



May 2024

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.

Boards & Committee Meetings this Month

City Council Meetings

Monday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Conservation Commission

Wednesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m.

**Economic Development
Committee**

Monday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m.

**Site Review Technical
Committee**

Wednesday, May 8 at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Wednesday, May 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Eyes on 30

Monday, May 20 at 5:00 p.m.

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board

Wednesday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m.

Historic District Commission

Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor's Corner

On Monday, April 22, the City Council of the City of Somersworth passed the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget. This was a major accomplishment that came after months of tireless work by myself, my colleagues on the city council and school board, and city and school district staff. As many are probably aware, and as I made clear in the last city newsletter, this budget was a challenge and a puzzle from the beginning. With it being a revaluation year here in the city, we were not able to include new development when calculating the tax cap, which put stricter limits on the amount we were able to raise from taxes without an override. Beyond that, adjustments due in-part to inflation also chipped away at the amount of available flexibility in the budget for non-salary related items. However, regardless of these challenges the City Council worked effectively to develop a budget that provides the maximum amount of services with the smallest impact possible on taxpayers. I applaud the effort everyone put in, and hope folks understand that these difficult decisions were made after much thought, consideration, and debate. I am pleased that through deep discussion and negotiation we ended up with a budget that seems to best satisfy the needs of our community.



The agreements made by the City Council included a number of amendments to the budgets which..

- Increased school funding by an additional \$650,000
- Restored spending on city road repairs to \$900,000 in order to continue needed maintenance of city roads
- Increased investments in a number of nonprofits that provide essential services within the city, including increases to COAST bus services to help offset rider service fees, additional funding for the Community Food Pantry, and funding for Pope Memorial Humane Society
- Allowed for the hiring of a part-time Police Patrol Officer earlier in the year
- Increased the use of the General Fund - which acts as the city's savings account - in order to help offset the impact of this budget on our city's taxpayers.

Other items that were included in the budget as presented were...

- The addition of an Mechanic to the Public Works Department
- The hiring of the Deputy Fire Chief for the full year
- Increases to the salaries of all city and school staff to create competitive and adequate wages
- The reconstruction of the High St. sidewalk along the west side, from West High St. to South St.
- The complete rebuild of Constitutional Way
- A Master Plan chapter update

After the final edits are incorporated, the adopted budget, which will include the changes and amendments listed above, will be posted [here on the city's website.](#)

The proposed Fiscal Year 24/25 budget (which does not include the amendments mentioned above) [can be found here on the city's website.](#)

If you have any questions or concerns about the newly adopted budget, don't hesitate to [reach out to me or any of the nine city councilors.](#)

*Be well,
Matt Gerding*



NOTICE OF 2024 REVALUATION

Real Estate Property Inspections

Assessing Property Values

May, 2024

The City of Somersworth is currently in the process of performing a City-wide revaluation. A real estate property “Revaluation” is an update of all property assessments, land and buildings within the City.

As part of this revaluation, Corcoran Consulting Associates, the City's contracted assessors, will be performing a field review of all properties in the City. The field review portion of this project is scheduled to start the first week of May 2024, and will be conducted through July 2024. In most cases, they will not need access to the interior of your property. Should they need access to the interior of your property, you will be notified in writing, in advance, and an appointment will be requested.

A Notice of New Property values is scheduled to be sent to property owners in August, and hearings will be scheduled in late August and September.

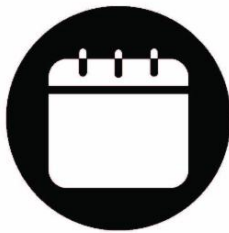
Questions

If you have any questions, please call the Assessing Office @ 603-692-9520 or the City Manager's Office @ 603-692-9503.

STRAFFORD
Regional Planning Commission

The Hilltop City
SOMERSWORTH
Est. 1729

Somersworth Community Workshop



MAY 2ND
6-7:30 PM
@ City Hall
Council Chambers



**Join us to plan
for the **future** of
Somersworth's
natural spaces
& **special**
places!**



bit.ly/SOMws

Welcome to Somersworth Community Power

In December of 2023 the City Council approved Somersworth joining the Community Power Coalition of NH. This non-profit program is now launching service to the City of Somersworth. **On Tuesday, May 6 there will be a Public Information Session**

Attached [here](#) is the Powerpoint Presentation detailing how this program works.



COMMUNITY
POWER COALITION
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
For communities, by communities.



