
September 2020

City Facilities – City Hall & Library
City Hall & the Public Library will be Open to the Public starting
Wednesday, September 9th

- The City encourages the public to wear face coverings/mask and to adhere to social distancing.
- The City will have signage as well as tables with masks and sanitizer available at the entry ways.
- Employees will be required to wear face coverings/masks when in common areas and at all times when conducting business with the public.
- The City has installed sneeze panels in all appropriate service areas.

Reopening Date

Wednesday, September 9th at 8:00 a.m.

City Hall Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
Wednesday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Library Hours

Monday: Closed
Tuesday, Wednesday: 11:00 am to 7:00 pm
Thursday, Friday, Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

As a reminder, this plan is subject to change should it be necessary due to the pandemic spiking or a State or Federal Emergency Order requires it.

State Primary Election

September 8, 2020

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

For the 2020 State Primary 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 at the City Clerk's office no later than September 7, 2020 via mail no later than 5:00 pm.

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

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.

Please Click [here](#) to see State Primary Sample Ballots

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 [Jonathan Slaven](#)

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.

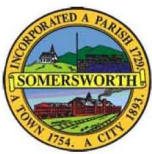
The Mayor's Corner



Sunrise

Visit our
website

“What I know for sure is that every



September City Council Meetings

Wednesday, September 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September, 21 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.

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

Committee/Board Meetings this Month

Site Review Technical Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, September 2 at 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, September 9 at 10:30 a.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment via Zoom

Wednesday, September 2 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m.

sunrise is like a new page, a chance to right ourselves and receive each day in all its glory. Each day is a wonder"

Oprah Winfrey

Each day we are given an opportunity, an opportunity to celebrate life and the beauty which surround us. An opportunity to spread joy, to ease pain, to bring hope and to make a difference. With each **sunrise** is a reminder, a reminder of the moment we have been given, a reminder that time does not stand still. What we choose to do with the hours of light we are awarded is ours and ours alone. We can move forward positively embracing the gifts of "moments and time." We can deny these moments, only to be reminded later that they have passed.

While each sunrise is to be celebrated for the moment when light returns, there is no promise that the day will not be filled with the clouds of suffering, discomfort or pain. There is no guarantee that the day in store will not be consumed with chaos that may carry forward in the days to come. Yet, with its solid consistency, through the morning darkness, overcast skies or storms, the light returns.

With the breaking dawn of each day, we continue to walk. We walk on our individualized path towards success, we walk together as families affirming our love and commitment to each other and we walk as a united community, with the common goals of building a society where all will be treated with dignity, empathy and compassion. A community where all will be celebrated and each person afford the opportunity to define their own personal success. We walk together with hope, knowing that we may encounter overcast skies or storms but the promise of another sunrise is only a day away.

The sunrise is a reminder of the light that each of us holds. Let it shine! Choose to let your inner rays inspire others. Choose to let your inner rays guide others down

Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, September 9 at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Board via Zoom

Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Fire Station Building Committee via Zoom

Thursday, September 17 at 3:00 p.m.

Historic District Commission via Zoom

Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m.

the path of positivity, of service to others, and allow your inner rays to inspire others to contribute to the building of something bigger than oneself.

As we all continue to adjust to the new norms, let us embrace the sunlight each of us can offer. How each of us can stand by each other and offer hope. While our ability to navigate may be affected by the lingering fog, let us be reassured that the sun will break through with its warmth and power guiding us towards a future we can celebrate and embrace.

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.



How Cloth Face Coverings help Slow the Spread of COVID-19

COVID-19 spreads mainly from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, talks, or raises their voice (e.g., while shouting, chanting, or singing). These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. **Recent studies** show that a significant portion of individuals with COVID-19 lack symptoms (are "asymptomatic") and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (are "pre-symptomatic") can transmit the virus to others before showing symptoms.

To reduce the spread of COVID-19, CDC recommends that people wear cloth face

coverings in public settings when around people outside of their household, especially when other **social distancing** measures are difficult to maintain.

The City Council recently unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the use of face coverings /masks in public to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus.

For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

City Hall has just installed 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



Department of Public Works & Utilities

Solid Waste and Recycling - Holiday Delays

Due to the Labor Day holiday on Monday, September 7, there will be a one (1) day delay in the collection of trash and recycling, as follows:

Monday's collection will occur on Tuesday, September 8

Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday, September 9

Wednesday's collection will occur on Thursday, September 10

Metal/Electronics Curbside Collection

Reminder the next Metal/Electronics curbside collection by Public Works crews will occur on September 8, 2020. Residents should call by Friday, September 5, 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/Treasurer office and at the DPW building at 18 Lilac Lane (check only).

