
October 2020



General Election

November 3, 2020

Polls are Open from 7:00 am - 7:00 pm

For the 2020 General Elections, voters are allowed to appear at their Ward's polling place and deliver their own completed absentee ballots in the same manner they would deliver an absentee ballot to the City Clerk prior to Election day.

Absentee Ballots must be received no later than 5:00 PM on Election Day. After 5:00 PM on Election Day, absentee ballots cannot be accepted but the voter can still vote in person at their Ward polling place.

The Polling Places are as Follows :

- Ward 1 – City Hall, One Government Way
- Ward 2 – Summersworth Historical Museum, 157 Main Street
- Ward 3 – Somersworth High School Cafeteria, 11 Memorial Drive
- Ward 4 – Idlehurst Elementary School Cafeteria, 45 Stackpole Road
- Ward 5 – Romeo J. Messier Building, 218 Main Street

Samples Ballots can be viewed on the City Website along with Street Locations by Ward. Please click on this [link](#) to be directed.

Please be aware that the State of NH requires voters to show identification when they vote. If they do not have identification they will be required to sign a certificate which is then sent to the State.

If you have any question regarding the upcoming State Primary Election, Please feel free to call the City Clerk's office at 692-9511, or email the City Clerk [Jonathan Slaven](#).

or the Deputy City Clerk Ammy Ramsey at 692-9512 or email [Ammy Ramsey](#)

City of Somersworth, NH

One Government Way
Somersworth, NH 03878
603-692-4262

City Hall Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday

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

Visit our
website



Scheduled October City Council Meetings

Monday, October 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Keeping with CDC guidelines and following social distancing the City Council Meetings will be taking place at the Blackbox Theater at Somersworth High School Career Technical Center, 18 Cemetery Road (subject to change).

City Manager Reports for the City Council Meetings available [here](#)

Land Use Board Meetings – Planning. Zoning Board of Adjustment, etc.

These meetings will continue to be held in a ZOOM meeting format as being conducted now from the Council Chambers with the Chair and minimal attendance of other Board Members and Staff to allow for social distancing.

The Mayor's Corner



Happiness

“When one lives attached to money, pride or power, it’s impossible to truly be happy”

~Pope Francis

I have grown a fondness for Pope Francis. As a Catholic, I respect the direction he has taken with the church and attribute him and our local parish leader Father Andrew for gently nudging me back to my faith. As a political leader, I respect the visions which both men hold. They are true to their word, they believe in the power of the individual and community, ascribing to the philosophy that the true power of human kind lies in happiness and love.

While I will never surrender my faith in the power of humankind or the creed and goals our nation set out to achieve, I, like most of my fellow Hilltoppers have become saddened at times on how we have fallen short of adhering to what is important in life. Yes, like most of you I enjoy the luxuries of life. I like to travel, enjoy going out to eat and having a good cocktail on occasion. I like sitting in good seats when I go to the theater, purchase good suits, buy \$6.00 coffees and lattes and like most of you buy stuff I really don't need from time to time. Most of us would be lying if we said we don't enjoy a good walk down capitalism lane from time to time and having extra *money* in are

The Public will be allowed to attend, although we continue to encourage watching remotely and submitting comments in advance.

Committee/Board Meetings this Month

Cemetery Board of Trustees

Thursday, October 1 at 3:30 p.m.

Site Review Technical Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m.

Minor Site Plan via Zoom

Wednesday, October 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

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

School Board Meetings at the Blackbox Theater at the Career Technical Center

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

Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Committee via Zoom

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

Planning Board via Zoom

Wednesday, October 21 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission via Zoom

Wednesday, October 28 at 7:00 p.m.

pockets. However, regardless of the short fix our material items give us, it will never lead us towards a life we all desire, a life of **happiness**. [Read More](#)

Mayor's Office Hours

Monday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

People are welcomed to stop by during this time. Or, if you prefer, you can make an appointment by calling Brenda at 692-9503 or email

bbreda@somersworth.com

Residents are encouraged to wear face coverings/masks and meetings will take place in the Council Chambers to adhere to CDC Guidelines of Social Distancing.