Public Information Session

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 | 6:00PM

Somersworth City Hall, 1 Government Way, Somersworth, NH 03878

*31st Annual
Spring Craft Fair*
May 4th, 2024
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Somersworth High School
11 Memorial Drive, Somersworth, NH

Wide variety of talented crafters!
Food! Great raffles!
Free parking Free entry



If you have any questions or vendor inquiries, please email us at
sfachild.festival@gmail.com, call us at 603-692-5869, visit our
website at www.nhfestivals.org, or see us on Facebook!

Don't Trash Somersworth Come Help Clean-up Somersworth

Saturday, May 18 from 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meet at Milo Lane (off of Old Rochester Road)

**We have Grabbers, Gloves, Trash Bags, T-Shirts and
Safety Vests**



What's Happening at Somersworth Library

Friends of the Library Informational Meeting



Wednesday, May 22 • 6pm

We are seeking volunteers to help reestablish our Friends of The Library Group alongside our new president, Theresa Bean. Theresa is eager to help new members find their place in the Friends Group and looks forward to collaborating on a shared vision which supports the growth and vitality of the Somersworth Public Library.

The Friends Group will help the Library fundraise for services and programs that otherwise would not be available. Friends also help to advocate for and support the Library's presence within the community. If you are interested in being a

member and would like more information, please join us for this informational meeting on Wednesday, May 22.

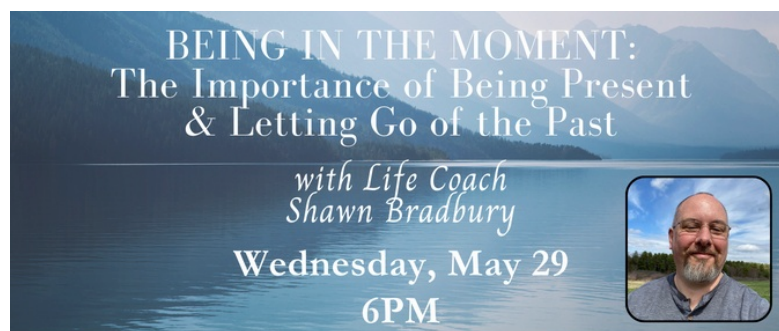


Library cardholders now have access to discounted passes to see Science Center. Each pass provides 50% off admission for up to 8 people to enjoy active exploration of science and innovation at their facility in Manchester's historic Millyard. Stop by the circulation desk or give us a call to reserve a pass today.

Adult Programs

The Master Gardener Series continues with two programs this month. Join us for one or both classes to help your gardens be the best they can be this

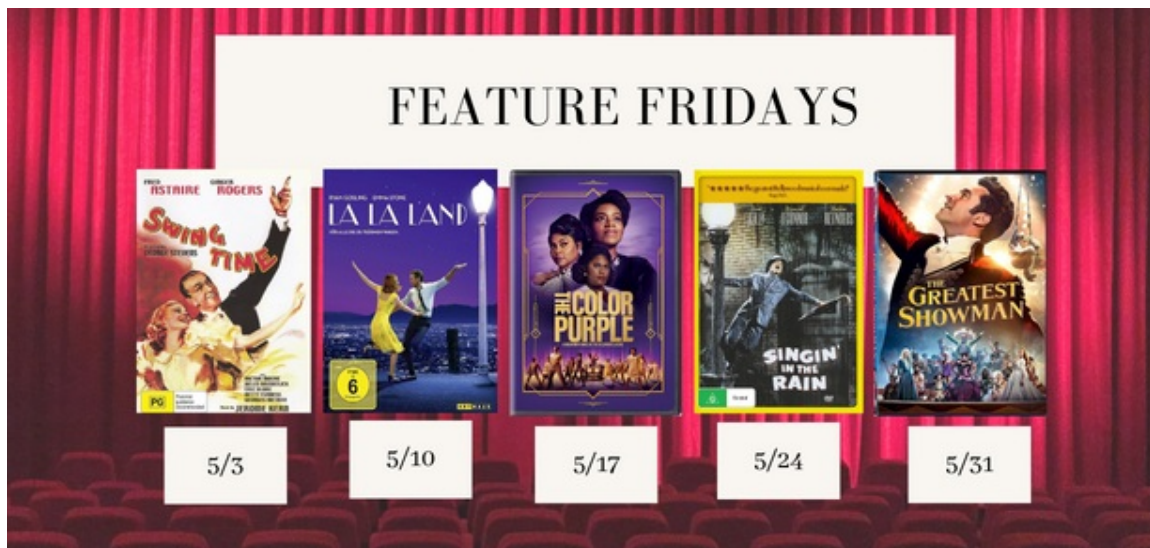
season! Presented by Somersworth Community Gardens in conjunction with UNH Master Gardeners Program.



