



*April*

## 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.

**City Manager Presents  
FY23/24 Proposed Budget,  
Monday, April 3 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Public Hearing on  
FY2023/2024 Proposed  
Budget  
at 7:00 p.m.**

**To review the Proposed  
Budget visit the FY2024  
Budget**

# Boards & Committee Meetings this Month

**City Manager Presents FY 23/24 Budget** - Monday, April 3 at 6:00 p.m.

**FY23/24 Budget Public Hearing** at 7:00p.m.

**City Council Meeting**  
Monday, April 3 at 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, April 17 at 7:00 p.m.

**Site Review Technical Committee**  
Wednesday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m.

**City Council FY23/24 Budget Review**  
Saturday, April 8 at 8:30 a.m.

**City Council Special Budget Review**  
Monday, April 10 at 6:00 p.m.

**Site Review Technical Committee**  
Wednesday, April 5 at 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday, April 12 at 10:00 a.m.

**Conservation Commission**  
Wednesday, April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

**School Board**  
Tuesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m.

**Planning Board**  
Wednesday, April 19 at 6:30 p.m.

**Historic District Commission**  
Wednesday, April 26 at 7:00 p.m.

## The Mayor's Corner

### State of the City Address March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

In 2014 our Community began its journey: its journey to embrace itself, its history, its identity, and the foundation of its strength. We united as Hilltoppers, no longer allowing others to create a superficial image, or reputation of un-truths, about our community. Instead allowing the Hilltopper sprit, of *neighbor helping neighbor*, to illuminate the path towards our new success.

In 2014, our tax rate was **\$30.47**; ten years later we stand at **\$28.09**.

**In one decade** we have awoken our dedication to succeed throughout the 10 square miles we call home, and have delivered with results.

**In one decade** we have invested \$23 million in road improvements, equating to 25.46 miles of new or improved roads within our community. We have risen our local economy from the tomb of despair, to attracting 185 new business, from Hampshire Pewter, to Smoke and Cream, to Hall at Great Falls, to a new regional state liquor store, and Pensole Shoes.



**In one decade** we have re-affirmed our commitment to the safety of all Hilltoppers by ensuring that our first responders have 21st century equipment, training, and pay. This includes a competitive contract, new fire apparatus, a new fire station and fire equipment. We have also stood by those who walk the thin blue line, by investing in a K9 program, a crime scene unit vehicle, wellness uniforms and body worn cameras. Our EMS responders, under the leadership of Paul Robidas, continue to be a model throughout our state by providing CPR and AED training for City employees and students, guiding our community throughout the pandemic, and being there quickly when our citizens are in need.

We have stood by our **PROUD PAST** by adding Historic Buildings to the National and State Historic Registry, by being approved for two State Historic Markers for the Forest Glade Cemetery and former Hilltop School, and by now working closely with the historic society to ensure the museum will be preserved and protected for all future generations of Hilltoppers. The wheels of improvement have continued in motion in all aspects throughout our community. Upgrades to Jules Bisson Park, Mast Point Dam, Millennium Park, Noble Pines Park and Willand Pond have all occurred over the last decade. As a testament to those who served this great nation, in 2020 Somersworth completed its new Veterans Memorial at Stein Park. We also created a new space for the four-legged members of our Hilltopper family, with the creation of a Dog Park. The year 2020 also gave time to celebrate, as we reached our Vision 2020 goals completing our mapped out vision to make Somersworth one of the most desirable communities on the Seacoast.

The State of our City is **STRONG**.

**Strong** because we believe in ourselves and our abilities to succeed.

**Strong** because of our commitment to each other.

**Strong** because we acknowledge that diversity and celebrating each other leads to universal success throughout our 10 square mile home.

With each flag raised at Citizens Place, we celebrate. We celebrate the Greeks, the Irish, the French Canadians and Penacook and Wabanaki People. We celebrate Catholics, Protestants, Jews, Muslims, and non-believers. We celebrate straights and members of our LGBTQ Community. We celebrate each other.

