 when we have our Solstice Party! (see above)

Bring your problem solving skills and join us to create, build, and play.

Recommended for ages 5-10.

Sleepy Head at Teatotaler – 66 High Street in Somersworth

Saturday, December 10 at 10:00am

She needs her nap. Come to Teatotaler and see if she can make it through a story without falling asleep! Always engaging, cute and funny.

Lego Engineers

Saturday December 17 from 11:00am to noon

Calling all builders ages 5 and older! Come to the library for LEGO-building fun. Build your own Lego creation or collaborate with new friends. LEGOs provided!



Somersworth Police Department



SHOP WITH A COP 22

December 7th will be a special day for some lucky Somersworth children. We have chosen (25) at risk children for Officers to pair up with to shop for their families' Christmas presents. We have police officers from: Somersworth, State Police, Durham, Strafford County Sheriff's, Dover and Portsmouth. There will be a wrapping/pizza party afterwards at the Flanagan Center.

Thanks to the generosity of the City and our local Somersworth Wal-Mart. After the shopping expedition, there will be a wrapping party with pizza provided by Somersworth House of Pizza (Hot and Fast), Villa Pizza, and Old Rail Pizza. Dunkin' Donuts is providing hot chocolate for the event. Stewart's Ambulance and Somersworth Schools provided volunteers to help at the wrapping/pizza party. This very important event would not be possible without this community support. The smiles will be many on both the officers' faces and the children's faces.

2023 ALARM PERMIT RENEWALS will be mailing soon. If you own a fire alarm or security system alarm, ordinances require you to obtain a permit. To renew your permit the fee is \$10.00 if paid before the end of January, 2023 or \$20.00 after. If the alarm is for a residence and you are 65 or older, your permit is free. If you have questions, please call Karen at the Somersworth PD at 603-841-2917 or email kcantrell@somersworthnh.gov. If you own an alarm system (including those self installed) and have never obtained a permit, you can simply go to: https://www.somersworth.com/sites/somersworthnh/files/uploads/alarm_permit_application1.pdf. The fee is \$25.00 for your first alarm permit. Alarm permits for residence alarms that are 65 or older are free.

SNOW EMERGENCIES: Snow Emergencies can be called at any time, day or night. During Snow Emergencies, a Parking Ban is in effect. Always be aware of overnight weather forecasts and have alternative parking plans when snow is predicted. Your vehicle can be towed during a Snow Emergency and you will have to pay the tow charge to get it back. The purpose of the parking ban is to enable Public Works to safely maintain the roads. This means sometimes there will be a Snow Emergency declared even when it is no longer snowing. Snow emergencies are announced on the following stations: WTSN, WOKQ, WERZ, WSHK, WHEB, WMUR Channel 9 and Local Cable Station Channel 22. You may also call the **Winter Ban Hot Line at 603-692-9131**

Somersworth Police Department also uses our Facebook page to give important community information and we send out Nixle alerts for parking bans and other important information to cell phones and emails. You can sign up for Nixle at www.Nixle.com.

Avoid the parking ticket and the tow (at your expense) by paying attention to snow emergency information.



We send out **Nixle Alerts** for parking bans and other important information to cell phones and emails. You can sign up for *free* Nixle at www.Nixle.com.



Somersworth Police Facebook Page

Check out Somersworth Police Department's Facebook page. We use it to let you know about important community information including crime information, road closures, snow emergencies/ parking bans, and community events. Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthPoliceDepartment/>



Somersworth Crime Line: You can leave crime tips or anonymous information at 603-692-9111

Somersworth Fire Department

Somersworth Fire Department & Emergency Management

December History, Preparation, and Precautions

A Safety Message from the Fire Chief's Office

With Thanksgiving behind us and the month of December ahead of us, there is great anticipation for the upcoming holiday season and optimism for the new year. However, in the Fire Service, December begins with reflection, learning, preparation, and concern. Starting in 1999, December, has been a tragic month for firefighters. On 3 December, 1999, six Worcester, MA firefighters lost their lives while searching for reported squatters in the smoke and flames of a massive six-story, abandoned cold storage building. On 22 December, 1999, three Keokuk, IA Firefighters lost their lives while searching for three children on the second floor of a multi-family dwelling when dense smoke throughout the unit ignited from a first-floor kitchen fire in a rapid-fire event known as a flashover. When the flashover occurred, two of the children had been passed to the outside and the third child was in the arms of one of the searchers on the second floor. The three children did not survive.