**Wednesday, May 29
6:00 p.m.**

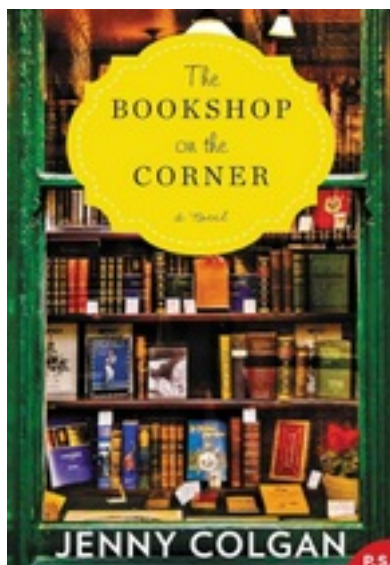
Join Life Coach Shawn Bradbury on Wednesday, May 29 for an intimate conversational program about how to live life in the present and avoid

dwelling in the past.



Stop by for free movies showings every Friday at 2pm/ This month we are featuring popular musical

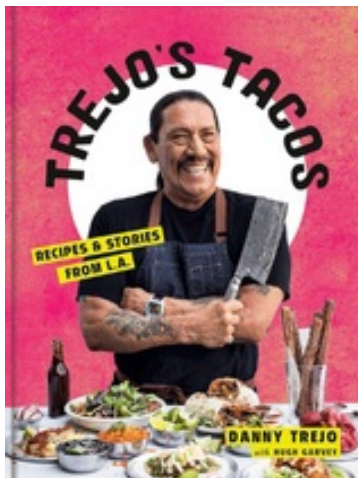
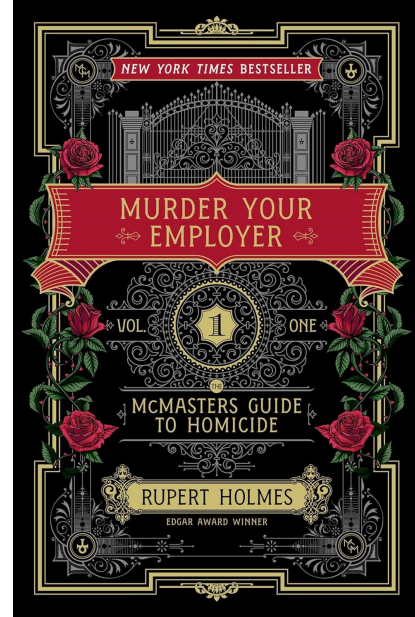
Monthly Book Groups



Join us for our first Non-Fiction Book Group discussion. We will be reading and discussing "small Town, Big Oil" by David Moore. This book discusses the 1973 proposal to build an oil refinery in Durham, NH and three women essential in opposing it. Copies of the book are available at the circulation desk. This program is in collaboration with Great Bay Book Club.

Book Discussion Group **Tuesday, April 9 at 5:50pm**

Book Group is open to all local residents who love to read. Join us for a fun and lively discussion. Books vary in genre and theme to keep things interesting. This month's selected book is "Murder your Employer" by Rupert Holmes



Cookbook Club

Saturday, May 18 at 11am

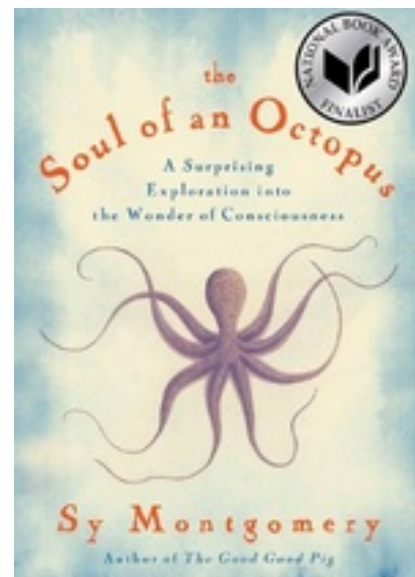
Do you find joy in cooking and conversation? Then Adult Cookbook Club is just for you. To join, simply pick up a copy of this month's cookbook at the circulation desk. Then, make and bring a dish to share with others and let us know which recipe you used. This month's featured cookbook is "Trejo's Tacos" by Danny Trejo.

Non-Fiction Book Club

Tuesday, June 25 at 5:30 p.m.