Don't Forget!

City Hall has a new Dropbox located outside City Hall entrance on Government Way. **Please Note:** State Law prohibits submitting any Absentee Ballots at the City dropbox location. Ballots must be mailed via USPS or handed to the City Clerk at the City Hall drive thru access.

Dropbox may be used at any time for submitting property



tax or utility payments or other drop off business. It is available and secure 24/7.

If you have question please call the City Clerk's office at 692-9511 or 692-9512.

Department of Public Works & Utilities

Solid Waste and Recycling News Updates

There will be **No Change** to the regular schedule residential trash and recycling collection due to the Columbus Day Holiday; that Holiday is not a recognized Holiday that impacts collection days.

Reminder the next Metal/Electronics curbside collection by Public Works crews will occur on October 13, 2020. Residents should call by Friday, October 9, 2020 to be placed on the pick-up list. Use of bulky waste/metal waste stickers is required and can be purchased at City Hall, City Clerk office. Bulky waste/metal stickers can also be purchased at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane by check only. The number to call at Public Works is 692-4266.

Fall Clean up Services

Brush pick up: Public Works Highway crews will start collecting **residential brush** during the week of October 19th through 23rd. Residents need to call Public Works at 692-4266 by **Friday, October 16th** to be placed on the pick-up list.

Department Highway crews will also be collecting **bagged leaves** the week of October 26th through 30th. Residents should place their bagged leaves curbside on their regular trash pick-up day. The paper leaf bags can be purchased at grocery store chains, hardware stores, and Home Depot.

Water Conservation is for Everyone!

Due to little rainfall over the past several weeks our region is experiencing severe drought conditions. City staff is continuing to monitor water levels in the Salmon Falls River where the City draws its drinking water and report water levels continue to be at standard levels. Temperatures, however, have been above average since May and are

predicted to continue to be above average through October. In addition, there has been little rainfall during this time as well. Water is a limited resource and we all need to practice water conservation measures during this time. Water users are encouraged to practice effective water conservation.

For helpful tips on water use and conservation go to <https://www.epa.gov/watersense>.

Flushing Water Mains to begin Mid-October

The Somersworth Water Division will be conducting night time flushing of water mains Sunday through Thursday between the hours of 6:30 PM and 2:30 AM. This night work will begin Sunday October 11, 2020 and end on the night of Thursday October 15, 2020.