We are **strong**.

**Strong**, because of our commitment to the future generation of our city, state and nation, as a testament to how we stand by our public schools. Over the last decade each of our schools has received capital improvements from a CTE renovation, to upgrades at the Middle and High School. The results lay not only in the success of our students, but the accolades our schools have received for their dedication to their missions. In 2015 our High School was once again reaccredited by NEASC, an accreditation they have never lost. The middle school was named a National Distinguished Title 1 school in 2014, A NELMS Spotlight School from 2014- 2020 and New Hampshire Middle School of the Year in 2019. Idlehurst and Maplewood have continued to lead the way with their dedication to all early grade levels and SAU56 continues to unify by bringing the entire district together as **ONE**.

This is a snap shot of the progress which has been made over the last decade, a microbe of what we have done by creating a team approach to governing. It is our team approach that reflects the true spirit of democracy; the team approach that

must be protected and preserved. So tonight, Somersworth, sit back. Sit back, celebrate and watch some brief moments in time of our successes over the last ten years. For we, Somersworth, are truly ***“ON THE MOVE!”***

The State of our City is truly **STRONG**.

Our strength will continue in motion, and our team approach will continue to be a fabric of who we are and how we govern. Despite the naysayers, despite those who still do not believe in our progress or what we have accomplished, Somersworth, we are and will remain ***“On the Move!”***. The story of our success is not fiction, it is the truth of what can be accomplished when individual agendas become extinct and replaced with the agenda of team. Somersworth our PAST IS PROUD and Our FUTURE IS BRIGHT! What a decade it has been!

As the “EYES ON 30” commission continues its work, let us get excited, excited about what the next decade will bring for our home, excited about the journey we will continue to take.

The journey of celebrating all.

The journey of continuing to build excellence in our public schools.

The journey of modeling democracy through a team approach to governing.

**THE JOURNEY OF BUILDING THE SUCCESS FOR ALL THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY.**

May God continue to shine his grace upon each of us and our 10 square mile home known as Somersworth.

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

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**JEMS by Pensle Opens in Somersworth featuring  
Black Shoe Designers**



Named in honor of a Black trailblazer in the shoemaking industry, the JEMS by Pensole Footwear Factory has officially opened for business in the Hilltop City.

JEMS by Pensole is a partnership between Designer Brands, owner of Designer Shoe Warehouse, and Pensole Lewis College of Business & Design in Michigan, a Detroit-based Historically Black College & University. It is set to produce thousands of sneakers and serve as an interactive classroom for budding shoe designers.

Designer Brands and the College have co-invested \$2 million in the new Somersworth factory. The school, formerly the Lewis College of Business that closed in 2013, was revived and rebranded by shoe designer D'Wayne Edwards, who serves as president of the Pensole Lewis College of Business & Design and designed the first shoe set to be produced in Somersworth.



**Join us in celebration of Earth Day for a community clean up on Saturday, April 22 and Sunday April 23.** Followed by a week's worth of Earth Week suggested activities for you to do at home and in the community!

Please attend the LAUNCH EVENT on SATURDAY, APRIL 22 anytime between 8 and 10 am to pick up trash bags (particular bags **must** be used), gloves, and safety vests, learn important safety protocols, and sign waivers. Information on City Parks, programs, and more will be available! Simultaneous events will be held at Jules Bisson (Ward 5) Park, and Noble Pines Park. Waivers must be signed for all participants, and minors must be accompanied. If you cannot attend this launch event, please contact Coty Donohue at [cdonohue@sau56.org](mailto:cdonohue@sau56.org) or 603-817-3998 to make necessary arrangements.

Please sign up for a specific street/area of the City [HERE](#).

[www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094cada92ca4fac61-somersworth#/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094cada92ca4fac61-somersworth#/)

Follow the event on Facebook for more details, and for more Somersworth Earth Week activities! [Click HERE](#).