(please note the May Club date was cancelled)

Join us for our second Non-Fiction Group discussion, featuring Sy Montgomery's popular book, *The Soul of an Octopus*



Kids/Children's Programs

**Tuesday, May 21
at 5:30 p.m.**

Dolls come back to life at this program for teens! Middle and High Schoolers will have a blast

making weird, creepy zombie dolls while we watch 2023 Barbie movie, No registration is required - drop in with a friend and have some fun!



In the Nest

Thursdays at 10:30 am : May 2,9,16 & 23

Welcome Home Baby!

In the Nest is a four-part early literacy class series for parents/caregivers with newborns from birth - 4 months. Learn more about supporting your baby's development through fun songs and activities together. FREE family take-home kit includes books, toys, activities calendar, and song booklet for attendees!

This class is presented in partnership with the Mother Goose on the Loose: Hatchlings program, the Maryland State Library, and the New Hampshire State Library. This four-part series will take place on Thursdays at 10:30am during the month of May. Expect each class to last approximately 45 minutes. Registration is required and limited to 12 families - [sign up online](#) today!



Kids' Night Out event on Friday, May 31 from 5pm-8pm. We invite you to save your child's spot. This program is a fundraiser that will give parents a break

while the kids have fun at the library after-hours with Tanya (Library Director) and Autumn (Library Assistant). Children who attend will enjoy dinner, snacks, a movie, a craft and games, while you get the opportunity to enjoy a kid-free evening. The cost for each child is \$25 (cash or check), and parents must complete the required [registration form](#). All proceeds from this program will go towards programming for our 2024 Summer Reading Program.

Quality Time is a new initiative offered by local seasoned teacher, Diana Metreaud. This program offers a unique approach to exploring social-

emotional concepts. Each session is designed to encourage children to develop positive character traits and promote strong family bonds. Quality Time will meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm. Upcoming sessions include:

- April 2: Superhero Helping Qualities
- May 7: Making Choices

Registration for this program is required and limited to 10 families per session. Sign your family up for one or more sessions [online](#) today!



Story Time

Tuesdays • 10:30am

Our weekly story time is geared towards children ages 2-5, and features songs, movement, and of course, wonderful stories. Story time teaches children important pre-literacy skills, while encouraging a natural and organic love for reading. It also creates an opportunity for children to learn valuable life and social skills by participating in a group story time. No registration is required, and all are welcome!



Baby Play Group

Thursdays • 10:30am

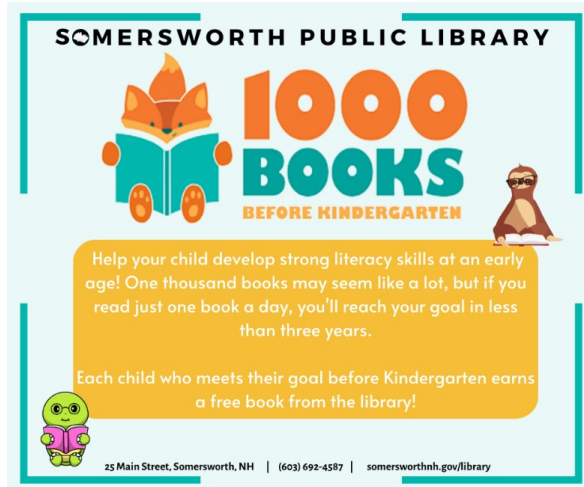
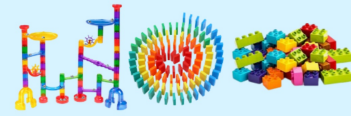
Baby Play Group is an informal program to encourage play and social interaction between parents, care givers, and babies. Little ones can enjoy age-appropriate toys such as a ball pit, crawling tunnel, infant climber and activity table. Recommended for ages 2 and under.

Weekend Builders

Saturdays • 11am

Children are invited to build and create together every Saturday in the Children's Room. Various materials such as Legos, blocks, dominoes, and Magformers will be available to use. Recommended for ages 12

WEEKEND BUILDERS



If you have a young child at home, be sure to take advantage of the 1,000 Books before Kindergarten program at the Library. Reading aloud to your child will help strengthen their language skills, build vocabulary and foster a lifelong love of reading. Children who participate in the program receive milestone stickers as well as free book upon completion of their goal. Stop by the Library to sign your child up today. Recommended for ages 0-5

Somersworth Police Department



Jonathan Slankard was sworn in on April 8 by Chief McLin. This swearing in was historic because his father, Officer Jeffrey Slankard is in our Patrol Division and it's the first time in our Department's history that we have ever had a father and son serving our City at the same time. Jonathan will attend the Police Academy in June and is presently in Field Training.