The lessons from these two December fires as well as other December fires

including three more from Worcester MA involving firefighter fatalities remind us of the importance of smoke detectors and the dangers of open flames including your stove and candles. The Worcester Cold Storage fire was allegedly started by a candle tipping over. Candles create a nice ambiance – especially around the holidays. However, consider using battery powered candles – they have the look and feel of the real thing.

Safety Tips

Candles, other heat sources, and electrical shorts near Christmas trees are particularly dangerous during the holiday season. On average across the USA, Christmas trees account for over 200 fires, 10 deaths, and more than \$15 million in property damage. Typically, shorts in electrical lights or open flames from candles, lighters, or matches start tree fires. Well-watered trees are not usually a problem, but dry and neglected Christmas trees can be a significant fire hazard. Even trees that have been well watered and cared for will eventually stop absorbing water and start to dry out. Artificial trees may not dry out, but keep in mind most are made from synthetic materials that can easily catch fire and burn almost as rapidly as a real tree. All trees, real or artificial, should be kept well away from direct heating sources such as fireplaces, wood stoves, or space heaters as well as open flames such as candles, lighters, and matches. Candles should also be placed away from Christmas trees, and out of the path of travel of children and pets that may knock it into a tree. Check all lights before putting them on the tree for any cracks in the insulation. If they are cracked or fraying, dispose of them and replace them with a fresh set that bear the UL seal of approval.

The tragic fire in Keokuk started with unattended cooking. Cooking related fires – especially those resulting from unattended cooking – are the number one cause of fires in the home. Please work with your Somersworth Fire Department so that we collectively don't become a December statistic. Enjoy the holidays and practice cooking, candle, and Christmas tree safety. Working smoke alarms save lives.

Feel free to call the Fire Station regarding questions about any emergency management, fire prevention, or life safety topic.

Please be safe, happy, and well during the holidays.

Yours in service,
George Kramlinger
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director



Water your Christmas tree everyday.

A dry tree is dangerous because it can catch on fire easily.

U.S. Fire Administration



FEMA



Think about using battery-operated flameless candles.

These candles can look, smell and feel like real candles.



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration



Put a **FREEZE** on Winter Holiday Fires

Did you know?



A heat source too close to the Christmas tree causes **1 in every 4** winter fires.

As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart.



Read manufacturer's instructions for the number of light strands to connect.



Make sure your tree is **at least 3 feet away** from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators and space heaters.



U.S. Fire Administration





November 1, 2022. SFD personnel ascend the City's aerial ladder to check the roof during the search for the source of a significant smoke condition in a downtown business. Recalled SFD personnel and the Berwick FD assisted at the scene. Today's safety tip is that everyone is reminded to keep their electrical panel doors closed and ensure the panel is always accessible.



November 5, 2022. SFD Senior FF William Staples (shown on ladder) begins to dismantle a rope system used to lift a victim who was wedged in one of the V structures of the tree. This is another example of how technical rescue training within the SFD contributes to successful outcomes. Dover Fire responded to provide

additional personnel, Stewart's ambulance stood by to evaluate the victim, and Berwick Fire provided station coverage. Well done by all!



Department of Public Works & Utilities

Solid Waste, Recycling, Bulky Waste Tips and Highlights

There will be **No Change** to the regular schedule for residential trash and recycling collection. Reminder the next Metal/Electronics curbside collection by will occur on **Tuesday, December 13**. Residents should call by **Monday, December 12** to be placed on the pick-up list. Bulky waste stickers are required and can be purchased at City Hall, City Clerk office (cash, check or credit card) or at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane by **check only**. The number to call at Public Works is 692-4266.