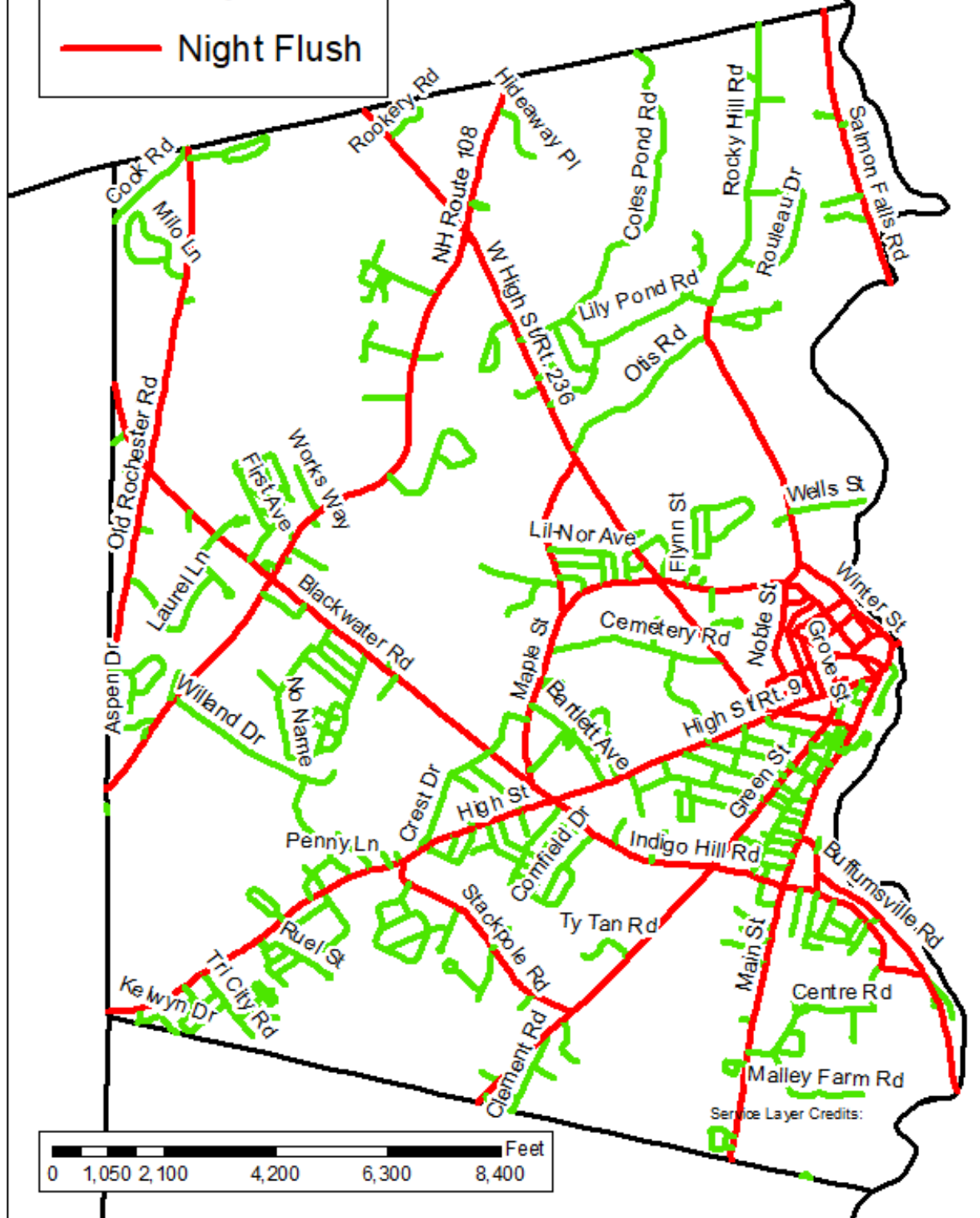
This routine maintenance program helps to maintain water quality throughout the water distribution system. We ask that you refrain from using water when crews are observed in your area as water main flushing can cause a temporary discoloration of your water supply. This discoloration is from naturally occurring minerals that have precipitated in the water lines. If you do experience discoloration, please run a cold water tap for a short time to clear your water.

2020 Water Main Flushing Map

Legend

Day Flush

Night Flush



Somersworth Fire

Fire Prevention Month - Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen

A Safety Message from the Fire Chief's Office

At approximately 9:00 p.m. on October 8, 1871, a fire started on the southwest side of Chicago eventually growing into a conflagration that killed approximately 300 people, destroyed 17,500 buildings and roughly 3.3 square miles of the city, and left more than 100,000 residents homeless. In 1922, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) named the second week of October Fire

Prevention Week in commemoration of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. The goal of Fire Prevention week and now the entire month of October is to raise fire safety awareness, and help ensure your home and family prevent fires as well as being prepared for the unexpected.

Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the U.S. Consequently, this year's Fire Prevention Month theme is "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen." This is a good time to remind ourselves and educate our children on the dangers of cooking hazards and unattended cooking as well as the precautions we can take to prevent cooking-related fires and injuries.

According to the NFPA, cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries in the United States. Almost half (44%) of reported home fires started in the kitchen. Two-thirds (66%) of home cooking fires start with the ignition of food or other cooking materials.