Master Police Officer

Michael Sloane was honored for his 30 years of service to the City by Chief McLin. Officer Sloane was hired on December 26, 1993.



School Resource Officer Scott South was recognized by Chief McLin and given the Random Acts of Blue Award (a community service award) for his work in the Schools.

Officer Damian Gibson joined us on April 22. He is a "home town" boy and he came to us as a certified police officer working for the Town of Strafford. He will be in field training for 16 weeks learning the ropes here in Somersworth.



Officer Tully stopped off at Kids Culture Daycare to make some new friends and hand out a few stickers on April 11.



National Communication Specialist Week began on April 15.

Our Communications Specialist do an amazing job every day and are rarely seen.

This week we take the time to thank them for all they do for the community. We appreciate the dedication and service they provide to Police , Fire and EMS in the City and all they do to help the Citizens of the City of Somersworth.



Now that Spring has sprung and the weather is warmer, please **SLOW DOWN** and watch for pedestrians near the roadway, pedestrians in crosswalks, children at play and bicyclists.

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.



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

With the recent rain and melting snow, flooding may become a reality in your area. Following these simple safety tips will help keep you and your family safe if you encounter flooding. Flooding is a temporary overflow of water onto land that is normally dry. Floods are the most common disaster in the United States. Failing to evacuate flooded areas or entering flood waters



can lead to injury or death.

Floods may:

- Result from rain, snow, coastal storms, storm surges and overflows of dams and other water systems.
- Develop slowly or quickly. Flash floods can come with no warning.
- Cause outages, disrupt transportation, damage buildings and create landslides.

If you are under a flood warning:

- Find a safe shelter right away.
- Don't walk, swim or drive through flood waters. **Turn Around, you could Drown!**
- Remember, just 6 inches of moving water can knock you down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your car away.
- Stay off bridges over fast-moving water.
- Depending of the type of flood emergency information will provided.
 - o Evacuate if told to do so.
 - o Move to higher ground or a higher floor.
 - o Stay where you are.

Monthly Emergency Response Statistics with a Comparison to the Prior Year:

	March 2024	March 2023
Fire (all types)	9	3
Overpressure/Overheat (no Fire)	1	2

Rescue	62	67
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	18	32
Service Call	7	9

Good Intent Call	17	29
Sever WX/Natural Disaster	0	0

Special Incident	0	0
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Total	133	156
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Department of Public Works & Utilities



Metal Pick-up: 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

When: Curbside Collection: Tuesday, May 14

How: Call Public Works no later than 3:00 pm on Monday, May 13, place curbside with the proper number of tags on each item. Typical TV's require three (3) stickers - \$12.00 and PC's require one (1) sticker - \$4.00.

Residents may also opt to drop off metal and electronic items with proper bulky waste stickers at the Public Works Facility located at 18 Lilac Lane from 7:30 am-2:30 pm Monday –Friday. ***Note that winter weather emergencies may delay collection.***

Curbside MSW/Household Garbage & Recycling Collection

City trash bags and recycling containers must be at the curbside no later than 7:00 am & no sooner than the evening before your designated collection day.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Saturday, May 4, 2024 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM

At the Turnkey Landfill, 18 Isinglass Drive, Rochester NH (off from Rochester Neck Rd). Residents must bring a photo ID with proof of Somersworth residency.

Please Bring the Following:

House and Garden Products:

- Weed killers and fertilizers, ant spray and baits, bug and rodent sprays, poisons, flea repellents and shampoos, bug sprays houseplant insecticides, oven cleaners, bleach, pool chemicals, tub, tile and shower cleaners, button cell and lithium batteries.

Garage Products:

- Car wash and polish, fuel additives, carburetor / fuel injector cleaners, air conditioning, refrigerants, starter fluids, creosote, antifreeze, transmission and brake fluid.

Workshop / Painting Products:

- Oil or enamel-based paint, stains and finishes, paint strippers and removers, photographic chemicals, fixatives, adhesives, glues and other solvents.

Not Eligible Hazardous Items. Please Do Not Bring

- **Latex Paint**
- **Tires, Computers, Computer Monitors and Televisions**
- **Motor Oil**
- **Batteries & Fluorescent Bulbs**
- **Car Batteries**
- **Propane Tanks**
- **Pest Strips**

Please contact the Public Works Department at 603-692-4266 for more information.

Malley Farm Facility

Malley Farm is now open for disposal of brush and leaves, Monday – Friday 7:30am – 2:30pm and Saturday and Sunday 8:00am-6:00pm. Please note: Any Contractor serving a Somersworth residence with leaves and brush hauling, will need to obtain a permit from Public Works to dump at Malley Farm. Root balls and wood larger than 5” in diameter and 10’ in length are not permitted. Please call the Public Works Department at 603-692-4266 for further information.