Bagged Leaves and Brush Collection

The City of Somersworth has completed the scheduled Bagged Leaves and Brush pick up for 2022. Brush & bagged leaves collection will resume in April.

Please note that Malley Farm will remain open to the public for Leaf and Brush drop off Monday-Friday 7:30 am to 2:30 pm and Saturday and Sunday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm until the first substantial snow fall of the season.

Christmas Tree Drop Off Program

The Department of Public Works will provide Christmas Tree Drop off and limited collection services during the month of January. Somersworth residents may drop off their Christmas trees at the Department of Public Works Facility located at 18 Lilac Lane. All ornaments and decorations must be removed.

Public Works will collect undecorated residential Christmas Trees during the 2 and 4 weeks in January following the standard trash and recycling collection services. Set out your tree by 7am. As a reminder those dates are Monday, January 9th, Tuesday, January 10, and Wednesday January 11 for the first week; the second week is: Monday January 23, Tuesday January 24, and Wednesday January 25. Please note delays may occur should our Highway personnel need to respond to a weather emergency.

Winter Parking Ban Alerts

During the winter, parking bans are called typically when snow or ice conditions makes it unsafe for vehicles to park while City winter plow equipment is clearing roads and sidewalks. Call the recorded snow line for winter snow parking ban information at 603-692-9131. Check the City website for current postings on winter emergency parking bans as well at www.somersworthnh.gov

Winter Parking Permit Program

Permitted parking is available during snow emergency parking bans on Noble Street adjacent to the Noble Pines Park, and on River Street adjacent to Jules Bisson Park. Permits to park there during parking bans resulting from a snow

emergency are available from November 1 through March 31 at a rate of \$20.00 per month and are available at the Police Department.

Currently there are 15 spaces available on Noble Street and 4 spaces available on River Street. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis. The permits are only valid during the dates listed when there is a snow emergency parking ban in effect. Vehicles parked in this area with a valid permit must be moved by 8 a.m. on the day following the completion of the parking ban to allow for snow removal from the designated area. For further information please contact Cheryl Robinson at the Somersworth Police Department, Monday through Friday during the day (603) 692-3131.

Winter is with us!

Public Works crews have been working behind the scenes in preparation for the 2022-2023 winter season. Highway personnel have been preparing equipment, lining up salt and sand supplies, contracted equipment if needed and conducting snow plow route reviews with Department operators in preparation and response to storms this winter season. Residents and contractors are reminded to not plow or place snow from private driveways or parking lots onto City streets, sidewalks or public places. Please be sure any roadside obstructions i.e. basketball hoops are cleared from the side of the road to allow clear access for snow plows.



This is City plow truck # 302, 2018 Peterbilt Dump Truck; with a painted wing plow attachment. Plow art design and paint was done by Maplewood Elementary Art Teacher Holly Pim and her 5 grade Art Students.

Awesome job! The Public Works truck is planned to be in the December 3, Somersworth –Berwick Christmas Parade starting at 1:30

p.m.

Recreation Office News Upcoming Events

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND

HUNT KICKS OFF AT 6:00 PM

SOMERSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD

CHILDREN AGES 3-12

FREE!

Join Somersworth Recreation as we kick off the holiday season!

Bring your flashlight & a bag/bucket to help collect all the candy canes nestled throughout the field. Once Santa arrives upon the fire truck he will start the candy cane hunt. Families will have the chance to get a photo with Santa. Hot cocoa and cookies will be provided. Supplies are limited. Please note, all children must be accompanied by adult during the event.

EVENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Contact us for more details- 603-692-9508



www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation



SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

BIDDY BASKETBALL

IDLEHURST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GYM
SATURDAY MORNINGS- 5 SESSIONS
FEBRUARY 25- MARCH 25 2023
AGES 3-4: 8:00-8:45AM
AGES 5-6: 9:00-9:45AM

Join us for this exciting beginner basketball program designed to teach children the basic fundamentals of basketball through fun games and age-appropriate activities. Children will learn how to dribble, pass, shoot, & more! Please note, parent participation is required for this age group.



REGISTRATION INFO -

Early Bird Fee	Fee (after 12/30)
Register & Pay by Dec. 30th	Deadline to register is Jan. 20th
Residents- \$40 / Non-Res- \$50	Residents- \$55 / Non-Res- \$60

Space is limited. Please call to ensure space is available prior to mailing in forms or stopping by the office. Registration forms are available on the website below or in the Rec Office at City Hall. **Please make checks payable to: City of Somersworth**

Register by mail: Mail registration form & check to: 1 Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878 Attn: Recreation

Register in person: Cash or checks only. Rec Office is located on the 2nd floor of City Hall.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! PLEASE CONTACT THE REC OFFICE IF
YOU CAN HELP- 603-692-9508

Upcoming Programs & Events

- Our annual **Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt** will be held this **Friday, December 2nd at 6 PM Somersworth High School football field**. Please note, you do not need to pre-register to attend this year. This event is free and open to Somersworth kids ages 3-12. All children must be accompanied by an adult.
- **Rec Youth Basketball will run from December 10-February 11 on Saturday mornings**. Registrations ended November 15 and there is a Wait List for Grades 1 and 2. Space is still available for Grades 3-6 Girls and Boys, please contact us by Dec. 2nd if your child is interested in playing. Call the Rec Office at 603 692-9507 for more info.

- **Biddy Basketball registration opens December 1 for Ages 3-6.** The program will run from Feb 25-March 25 on Saturday mornings 8:00-8:45 AM (Ages 3-4) and 9:00-9:45 AM (Ages 5-6).

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteering is rewarding and a great way to give back to your community! It's also a great opportunity for students to earn community service credit while gaining valuable experience to put on college apps & job resumes! Contact us today to see how you can get involved and make a difference. We love volunteers of all ages and skill sets. Let us know if you have a special talent or skill you can share. Please call 603 692-9508 if you're interested in learning more.

- **Biddy Basketball** – We will need volunteer coaches and gym attendants to help run the program. Please call 603 692-9508 if you can help!
- **Flashlight Candy Cane Hunt**- Friday, Dec. 2nd
 - Decorating, event help, & clean-up.
- **2023 Volunteer Opportunities!**
 - Valentine's Dance Thursday, Feb. 9th 6:30-8:30pm
 - Easter Egg Hunt- Friday, April 7th 4:30pm



Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

- **Rec Basketball** – We still need volunteer coaches & gym attendants! Please call 603 692-9507 if you can help!
- **Biddy Ball**
- **Candy Cane Hunt**- Friday, Dec. 2nd
 - Decorating, event help, & clean-up.

For more information about any of the Recreation Department Programs please call 603-692-9507 or 603-692-9508.



Somersworth High School Interact Club is hosting a Movie Night on December 14th!

We're very fortunate to have students from the Interact Club volunteer at all of our Recreation Department special events, including the Candy Cane Hunt on Friday December 2. They're a wonderful group and provide so much support to the Community. This is a big fundraiser for them and we hope you can make it out to support them!

Please help spread the word!



**What's Happening at
Somersworth Farm to School**



Maple Wood 3rd Grader and Sustainability Club member Sarah Hickey, taking care of the newly planted pollinator tree

Farm to School may appear dormant right now, but all the best plans are laid this time of year.