*This event is organized by Somersworth Youth Connection, Somersworth Public Works, Somersworth Recreation, and SEE Somersworth.*

# SOMERSWORTH CLEAN UP

## & EARTH WEEK ACTIVITIES

*A city-wide effort dedicated to creating a cleaner planet and community*

**LAUNCH EVENT:** Sat, April 22 8am-10am  
Noble Pines & Jules Bisson Park

- Pick up special trash bags, safety vests, and gloves
- Learn the safety protocols & tips, and sign waivers
- Get info on city parks, programs, gardens, and more!

**CLEAN UP TIMEFRAME:** Saturday & Sunday  
April 22 & 23rd

- Public Works will pick up bagged trash on Monday, April 24th
- Special bags must be used (picked up at launch event)
- Participating youth must be accompanied by an adult



**MORE ACTIVITIES:** Follow our facebook event throughout the week \*April 24-28th\* for more ways that you can participate in Somersworth Earth Week from home and in the community



FACEBOOK EVENT



SIGN UP GENIUS



Organized by [Somersworth Youth Connection](#), [Somersworth Public Works](#), [Somersworth Recreation](#), and [SEE Somersworth](#)  
Questions? Contact [cdonohue@sau56.org](mailto:cdonohue@sau56.org) & 603-817-3998 or [kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov](mailto:kdavenport@somersworthnh.gov) & 603-692-9508



## Time to Renew Dog Licenses

Dog licenses for 2023 are now available. All dogs must be licensed by April 30, 2023, to avoid a late fee. The cost for a male or female dog is \$10, a neutered male or spayed female dog is \$7.50 and puppies (3-7 months) are \$7.50 for first licensing.

Dog licenses can be renewed at the City Clerk's office at City Hall, by mail or online. To ensure privacy, dog owners must provide the dog's tag number. To renew online, [click here](#).

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-692-9512.

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## What's Happening at Somersworth Library

### Fun Things in April!

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

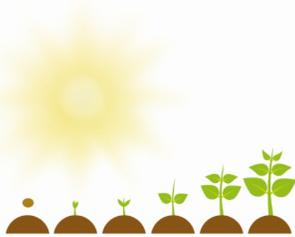


STEAM & Play



### Seed Starting with Recycled Planters

Wednesday, April 12 • 5pm



recommended  
for ages 12 &  
under

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

### Seed Starting with Recycled Planters Wednesday, April 12 • 5pm

Join Wendy Berkeley from the NH Farm to School program for a seed starting program. You'll enjoy decorating your own recycled planter and sowing seeds while learning about the life cycle of plants and how important agriculture is in

our lives. *Recommended for ages 12 and under.*

### Composting 101

Wednesday April 19 •

6:30pm-7:30pm

Master Gardener Ron

Trexler joins us

Wednesday, April 19 for an

introductory composting

program. Attendees will

learn about the proper

composting methods, the value of domestic and community composting, and how compost can be used in your own garden. The Library will remain open until 7:30 p.m. to allow for all questions at the conclusion of the program.

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

# COMPOSTING 101

Wednesday, April 19 • 6:30 - 7:30pm

Learn the ins and outs of composting the right way.

Presented by Master Gardener, Ron Trexler, in conjunction with:

-  Somersworth Community Gardens at Malley Farm
-  UNH Cooperative Extension



25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

# Teen GAME NIGHT

Tuesday, April 25 • 5:30 pm

Hosted by **Diversions**  
puzzles & games



Games, snacks, & fun!



25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

## Teen Game Night Tuesday, April 25 at 5:30pm

Teens are invited to join Laura Keith of Diversion Puzzles & Games for an hour of fun party games and snacks!