Bagged Leaves and Brush Pickup

Brush will be picked up the third week in May. You must call 603-692-4266 by Friday, April 12 and/or Friday, May 17 to be added to the pickup list. for brush collection. Please have your brush curbside no later than 7:00 am on Monday, April 15 and/or Monday, May 20 for pickup. Brush can be up to five (5) inches in diameter and ten (10) feet long.

PLEASE NOTE: Brush pickup is limited to 20 minutes per stop. Any remaining brush and cleanup of debris is the responsibility of the property owner.

Bagged leaves will be picked up the fourth week in May. You do not have to call ahead for bagged leaves pickup. Please have leaves curbside no later than 7:00am on your trash pickup day the week of May 27. Leaves and grass clippings must be in brown recyclable paper leaf bags, sold at many local stores

Forest Glade Cemetery Spring Clean-up

The Cemetery Trustees remind families of relatives buried at Forest Glade to remove all flowers, baskets and personalized items from grave spaces placed during the past winter by Friday, May 10th. The City’s mowing contractor will be starting mowing services soon and removal of these items will improve access and avoid equipment damage.



The Garden Stewards welcomed gardeners back on Saturday April 13 at the Community Gardens at Malley Farm for the annual spring kick off meeting. City gardeners interested in participating in the community garden program were required to submit applications; several applicants are returnees from last year's season. Please contact the Department of Public Works office at 603-692-4266 if

interested in reserving one of the remaining plots available.

Road Improvement Projects Begins

The City hired GMI for this year's street resurfacing work. Crews have already started and work is progressing well toward completion. Resurfacing work on the following streets are anticipated to be completed in early April-May include the following streets:



- W. High Street from Cemetery Road to High Street
- Pleasant Street
- Silver Street
- Fremont Street.

Park Terrace Lane will be resurfaced in mid-summer after Unutil replaces a gas main.

Constitutional Way Complete Streets –Reconstruction

The City Council awarded a contract to Granese and Sons to construct the complete streets improvement project at Constitutional Way. The project involves new concrete sidewalks on both sides of the street, new water, sewer and stormwater collection and treatment systems, street furniture, pedestrian scale street lights and new asphalt surface. The project will begin in



early May with Eversource and Unitil replacing their utilities and then rest of the road reconstruction will begin. Staff anticipates the project to take a full construction season with some work possibly occurring in spring of 2025. Alternating travel lanes will occur during construction and occasionally complete road closure may be needed on a limited basis. Access to the properties off of Constitutional Way will be maintained during construction.

Recreation Office Programs & Events

Somersworth Recreation

**GRANITE STATE
TRACK & FIELD**

Somersworth Children Ages 9-14
*** must be ages 9-14 as of Dec. 31st 2024

Practices:

Mondays & Wednesdays;
May 8th- June 5th
(No practice 5/27)
3:45 - 4:45 PM

Idlehurst Elementary School Track
Meet Date- TBD

~ **Registration** ~

**Open to Residents Only

Early Bird Fee- \$45

Register by March 22nd

Fee After March 22nd- \$60

Deadline is April 10th

Space is limited. First come first serve.

Scan the QR code or visit our website to register online.

Volunteers are always needed!

Please contact the Rec office if you are able to help.

For further information please contact kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov, call 603-692-9508 or visit our website

www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs/

The Track and Field Program is a great opportunity to improve speed, strength and agility while having fun! We are excited to meet everyone on May 8

Kids Camp 2024

There is currently a waitlist for our Kids Camp program.

Join our list for possible openings.
Thank you to everyone who
registered! We can't wait to see all
our campers soon!

Stay tuned for updates and
information as we get closer to the
start of camp. For any questions, feel
free to contact us.

*Let the countdown to summer
begin!*

Join our waitlist here:



SOMERSWORTH RECREATION 2024 KIDS CAMP

Children going into Grades 1-5

Details (8-weeks):

Session 1: June 24 - July 19 No Camp 7/4

Session 2: July 22 - August 16

Monday - Friday; 8am - 4pm

Noble Pines Park

Summer Camp
Featuring-

- Sports
- Arts & Crafts
- Field games
- Team Building
- Special Events
- NH State Park
Field Trips

Camp Options:

Registration opens March 11th at 8am for 8-week and 4-week options.
Weekly & Non-resident registration opens May 1st, if space is available.