For starters, Maple Wood gardens got a makeover! Over the past 3 years the gardens at Maple Wood have expanded, but the pandemic and remote schooling scrambled plans and they fell into a state of disarray as a result. The district's USDA Farm to School grant has helped fund regrading of the garden area in order to reduce pooling of water, creation of a pollinator area to encourage wildlife, and replacing two trees by Seacoast Plant Specialists of Rochester NH, in efforts to improve pollinators (and eventually, shade) near the vegetable gardens. Maple Wood Sustainability Club students have become the Garden Stewards this fall, doing heavy preparations for this project. At Idlehurst, a tree inventory was done by UNHCE and plans are underway for the spring replacement of some trees there as well. Idlehurst now has a "roadmap" to reference over many years, as funds allow for the purchase and maintenance plan for new, more suitable trees for the location.

The Somersworth High School Sustainability Club has implemented No Waste Wednesdays, encouraging and incentivizing environmentally sustainable practices around school. Partnering with the HS Marketing program, the club is purchasing stainless steel tumblers and reusable food containers from the school store to be raffled off to students who are "caught in the act" in their efforts toward sustainability. Follow them on Instagram @shs_sustainability to see what else they're up to this year.

It looks like a blank slate now and change is slow. Come spring time, the pollinators will sprout, trees will leaf out, and butterflies & bees will begin their work. All the planning and fruits of our labor will be in full bloom. Until then, take care of yourselves and your family this holiday season.

To find out what else Somersworth is up to in the sustainability and local foods arena follow @farmtosomersworthschools and also follow SHS Sustainability club @shs_sustainabilityclub on Instagram. It's the season of eating, gathering,

Conservation Commission Message



Methods for Disposing Non-Native Invasive Plants

Prepared by the Invasives Species Outreach Group, volunteers interested in helping people control invasive plants. Assistance provided by the Piscataquog Land Conservancy and the NH Invasives Species Committee. Edited by Karen Bennett, Extension Forestry Professor and Specialist.



Tatarian honeysuckle
Lonicera tatarica
USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database / Britton, N.L., and
A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern
United States, Canada and the British Possessions*.
Vol. 3: 282.

Non-native invasive plants crowd out natives in natural and managed landscapes. They cost taxpayers billions of dollars each year from lost agricultural and forest crops, decreased biodiversity, impacts to natural resources and the environment, and the cost to control and eradicate them.

Invasive plants grow well even in less than desirable conditions such as sandy soils along roadsides, shaded wooded areas, and in wetlands. In ideal conditions, they grow and spread even faster. There are many ways to remove these non-native invasives, but once removed, care is needed to dispose the removed plant material so the plants don't grow where disposed.

Knowing how a particular plant reproduces indicates its method of spread and helps determine

the appropriate disposal method. Most are spread by seed and are dispersed by wind, water, animals, or people. Some reproduce by vegetative means from pieces of stems or roots forming new plants. Others spread through both seed and vegetative means.

Because movement and disposal of viable plant parts is restricted (see NH Regulations), viable invasive parts can't be brought to most transfer stations in the state. Check with your transfer station to see if there is an approved, designated area for invasives disposal. This fact sheet gives recommendations for rendering plant parts non-viable.

Control of invasives is beyond the scope of this fact sheet. For information about control visit www.nhinvasives.org or contact your UNH Cooperative Extension office.

New Hampshire Regulations

Prohibited invasive species shall only be disposed of in a manner that renders them nonliving and nonviable. (Agr. 3802.04)

No person shall collect, transport, import, export, move, buy, sell, distribute, propagate or transplant any living and viable portion of any plant species, which includes all of their cultivars and varieties, listed in Table 3800.1 of the New Hampshire prohibited invasive species list. (Agr 3802.01)

How and When to Dispose of Invasives?

To prevent seed from spreading remove invasive plants before seeds are set (produced). Some plants continue to grow, flower and set seed even after pulling or cutting. Seeds can remain viable in the ground for many years. If the plant has flowers or seeds, place the flowers and seeds in a heavy plastic bag "head first" at the weeding site and transport to the disposal site. The following are general descriptions of disposal methods. See the chart for recommendations by species.