Upcoming Brush & Bagged Leaves Pick-up

Brush Pick-up

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

Bagged Leaves

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, 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. However Temperatures have been above average since May and are predicted to continue to be above average through October.

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>.

Somersworth Fire

Disasters Don't Wait - Make Your Plan Today! **A Safety Message from the Fire Chief's Office**

Since 2004, September has been recognized as National Preparedness Month. With the heart of hurricane season upon us, September is a great month to promote family and community disaster planning. This year's theme is: "Disasters Don't Wait. Make Your Plan Today." With the COVID-19 pandemic and all that mother nature throws at us, there is no better time to be involved in planning than during the month of September. This year's theme is broken into weekly activities.

Week 1 - Make A Plan: Talk to your friends and family about how you will communicate before, during, and after a disaster. Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands your hurricane plan. Don't forget a plan for the office, kids' daycare, and anywhere you frequent. Take into consideration recommendations from the State of NH and the Centers for Disease Control regarding COVID-19 pandemic precautions.

Week 2 - Build A Kit: Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Don't forget spare face coverings/masks, hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, medications, back-up charging devices for your electronics, and pet supplies when you pack your go bag or load your vehicle. Keep your cell phone charged when you know a hurricane is in the forecast.

Week 3 -Prepare for Disasters: Know the risk of disasters in our area and obtain the proper insurance coverage. Act fast if you receive a local warning or alert. A hurricane watch means hurricane conditions are possible in a stated area. Experts announce hurricane watches 48 hours before they expect tropical-storm-force winds to start. A hurricane warning is more serious. It means hurricane-force winds are expected in a stated area. Experts issue these warnings 36 hours before tropical-storm-force winds are expected in the area to give people enough time to prepare for the storm. **Download the FEMA app** and receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. Be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA)- which requires no-sign up. Learn how to make your home stronger and get your home ready in the face of storms and other common hazards. Declutter drains and gutters, bring in outside furniture, consider hurricane shutters. Be ready to turn off your power. If you see flooding, downed power lines, or you have to leave your home, switch your power off. Fill clean water containers with drinking water. You'll want to do this in case you lose your water supply during the storm. You can also fill up your sinks and bathtubs with water for washing. Get your vehicle ready. Fill your vehicle's gas tank, and move your vehicle into your garage or under cover if not evacuating.

Week 4 - Teach and prepare the vulnerable: Talk to children about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about what they can do to be safe in the event of an emergency. Inform the elderly about what they can do to stay informed and protect themselves in the event of an emergency. If you or anyone in your household is an individual with a disability make a plan and arrange for help from family, friends, or neighbors. Pre-identify shelters, a pet-friendly hotel, or an out-of-town friend or relative where you can take your pets in an evacuation.

Please call the Fire Station if you have any questions about disaster preparedness or any other safety related questions.

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



August 21st. The early stage of a three-alarm fire at Hilltop Chevrolet on a warm and very humid Friday evening. B-Shift was on duty and the response included 11 mutual aid Fire Departments, the Somersworth Police Dept, Stewart's Ambulance, the York Canteen Unit, and the Community Mutual Aid Air Van.



August 4th. Just prior to tropical storm Isaias impacting the City, there was a car versus train collision at the railroad crossing on Rocky Hill Rd near Whippoorwill Way. Somersworth Police and Fire as well as Stewart's Ambulance responded. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries.

Somersworth Police & Friends



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT SAVE THE DATE

When: Tuesday, October 6th
From: 5:30 PM until 7:30 PM
at Jules Bisson Park

Sponsored by: Somersworth Police and Somersworth
Prevention Coalition.

National Night Out is a community event that promotes police-community building partnerships that is being held throughout many communities in the United States. It enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. There will be family activities and prizes. Come and join the fun!! **Together, we are making communities safer and more caring places to live.**

In NH, there have been several traffic related fatalities in 2020. Two involved pedestrians. It's up to everyone to share the road safely.

**Equal Respect, Equal Responsibility
Road Responsibility, Pedestrian Safety**



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 misuse disorders. Simply come into the police station and ask for assistance. We will arrange assistance for you.