- FULL 8-WEEKS- \$900 Residents ONLY
- SESSION 1 or 2- \$500 Residents / \$650 Non-Residents
- WEEKLY- \$175 Residents / \$225 Non-Residents

Visit our website below for info on pricing, registration, &
camp details. Questions- 603-692-9508

www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/summer-camp



<https://somersworth.recdesk.com/Community/Home>

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

TINY TOPPERS PLAY PROGRAM

Children ages 2-4 & Adult caregivers

Wednesday Mornings; May 1st - 22nd

9:45 - 10:30 am

Pre-Registration is required

Free program

Address
Noble Pines Park
45 Grand Street

Activities
Explore new activities and
games, exercise, fun outside,
meet new friends, & more!

Contact Us
603-692-9508
kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov

Registration Link
www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs

Tiny Toppers

This exciting spring session play program for
our little friends is just around the corner and
it filled up quick!

This program is for the little ones to explore,
learn and play is a safe and engaging
environment. We look forward to meeting our
little friends.

TAI CHI 4 Week FREE Pilot Program

Join us for a rejuvenating Tai Chi
Experience for adult ages 18 +.

Tai Chi is know for reducing stress nd
promoting relaxation.

SOMERSWORTH **NEW**
RECREATION

TAI CHI

4 WEEK *with Joe*
FREE PILOT PROGRAM

Fridays mornings, June 7th- 28th
Millenium Park- 79 Stackpole Road

10:30am - 11:15am

Adults ages 18+

Join us for a rejuvenating Tai Chi experience for adults ages 18+. This class offers a gentle yet powerful way to improve balance, flexibility, and overall well-being.

Tai Chi is known for reducing stress and promoting relaxation. Join us for opportunity to enhance your mind, body, and spirit at Tai Chi with Joe! The class requires no equipment.

Scan the QR code or visit our website below to register.



REGISTER TODAY
TO SAVE YOUR
SPOT!

www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/adult-programs

For more information contact the Rec Department at
603-692-9507

**Fore more information about any of the Recreation Department
Programs please call (603) 692-9507 or (603) 692-9508.**

Code Enforcement

Upcoming Changes to Laws and Regulations:

The Code Compliance Office would like to remind property owners and prospective buyers that the New Hampshire's Department of Health and Human Services has new housing regulations that will go into effect July 1, 2024. These regulations, covered in NH RSA 130-A, will require Lead Safe Certificates for qualified buildings before a Certificate of Occupancy can be issued by the City of Somersworth for new development projects. Please see the fact sheet from NH DHHS to see if your building project qualifies.



RSA 130-A:5-d Sale and Rental of Property In Effect July 1, 2024

New Hampshire's Department of Health and Human Services is calling attention to a section of RSA 130-A Lead Paint Poisoning Prevention and Control, passed on April 9, 2018, that will go into effect July 1, 2024.

Lead poisoning is
100%
preventable

Who Should Be Aware of This Law?



Realtors



Property
owners



Municipalities



Developers



Banking
industry



Childcare
facilities



Building
inspectors



Contractors

**RSA 130-A:5-d
Sale and Rental of
Property in effect
beginning
July 1, 2024**

The following *shall* require certification of lead safety **prior** to being used as either a residential rental unit or as a day care facility:

- I. Newly-constructed rental units within buildings erected prior to January 1, 1978. ("Newly-constructed rental units" means rental units being converted from a use other than residential rental housing.)
- II. Newly-licensed day care facilities within buildings erected prior to January 1, 1978.

To learn more about NH RSA 130-A:5-d, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule, and the Federal EPA disclosure rule, visit www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/environmental-health-and-you/lead-poisoning-prevention-program/laws-and



What Does This Mean for Residential Properties?

All pre-1978 properties being converted into residential rental housing will be required to have a Lead-Safe Certificate issued by a licensed NH Risk Assessor prior to occupancy.

What types of properties does this apply to?

- Pre-1978 residential properties being converted into rental housing, including properties such as mill buildings or other large buildings being converted from another use to residential housing
- Pre-1978 residential properties being converted to add rental units
- Single-family homes that used to be owner-occupied being put on the residential rental market

What type of properties does this not apply to?

- Residential rental properties already in existence
- Owner-occupied homes



To locate a list of licensed NH Risk Assessors that can issue Lead-Safe Certificates, visit www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/environmental-health-and-you/lead-poisoning-prevention-program/lead-abatement

What Does This Mean for Childcare Facilities?

RSA 130-A:5-d does not require *currently* licensed childcare facilities to obtain a Lead-Safe Certificate; however, it does require any *newly* licensed childcare facilities opening in a property built prior to 1978 to have a Lead-Safe Certificate on file issued by a licensed NH Risk Assessor.