## Tween & Teen Writing Contest

The Somersworth Public Library is holding a writing contest this spring for Tweens & Teens. Write a haiku, a short story, a critical essay - it's entirely up to you! There are no theme restrictions; follow your inspiration to create an original work that you feel proud to present for the Library. Entries can be submitted in person or by email and should conform to the guidelines outlined on our [website](#).

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

# IT'S ALL Write!



## Writing Contest for Tweens & Teens

Submission deadline: April 30  
Voting: May 1-7  
Winners Announced: May 9  
Prizes: \$15 Amazon gift card for the Tween & Teen winner

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

**Stitched to Gather: Fiber Arts Group**

# STITCHED TO Gather

Crocheting • Knitting • Sewing •  
Quilting • Felting • Needlepoint •  
Basket weaving • All Fiber Arts

## Fiber Arts Group

Craft & Create Together.

Bring your project in progress, or use our materials to get started!  
Beginner crochet and knitting instruction provided.

\* **Teens:** 2nd Wednesday of each month • 5:30pm \*

\* **Adults:** 3rd Wednesday of each month • 5:30pm \*



25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library



**Teens: Wednesday, April 12 •**

**5:30pm**

**Adults: Wednesday, April 19 •**

**5:30pm**

Stitched to Gather is our regularly meeting fiber arts group. Whether you're an experienced knitter working on a sweater, a beginner crochete working on a hat, or you've never dabbled in fiber arts at all, this is a great way for you to connect with others who share the same interest. Our library assistant, Sarah, will be in

attendance to offer guidance, support, and basic instruction. Crochet hooks, knitting needles, and yarn will be available to share, but we encourage those who have supplies to bring them. The group meets monthly - teens on the second Wednesday, and adults on the third Wednesday.

## Jeff Warner

**Music in my Pockets,  
Saturday, April 22 at  
11:00am**

Jeff Warner joins us for an afternoon of singing games, accessible "pocket instruments" like spoons and dancing puppets, tall tales, funny songs, old songs and songs kids teach each other in the playground. We will revisit 1850 or 1910 in a New

England town, with families gathered around the kitchen hearth with traditional music, participating in timeless, hearty entertainment: a glimpse into how America amused itself before electricity. Recommended for all ages!

SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY

## JEFF WARNER: Music in My Pockets



Saturday, April 22 • 11am - 12:30pm

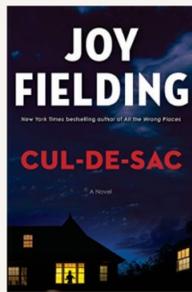
Singing games, accessible "pocket instruments" like spoons and dancing puppets, tall tales, funny songs, old songs, playground songs...see how America entertained itself before electricity!



25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

## DISCUSSION GROUPS

### Book Group



Tuesday, April 11 · 5:30 PM

*Cul-de-Sac*  
by Joy Fielding

### Short Story Group



Friday, April 21 · 2 PM

*Wistful England*  
by Kevin Barry

25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | [somersworthnh.gov/library](http://somersworthnh.gov/library)

## Discussion Groups

### Book Group

**Tuesday, April 11 • 5:30pm**

Read, listen, discuss. Copies available at the circulation desk. New members are always welcome! The April book selection is *Cul-de-Sac* by Joy Fielding a novel about a shooting that bares the secrets harbored by five families in a quiet suburban cul-de-sac.

### Short Story Group

**Friday, April 21 • 2:00pm**

We'll be discussing the short story *Wistful England* by Kevin Barry this month. The author packs a lot into a few pages. Unleash your inner nerd and break it down. Copies available at the circulation desk.

**Children's Programs**

**STORY TIME**

**TUESDAYS • 10:30 AM**



Stories, songs, finger plays, crafts and fine motor activities.

*Recommended for ages 4 and under.*



**BABY PLAY HOUR**

**THURSDAYS • 10:30 AM**



Informal playgroup to encourage play and social interaction between parents, caregivers, and babies.

*Recommended for ages 2 and under.*



**STEAM & PLAY**

**WEDNESDAYS • 5:30 PM**

Explore, create, question and experiment!