Burning: Large woody branches and trunks can be used as firewood or burned in piles. For outside burning, a written fire permit from the local forest fire warden is required unless the ground is covered in snow. Brush larger than 5 inches in diameter can't be burned. Invasive plants with easily airborne seeds like black swallow-wort with mature seed pods (indicated by their brown color) shouldn't be burned as the seeds may disperse by the hot air created by the fire.

Bagging (solarization): Use this technique with softer-tissue plants. Use heavy black or clear plastic bags (contractor grade), making sure that no parts of the plants poke through. Allow the bags to sit in the sun for several weeks and on dark pavement for the best effect.

Tarping and Drying: Pile material on a sheet of plastic and cover with a tarp, fastening the tarp to the ground and monitoring it for escapes. Let the material dry for several weeks, or until it is clearly nonviable.

Chipping: Use this method for woody plants that don't reproduce vegetatively.

Burying: This is risky, but can be done with watchful diligence. Lay thick plastic in a deep pit before placing the cut up plant material in the hole. Place the material away from the edge of the plastic before covering it with more heavy plastic. Eliminate as much air as possible and toss in soil to weight down the material in the pit. Note that the top of the buried material should be at least three feet underground. Japanese knotweed should be at least 5 feet underground!

Drowning: Fill a large barrel with water and place soft-tissue plants in the water. Check after a few weeks and look for rotted plant material (roots, stems, leaves, flowers). Well-rotted plant material may be composted. A word of caution- seeds may still be viable after using this method. Do this before seeds are set. This method isn't used often. Be prepared for an awful stink!

Composting: Invasive plants can take root in compost. Don't compost any invasives unless you know there is no viable (living) plant material left. Use one of the above techniques (bagging, tarping, drying, chipping, or drowning) to render the plants nonviable before composting. Closely examine the plant before composting and avoid composting seeds.






Japanese knotweed
Polygonum cuspidatum
USDA-NRCS PLANTS Database /
Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. Vol. 1: 676.

Be diligent looking for seedlings for years in areas where removal and disposal took place.

Suggested Disposal Methods for Non-Native Invasive Plants

This table provides information concerning the disposal of removed invasive plant material. If the infestation is treated with herbicide and left in place, these guidelines don't apply. Don't bring invasives to a local transfer station, unless there is a designated area for their disposal, or they have been rendered non-viable. This listing includes wetland and upland plants from the New Hampshire Prohibited Invasive Species List. The disposal of aquatic plants isn't addressed.

Woody Plants	Method of Reproducing	Methods of Disposal
Norway maple <i>(Acer platanoides)</i> European barberry <i>(Berberis vulgaris)</i> Japanese barberry <i>(Berberis thunbergii)</i> autumn olive <i>(Elaeagnus umbellata)</i> burning bush <i>(Euonymus alatus)</i> Morrow's honeysuckle <i>(Lonicera morrowii)</i> Tatarian honeysuckle <i>(Lonicera tatarica)</i> showy bush honeysuckle <i>(Lonicera x bella)</i> common buckthorn <i>(Rhamnus cathartica)</i> glossy buckthorn <i>(Frangula alnus)</i>	Fruit and Seeds 	Prior to fruit/seed ripening Seedlings and small plants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pull or cut and leave on site with roots exposed. No special care needed. Larger plants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use as firewood. ▪ Make a brush pile. ▪ Chip. ▪ Burn.
		After fruit/seed is ripe Don't remove from site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burn. ▪ Make a covered brush pile. ▪ Chip once all fruit has dropped from branches. ▪ Leave resulting chips on site and monitor.
oriental bittersweet <i>(Celastrus orbiculatus)</i> multiflora rose <i>(Rosa multiflora)</i>	Fruits, Seeds, Plant Fragments 	Prior to fruit/seed ripening Seedlings and small plants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pull or cut and leave on site with roots exposed. No special care needed. Larger plants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make a brush pile. ▪ Burn.
		After fruit/seed is ripe Don't remove from site. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Burn. ▪ Make a covered brush pile. ▪ Chip – only after material has fully dried (1 year) and all fruit has dropped from branches. Leave resulting chips on site and monitor.