When cooking, stay in the kitchen, use a timer, and avoiding distractions such as electronics or the TV. Here are some steps that everyone can take to "Serve Up Fire Safety in the Kitchen."

- Never leave cooking food unattended. Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling or broiling. If you have to leave, even for a short time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you're cooking.
- You have to be alert when cooking. You won't be alert if you are sleepy, have taken medicine or drugs, or consumed alcohol that makes you drowsy.
- Always keep an oven mitt and pan lid nearby when you're cooking. If a small grease fire starts, slide the lid over the pan to smother the flame. Turn off the burner, and leave the pan covered until it is completely cool. Do not use water on a grease fire. Do not put yourself in jeopardy or risk burns – if the fire is too big, get everyone out and call 911 from outside.
- Have a "kid-free zone" of at least 3 feet around the stove and areas where hot food or drink is prepared or carried. Avoid the use of heat producing plug-in cooking appliances where a child could trip over the cord and pull the hot food, grease or cooking oil onto themselves and cause severe burns.



Other Important and Enduring Safety Considerations Associated with Fire Prevention Month:

- Install smoke and carbon monoxide alarms on every level and in every bedroom.
- Test alarms regularly.
- Alarms don't last forever, remember to replace your alarms at least every 10 years.
- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of fires in the kitchen. Be alert while cooking.
- Plan and practice an escape route with your family.
- If your smoke or carbon monoxide alarm sounds, leave the home immediately for fresh air and call 911.

Please feel free to call the Fire Station if you have questions about any fire prevention or life safety considerations.

Every October, a grateful Nation honors its fallen fire service heroes at the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Park, located on the campus of the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland. This year's in person Memorial Weekend - scheduled for October 3-4, 2020 – has been cancelled and changed to a virtual ceremony.

Please be careful and look out for each other.
George Kramlinger
Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director



LIGHT THE NIGHT

FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

September 27 – October 4, 2020

Landmarks and fire departments across the country will glow in respect of fallen firefighters and their families. The National Fallen Firefighters Foundation invites you to light your building or firehouse in red to honor America's fallen heroes during America's Tribute to Fallen Firefighters.