*Recommended for ages 5-12.*



**LEGO ENGINEERS**

**SATURDAYS • 11AM**

Free-build your own creation, or complete a Lego challenge! Work independently or collaborate with friends.

*Recommended for all ages.*



25 Main Street, Somersworth, NH | (603) 692-4587 | somersworthnh.gov/library

**Weekly Children's Programs**

**Family Story Time**

**Tuesdays • 10:30am**

Join our Children's Librarian for a morning filled with stories, songs, crafts and plenty of play time. *Recommended for ages 4 and under.*

**STEAM & Play**

**Wednesdays • 5:30pm (exception Wednesday April 12 will start at 5pm)**

Bring your problem-solving skills and stop by the Steam & Play station to create, build, and play. New activities will be put out weekly for participants to enjoy. *Recommended for ages 5-12.*

**Baby Play Hour**

**Thursdays • 10:30am**

Informal playgroup to encourage play and social interaction between parents, caregivers, and babies. *Recommended for ages 2 and under.*

**Lego Engineers**

**Saturdays • 11am**

Build your own Lego creation or collaborate with new friends. A new Lego challenge is offered each week. Legos provided! *Recommended for all ages.*

**Check out the Library's Monthly Newsletter [here](#)**



## Somersworth Police Department



**Crime Prevention:** Continuing with our series of Crime Prevention and Awareness classes in the community, members of the Police Department, Criminal Investigations Division gave a talk to our seniors at the Somersworth Housing Authority Queensbury Mills Building on Wednesday, March 22nd. These classes are geared to help bring attention and awareness to scams, fraud, and other forms of crimes. We would like to thank the Somersworth Housing Authority and their staff for playing host for the talk. Please look

for more of these and other types of classes being taught around the community and if you or an organization would like to host one, please contact Investigations Captain John Sunderland at [JSunderland@Somersworthnh.gov](mailto:JSunderland@Somersworthnh.gov).

### Drug Take Back Day

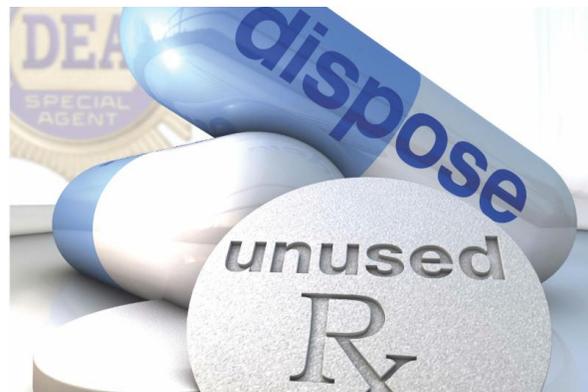
**When: Saturday, April 22, 2023**

**Time: 10:00AM until 2:00PM**

**Where: Somersworth Police Station**

**12 Lilac Lane, Somersworth**

Did you know that we also have a drug take back box in our station lobby that you can drop off unused prescription medications 24 hours a day, 7 days a week? Just come in and drop them off. No sharps please!



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](http://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

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## **Somersworth Fire Department & Emergency Management**



### **“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it”. A safety message from the Fire Chief's Office**

American philosopher George Santayana famously said “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it”. For those who follow this column on a regular basis – you have heard this from me before. However, in the interest of the first-time reader as well as a reminder for all of us - this line of thinking is particularly applicable to fire and life safety concerns, and I'd like to share a few recent examples for us to consider as Spring is upon us.

#### **Smoke Alarms - Save Lives**

Properly installed and functioning smoke alarms save lives. Why do I say this again? Because fire deaths in New Hampshire so far this year are quickly approaching the total for all of 2022. There have been six home fire deaths and one car fire death in NH in the first three months of this year. There were nine fire deaths in the state for all of 2022. The State Fire Marshal is reporting that investigators have been able to confirm only one of the homes in this year's string of deadly fires had working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of a residence and in all sleeping rooms. Test and clean smoke alarms on a regular basis and teach children how to react should a smoke alarm activate while they are sleeping.