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



We Want Your Ideas

Give us your ideas for events and programs. At this juncture with masks and social distancing we're unsure when programs will begin, but we'll aim for author talks, bands and a corn hole tournament. You can email library@somersworth.com with your suggestions.



**Need Reading
Suggestions?
Try NoveList.
From the
Library
Webpage**

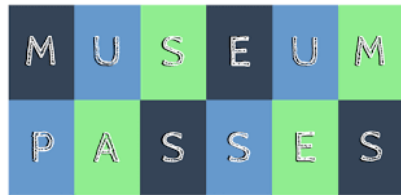
<https://somersworth.nhais.bywatersolutions.com/> click the **Ebsco** box to the left and then NoveList Plus. You can browse genres or search by keyword/s to find books that appeal to your interests.

FINE FREE

**Bring Back Those Overdue Items on
Fine Free Friday!**

Next one is Friday September 4

Every month we have "Fine Free Friday" on the first Friday of the Month. Return any overdue items on that day and you won't owe a thing, no matter how long you have had the item.



We have Museum passes and the following are open by appointment or with limited capacity

- Seacoast Science Center, Rye
- Strawberry Banke, Portsmouth
- New England Aquarium, Boston

Please call the Library at 692-4587 in advance to reserve a reduced-admission pass.



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.

What's Happening in Recreation



Somersworth Recreation



Pee Wee Soccer Starter Pack 2020!

Due to COVID-19, the City has made the difficult decision to not hold our in-person Pee Wee Soccer Program for children ages 3 & 4. In lieu of offering an in-person instructional program, we're offering free starter packs so families with young children can practice soccer skills safely at home. The starter pack includes sample practice plans with age appropriate games and drills that are easy to follow. Parents or guardians do not need any experience with soccer to work on these skills at home. All you need is a little patience and a positive attitude! We encourage you to contact the Rec Supervisor if you have any questions or need some additional tips. Supplies are limited & will be available on a first come, first serve basis. **Register today to reserve your starter pack!!**



Starter Pack Details:

- Available to Somersworth children ages 3 & 4 (must be a Somersworth resident)
- Starter packs are free!!
- Packs are available on a first come, first serve basis (supplies are limited, reserve your pack ASAP!)
- Starter packs must be picked up at City Hall, once you reserve your pack we'll provide pick-up dates and instruction.
- What's included in the pack: 1- size 3 soccer ball, 1- drawstring bag, 5 small cones, & 5 sample practice plans with age appropriate games and drills.



To Reserve Your Starter Pack:

Please call or email the Recreation Office by August 25th to register for your starter pack.



Provide your child's name & date of birth, parent name, phone #, & email address.



Call 603-692-9507 / 692-9508



Email kdavenport@somersworth.com / mpotter@somersworth.com

We still have starter packs available! Packs are available on a first come, first serve basis. Call or email the Recreation Office to reserve. 603-692-9508 or kdavenport@somersworth.com



Check out the New River Theme Playground and Gazebo at Jules Bisson Park!

Jules Bisson Park Location: 31 River Street

City Park Hours: April 1 to September 30: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. / October 1 to March 31:
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Somersworth School Meal Program

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 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

FOREST GLADE CEMETERY



A big "*Thank You*" to the 4 Residents of Somersworth who worked on Saturdays during July and August to bring the Great Army of the Republic area of the Forest Glade Cemetery back to an area of honor for those who have served.

GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

Goodwin
Community Health

**Families
First**

Lilac City
Pediatrics

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

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

Parenting Journey ... Starting September 9

- Identify your strengths
- Clarify parenting values and goals
- Gain respect and build trust with your children
- Become more confident and optimistic
- Increase your ability to nurture yourself and your children
- Build a network of support

For parents & grandparents of children of all ages

**Wednesdays
Sept 9 - Nov 25
6-7:30 pm online**

Parenting Journey is a 12-week program with activities and guided discussions to help parents learn more about themselves, their relationships, and the resources they need to effectively parent their children.

In a warm and nurturing environment, parents are supported and encouraged to care for themselves and each other as they gain insights about the ways that past experiences can influence current parenting behaviors.

[Sign Up for 'Parenting Journey' Online](#)

Labor Day



**City Hall will be Closed for Business on
Monday, September 7 for Labor Day.**

**Quality Service, Quality Schools, Quality Somersworth
Vision 2020**

"We Believe in Somersworth"



Proud Past, Bright Future