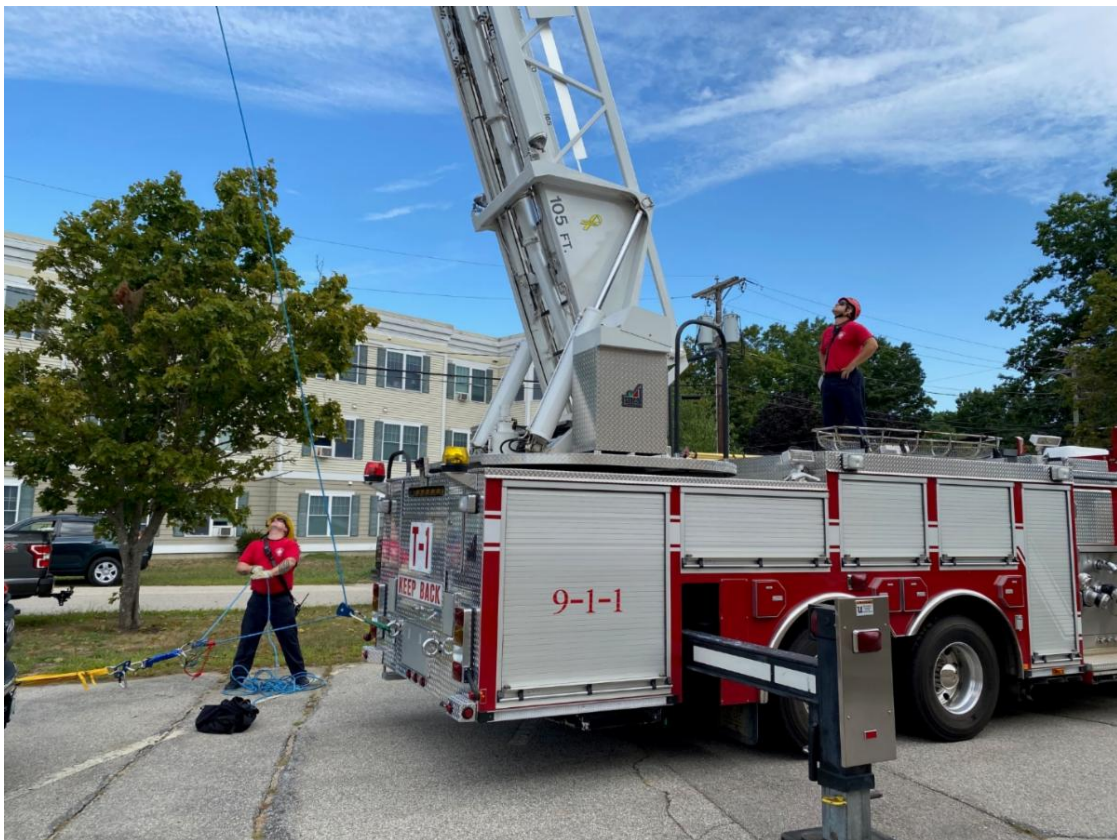
#nffflightthenight2020



The Somersworth Fire Department will participate in the “**Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters**” by lighting our Fire Station in **Red** from Sunday to Sunday, September 27 to October 4. “**Light the Night for Fallen Firefighters**” will honor and remember 82 firefighters who died in the line of duty in 2019 and 21 firefighters who died in previous years whose names are being added to the memorial this year.



September 3rd. Somersworth Firefighters operate at a car into a building incident on Winter Street at the corner of Page Street at approximately 8:15 PM on a warm evening. The Somersworth Police department and Stewart's Ambulance also responded. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries.



September 10th. Somersworth Firefighters provide a safety line and monitor a candidate climbing the Department's 105-foot aerial ladder during an assessment center for a full-time Firefighter position.

Somersworth Police & Friends



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT CANCELLED

Sponsored by: Somersworth Police and
Somersworth Prevention Coalition.

While we sincerely regret having to cancel the National Night Out that was scheduled for October 6th, we want our community to be safe in all ways during this pandemic.

It just means 2021 National Night Out will be even better!

SNOW EMERGENCY PARKING

Permits for Noble Street and River Street parking during snow emergency parking bans will become available beginning October 1, 2020.

Permit parking during snow emergency parking bans is allowed on Noble Street adjacent to the Noble Pines Park, and on River Street adjacent to Jules Bisson Park.

There are 17 spaces available on Noble Street and 5 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 am on the day following the completion of the parking ban to allow for snow removal from the designated area. Vehicles not moved per the Ordinance will be subject to being towed at the owners expense.

Permits to park during parking bans resulting from a snow emergency are available from November 1st thru March 31st at a rate of \$20.00 per month, and are available at the Police Department. Please call 692-3131 for more information.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE ASSISTANCE

We have a partnered with Avis Goodwin, Wentworth Douglass Hospital and volunteer Recovery Coaches to offer “**Community Access to Recovery**” aimed at providing help to those suffering from substance misuse disorders. Simply come into the police station and ask for assistance. We will arrange assistance for you.

PROTECT YOUR EVERY DAY

If you **see** something,
say something®

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Call 9-1-1

Somersworth Police Dispatch
Somersworth Police Crime Line

603-692-3131
603-692-9111



"If You See Something, Say Something" used with permission of the NY Metropolitan Transportation Authority.



Somersworth Crime Line:

You can leave anonymous information at
692-9111 - 24 hours a day/7 days a week.



Somersworth Police Department also uses our Facebook page to give important community information.

What's Happening at Somersworth Library

The library has opened for browsing and computer use.
There are three computers available and we ask all



patrons to limit their visits to 30 minutes.

The library looks different. Shelving has been removed and furniture rearranged to create a more open and welcoming environment.