On Sunday, 5 March 2023, just before 11:00 AM, surveillance video showed a charging lithium-ion battery on an electric scooter exploding in the back room of a grocery store in the Fordham Heights section of the Bronx in New York City. This explosion and resulting fire destroyed the supermarket and injured five firefighters and two civilians – one seriously. In New York City during 2022, 219 fires were caused by charging e-bikes and e-scooters killing six people and injuring another 147. In many cases, investigators have determined that e-bike owners are using inexpensive, “knockoff”, aftermarket batteries and

chargers. After-market batteries, non-UL certified bikes/scooters, or chargers that are not designed for the battery can cause a malfunction and condition known as thermal runaway where a chain reaction ignites the small cells that make up a lithium-ion battery. Thermal runaway produces an explosion and a tremendous amount of heat which will start a fire that is very difficult to extinguish. Just this past month in Somersworth, a 12-volt lithium-ion car battery malfunctioned while charging and filled a business with toxic smoke. Early notification by an alert passerby likely prevented the battery from going into thermal runaway. Although rare, cell phone lithium-ion batteries do occasionally malfunction. It is recommended that cell phones not be charged while you are sleeping and avoid placing your charging phone between yourself and your means of egress should the battery experience thermal runaway. After-market batteries, non-UL certified devices, and chargers that are not designed for the battery being used are a recipe for disaster.

### **Oil Soaked Rags - Caution**

Just last month I related to you how a pile of linseed oil-soaked rags left behind by contractors in a vacant office sparked one of the largest high-rise fires in US history. On 21 March, 2023 a large house in Medford, MA sustained extensive damage due to a fire likely caused by oily rags left inside the home by workers who were renovating the five-bedroom, four-bathroom home built in 1900. If hiring a contractor or conducting renovations yourself, ensure oil-stained rags are placed in an airtight metal can and left outside away from any building or combustible material.

### **Smoke Alarms**

Parents, guardians, or responsible adults – if a child is under your care, and that child is going to a sleep over, or if you are hosting a sleep over, do not discount the importance of asking about or checking the location and functionality of smoke alarms. A famous national level Fire Service author states very plainly: “When dropping the kids off, ASK about the smoke alarms. Odds are, they have working smoke alarms, but then again, maybe they don't. Maybe the batteries are missing? Checking for working smoke alarms is even better than a hug. And it shows the host that you have concern for your kids as well as their kids.” The same approach applies to vacation homes and vacation rental properties. A family from MD vacationing in NY were renting a house where there was no valid rental permit on file for the property, meaning there was no safety inspection and there was no rental inspection. None of those things occurred because there was never an application submitted for this to be a rental. A subsequent fire killed two young girls. When going on vacation, ask the tough questions and check the rental property's fire and life safety systems yourself. Properly installed and functioning smoke alarms save lives.

### **Monthly Activity Statistics:**

Our monthly run numbers for the most recent reporting period with a comparison to last year. Numbers for January 2023 are high due to the long duration storm on January 23/24:

	<b>Feb 2023</b>	<b>Feb 2022</b>
Fire (All Types)	3	4

Overpressure/Overheat (No Fire)	0	1
Rescue - EMS	65	84
Hazardous Conditions (No Fire)	6	5
Service Call	24	11
Good Intent Call	23	18
False Alarm / False Call	17	15
Sever WX / Natural Disaster	0	0
Special Incident	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>138</b>

**Note:** The categories used to report monthly incidents are those mandated by the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). Most categories are self-explanatory. For those that are not obvious, the following examples can add clarity.