Non-Woody Plants	Method of Reproducing	Methods of Disposal
garlic mustard <i>(Alliaria petiolata)</i> spotted knapweed <i>(Centaurea maculosa)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sap of related knapweed can cause skin irritation and tumors. Wear gloves when handling. black swallow-wort <i>(Cynanchum nigrum)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May cause skin rash. Wear gloves and long sleeves when handling. pale swallow-wort <i>(Cynanchum rossicum)</i> giant hogweed <i>(Heracleum mantegazzianum)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can cause major skin rash. Wear gloves and long sleeves when handling. dame's rocket <i>(Hesperis matronalis)</i> perennial pepperweed <i>(Lepidium latifolium)</i> purple loosestrife <i>(Lythrum salicaria)</i> Japanese stilt grass <i>(Microstegium vimineum)</i> mile-a-minute weed <i>(Polygonum perfoliatum)</i>	Fruits and Seeds 	Prior to flowering Depends on scale of infestation Small infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pull or cut plant and leave on site with roots exposed. Large infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pull or cut plant and pile. (You can pile onto or cover with plastic sheeting). Monitor. Remove any re-sprouting material. During and following flowering Do nothing until the following year or remove flowering heads and bag and let rot. Small infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pull or cut plant and leave on site with roots exposed. Large infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pull or cut plant and pile remaining material. (You can pile onto plastic or cover with plastic sheeting). Monitor. Remove any re-sprouting material.
common reed <i>(Phragmites australis)</i> Japanese knotweed <i>(Polygonum cuspidatum)</i> Bohemian knotweed <i>(Polygonum x bohemicum)</i>	Fruits, Seeds, Plant Fragments Primary means of spread in these species is by plant parts. Although all care should be given to preventing the dispersal of seed during control activities, the presence of seed doesn't materially influence disposal activities.	Small infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bag all plant material and let rot. Never pile and use resulting material as compost. Burn. Large infestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove material to unsuitable habitat (dry, hot and sunny or dry and shaded location) and scatter or pile. Monitor and remove any sprouting material. Pile, let dry, and burn.

January 2010

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SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER!

LEARN, GROW & THRIVE

EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT PROGRAM Somersworth Ready Together | YMCA of Strafford County

The Early Childhood Enrichment Program is returning to the Somersworth Ready Together Family Room at Idlehurst Elementary School. We are accepting registrations for children ages 3 - 5 who live in Somersworth. The YMCA of Strafford County and the Somersworth Ready Together (SRT) Coalition are offering this enrichment program because we know that these early years are so important for healthy brain growth and development. We want to provide a safe, positive, happy learning space that will help Somersworth children thrive!

During this enrichment experience, children will participate in playtime, songs, stories, art projects, and socializing with friends. Children must be potty trained in order to enroll. Parents/guardians must pack a lunch and are responsible for transportation. This program is for children only, it is not a parent/guardian and child group.

REGISTER & LEARN MORE

Families may register by scanning the QR code above or by visiting www.graniteymca.org/ecep. Having trouble registering? Stop by the YMCA of Strafford County during one of our registration events:

Wednesday, October 12
9:00 am - 11:00 am

Thursday, October 13
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

If you would like to learn more or have any questions, please contact Laura Dubois at 603.994.4113 or ldubois@graniteymca.org.

COST

This program is **FREE**, but registration is required.

PARTICIPANTS

Open to children ages 3 - 5 that live in Somersworth. Children must be potty trained.

DATES & TIME

October 24 - June 9, 2023
This program will run from
9:30 am - 12:30 pm on Mondays,
Tuesdays & Thursdays.

LOCATION

Somersworth Ready Together
Family Room
Idlehurst Elementary School
46 Stackpole Rd, Somersworth, NH

YMCA OF STRAFFORD COUNTY | 35 Industrial Way, Rochester, NH | www.graniteymca.org



Community Literacy Center

Read and write with us at the Community Literacy Center!