On the upper level is a white board entitled “Thoughts for the Day.” We welcome your drawings and quotes. A new part-time staff member has been hired. She will primarily be working in children’s and young adult services.

It’s fun to see people again! We are still are offering curbside service though for anyone not ready to enter public buildings. Curbside is available all hours the library is open. Programming will not resume until it is safe to meet in groups.

While the library regularly purchases best sellers, please let us know if you read a review or hear of a title you’d like the library to purchase. We aim to create a collection that serves the needs and interests of the community.

The Hours of the Library have Changed Slightly.

Tuesday & Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday & Monday: Closed

If you’d like to see what’s new in the library, there are links for new fiction, non-fiction and movies from the catalog page

<https://somersworth.nhais.bywatersolutions.com/> Once logged in with your username (barcode) you can place holds. You can browse genres or search by keyword/s to find books that appeal to your interests.



We’re glad to be open and happy to see all your faces!
If you have question please call us here at 692-4587



Have you seen our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/SomersworthLibrary/> It’s updated at least once a week and usually more. You don’t have to be on Facebook to find links to author-related videos, new books and virtual events.

As part of School's reopening plan, the Somersworth School District has opted to start the school year in remote learning. The School District feels that it is vitally important for students to have access to good, nutritious meals even when they are not physically in the school building. As such, we are making meals at home available for all students.

Meals will be available for pick up daily before the school day begins for those students who have signed up for this program. Your assigned location for pick up will be identified after you sign up for the program. The meals will be provided in a large bag, with the food properly packaged and labelled. Food will need to be stored properly upon arrival at your home.

The regular cost for breakfast is \$1.65 for elementary students and \$1.95 for middle/high school students; lunch is \$2.75 for elementary students and \$2.90 for middle/high school students. Meals will be charged to your student's food service account. Funds can be added to the account by using the online payment portal or by cash or check when meals are picked up.

The reduced cost for breakfast is .30 and .40 for lunch. Meals will be charged to student's food service account. Funds can be added to the account by using the online payment portal or by cash or check when meals are picked up.

Please use this [link](#) to sign up for the remote meals program.

If you choose not to participate at this time, you may always decide to sign up at a later date. To sign up later, or if you have questions or concerns about the remote meals program, please contact Katie Krauss at 692-4450

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH



To stay on top of what's going on at Families First, please sign up for their [newsletters](#).

Family Focus: Info on each month's parent and family programs, monthly parenting tips and ideas, useful links and more. Sent monthly. ([Read issues.](#))

Feeling Disconnected from Other Moms?
Mother to Mother Group Online
Tuesdays 9-10:00 a.m.

Come join our community of moms for support, encouragement and connection as we navigate parenting during a pandemic together. We especially welcome new moms with infants who are

experiencing postpartum adjustment. One of our facilitators, Susan Remillard, PCD (DONA), CLC, is trained in birth and postpartum care. *All moms are welcome.*

[Sign up here](#)



A 6-week Series for Parents of Young Children
Tuesdays, Oct 13- Nov. 17
6-7:30 pm
Online (Zoom)

Join us to connect with other parents, learn new strategies, and gain confidence as you handle the challenges of parenting a young child. You'll learn tools for strengthening your relationship with your child, building friendship skills, and teaching appropriate behaviors. Ideal for parents and caregivers of children ages 2-10.

[Sign up here](#)



Children who grow up with lots of books around tend to read more and become stronger readers. So, it is a good idea to keep reading materials around....Stock the bathroom, car, dining table and bedrooms with comic books, graphic novels, books and magazines geared to your child's interest

Here are [5 tips](#) to encourage your teen to read more!

The NH COVID-19 Parent Resource Guide includes ideas for everything from setting up a daily routine to cooking with kids and family fitness strategies. It's a resource you can turn to over and over again for information and support.

[Open the Parent Resource Guide](#)



Quality Service, Quality Schools, Quality Somersworth

Vision 2020

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future