It only takes a speck of lead dust the size of a grain of salt to poison a child.



1 in 5

Attention Deficit Disorder cases were attributed to lead exposure. www.aap.org

For more information

Email LeadInfo@dhhs.nh.gov or call 1-800-897-LEAD (5323)



Somersworth School Happenings

Somersworth High School's Student Health Center Gather Momentum. Behavioral Health Specialist Martin Bernstein and Nurse Practitioner Tara Kenney have worked regular hours at Somersworth High School's Student Health Center since its December opening. They serve as many as 20 students each week and are working to accommodate more.

Martin is providing scheduled counseling appointments three full days each week, while Tara is at the school two afternoons each week offering medical care—including preventive services,

sports physicals, and "urgent care" style visits for acute injuries and illnesses. Both providers are able to □ see any student enrolled at the high school with a parent or guardian consent form in place. Martin's counseling is often provided to students on a regular schedule to build skills over time. Though Martin's services are in high demand, they haven't had to turn students away due to the center's capacity.

Many of Tara's referrals are for students without primary care providers or regular access to health care. They anticipate that vaccinations will become available to students within the next few weeks. "We are slowly chipping away at these students' needs," says Sarah Carsman, the healthcare outreach manager of the Greater Seacoast Community Health and Goodwin Health, who is helping oversee health center operations. "We don't turn anyone away because □ of an inability to pay. Our sliding scale allows all students to access health care, and the center location makes it convenient."

Carsman and other administrators are reviewing the center's first few months in operation. They have adjusted their scheduling and other practices as needed to meet center demands while keeping an eye on the future. Though the Student Health Center will temporarily close its high school location for the summer, students will continue to have access to Tara and Martin by telehealth or at Goodwin Community Health in Somersworth.

Martin has been considering offering summer workshops to teachers interested in strengthening their abilities □ to support students in areas such as team building and communication skills. Carsman says they are beginning to think about expanding acute and primary care services to middle school students in the fall. "We are happy with our progress and we will only go up from here," says Carsman.

Strafford County Master Gardeners Assn.



Annual Plant Sale



Sunday, May 19, 9AM-1PM

Durham Town Hall,
8 Newmarket Rd, Durham, NH

❀ ***Rain or Shine — Cash or Check*** ❀

Locally grown native and pollinator
plants, herbs, vegetables, ground covers,
sun and shade perennials, houseplants
and
Ask A Master Gardener, Plant A Row and
Pollinator Pathways.

***Proceeds support our
School Gardening Grants and
Community Gardening Projects***



GREATER SEACOAST COMMUNITY HEALTH

Goodwin
Community Health

Families
First

Lilac City
Pediatrics

2024 Family Programs

Family Morning Out Playgroups

Portsmouth Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m., Families First

Babytime Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Idlehurst School,
Somersworth

Exeter Thursdays at 9:30 a.m., Parks and Rec



Building

Epping Fridays at 9:30 a.m., SAU Building

Somersworth Fridays at 9:30 a.m., Idlehurst School

For more about these programs, scroll down to see the Family Center calendar.

With snow days and holidays approaching, please be sure to check our Family Center calendar for cancellations before attending a program.

Family Center Calendar

Babytime Playgroup

Ongoing | Weekly

Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.

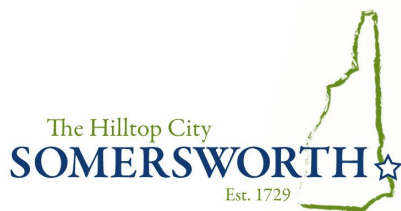
- A free weekly playgroup in Somersworth for babies 0-1 year and their caregivers.
- Join us for a fun morning out while socializing your little ones and chatting with other adults.
- Held in the Families First classroom at Idlehurst Elementary School.



Signup not required. Drop-in's welcome!

Questions? Call our Family Center at (603) 422-8209.

Learn More About Babytime



Job Openings

POLICE

Position Title: Police Officers

Pay Range: \$54,329.60 (\$26.12 hr.) to \$74,339.20 (\$35.74 hr.)

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

WATER DISTRIBUTION

Position Title: Water Distribution Operator

Pay Range: \$46,467.20 (\$22.34 hr.) to \$61,256.00 (\$29.45 hr.)

Closing Date:

First Review 05/15/2024, Open Until Filled

Call Human Resources at 603-692-9529
Or Visit [City Website](#) to View Openings



**City Hall will be Closed on Monday, May
27 for the Memorial Day Holiday**



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