Ongoing Youth Programming:

- **1-1 literacy support** (gr. K-12, T/Th). Work with a UNH student on reading and writing goals through research-based activities and games. More info and registration:
 - in-person: <https://tinyurl.com/LSIPF21>
 - remote: <https://tinyurl.com/yra6fckf>
- **Write Free** (gr. 5-12, W). Spark your imagination with freewrites and develop your writing skills with a supportive group of writers. More info and registration: <https://tinyurl.com/RMWFF21>

Spring 2023 Youth Programming (registration coming soon!):

- **Pageturners - 1 Day Camp** (gr. K-5): Have to work but the kids don't have school? Send the kids to the CLC for a day of books, art, creating, and fun! Date: 1/23.
- **Book to Art** (gr. K-4, W) Read books! Make art! Dates: 2/8, 2/15, 3/1, 3/8, 3/22, 3/29
- **Superstar Writers** (gr. 3-4, Th) Dates: 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 3/2, 3/9, 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13, 4/20, 5/4

**For more information and registration for
Ongoing Youth Programming:**

In-Person please [see here](#)

Remote [see here](#)



29th Annual Holiday Craft Fair

**Saturday, December 3rd
9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

**Somersworth High School
11 Memorial Drive, Somersworth**

150 talented crafters!

**Food! Great raffles!
Free parking Free entry**



Phone: 603-692-5869 • Email: sfachild.festival@gmail.com
www.nhfestivals.org

Emergency Willand Warming Center of Strafford County

The Warming Center of Strafford County at 30 Willand Drive in Somersworth, NH will activate, as needed through winter from November 25 to March 31, 2022.

Reservations/pre-registrations aren't required. Access is walk-in only.

The two nearest COAST bus stops to the Willand Warming Center are High Street: Holy Trinity/Bernier (Route 1) and Route 108 Midway Buick/Coastal Neurology (Route 12). Riders will need a bus ticket or bus pass for all COAST transportation. Bus tickets are available at SOS - Dover (4 Broadway) & SOS - Rochester (14 Signal Street).

Questions can be directed to the Willand facility at 603-742-2709 or 603-969-1305 or via direct message to the facility Facebook page 'Warming Center of Strafford County' (#warmingcenterofsc).

To get text notifications for Warming Center Activations, please text 'Willand' to 855-970-3280.

Anyone experiencing housing insecurity at any time can call
211 for support.

City of Somersworth Employment Opportunities

Finalist must complete pre-employment screening to include: physical, drug test & background check. Detailed postings available online at:
<https://www.somersworth.com/human-resources/page/employment-opportunities>

A completed City of Somersworth Employment Application is required for all job openings.
For more information please call Linda Corriveau at (603) 692-9529 or email Linda

POLICE

Dispatcher

\$39,956.80 (\$19.21 hr.) - \$52,374.40 (\$25.18 hr.)

Date Posted: October 5, 2022

Reviewed As Received, Open Until Filled

Patrol Officers

\$50,772.80 (\$24.41 hr.) to \$66,518.40 (\$31.98)

More Information: [Somersworth Police Department Job Opportunities](https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/job-opportunities)

<https://www.somersworthnh.gov/police/pages/job-opportunities>

PUBLIC WORKS - HIGHWAY

Highway Equipment/Plow Operator

\$44,096.00 (\$21.20 hr.) - \$47,694.40 (\$22.93 hr.)

w/overtime opportunities

Date Posted: October 6, 2022

Reviewed As Received, Open Until Filled

WASTEWATER

Wastewater Treatment Mechanic

\$45,572.80 (\$21.91 hr.) - \$55,432.00 (\$26.65 hr.)

Date Posted: October 26, 2022

Reviewed As Received, Open Until Filled

City Hall will be closed on Friday,



**December 23 and Monday December 26
for the Christmas Holiday.**



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