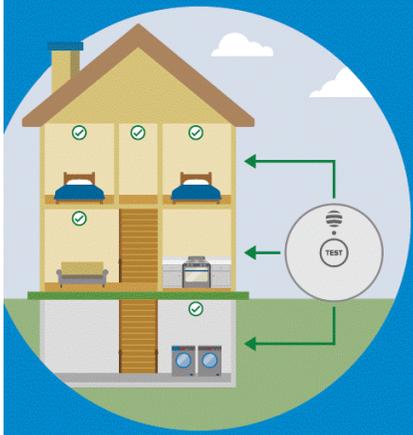
- Good Intent Call: a reported fire that turns out to be steam from a dryer vent
- Severe WX/Natural Disaster: a lightning strike or tree falling on a house that requires an inspection to ensure there is no fire
- Special Incident: a citizen's complaint of an Ordinance or Code Violation

Feel free to call the Fire Station if you have questions about any emergency management, fire prevention, or life safety topics.

Please stay safe, be careful and look out for each other.

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

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**Put smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home, including the basement.**



The remains of an e-Scooter that sparked a 5-alarm fire while being stored in the back room of a New York Supermarket on March 5. The building was a total loss despite the efforts of the best large fire department in the world.



Another shot of our new Engine-5 on the ramp outside the "Blue Floor" at Pierce Manufacturing headquarters in Appleton, WI on March 15. The "Enforcer" style pumper has a 1500 GPM pump, 750-gallon water tank, and will be equipped as a "rescue-pumper" to handle fire rescue and suppression, emergency medical and special operation responses.



SFD personnel receive training from the Firematic Supply Company on the use of our new Res-Q-Jack "APEX" vehicle stabilization and lifting struts. These state-of-the-art tools were purchased as part of a \$50,000 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) with the City contributing a 5% match. The struts are extremely versatile and can be used in a number of extrication and rescue scenarios. Pictured left to right: FF/EMT Brian Flood, Probationary FF Daniel Kelly, Mr. Dan Felix (Firematic sales rep and trainer), FF/EMT Spencer Barnes, and LT/EMT James Drakopoulos.



SFD personnel receive training from Industrial Protection Services (IPS) on the use of our new battery powered Holmatro “Pentheon Series” hydraulic vehicle extrication spreader, cutter, and ram. These state-of-the art tools were purchased as part of a \$50,000 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) with the City contributing a 5% match. The tools are extremely versatile and can be used in a number of extrication and rescue scenarios. Pictured left to right: FF/EMT John Dann, FF/EMT Thomas DeVaney, Mr. David Giberti (sales rep, service director, and trainer for IPS), LT/EMT Daniel Toof, and FF/AEMT Michael Calabrese. Of note, the Holmatro “Pentheon Series of tools are used by the safety teams during the Indy Car race series.

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## Department of Public Works & Utilities

### **Metal Pick-up: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each Month**

**When:** Next Curbside Collection: Tuesday, March 14th

**How:** Call Public Works no later than 3:00 pm on Monday, March 13th, 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-Save the Date! Details Coming Soon!**

**Saturday, May 20, 2023 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, (move the no pest strips to the list of items you cannot bring...avoid confusion, 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 Hazardous - 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.

### **Bagged Leaves and Brush Pick-up**

**Brush will be picked up the third weeks in April and May.** You must call 603-692-4266 by Friday, April 14 and/or Friday, May 12 to be added to the pickup list. for brush collection. Please have your brush curbside no later than 7:00 am on Monday, April 17 and/or Monday, May 15 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 weeks in April and 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 weeks of April 24 and/or May 22. Leaves and grass clippings must be in brown recyclable paper leaf bags, sold at many local stores.

### **Malley Farm Facility**

Malley Farm will be opening in April weather conditions permitting for disposal of brush and leaves. Staff will update the City Website and other social media outlets on the specific opening date in April. Call the Public Works Department at 603-692-4266 for the latest on opening and hours of operation.

### **Reporting Pot Holes - call (603) 692-4266**

The Public Works Department assigns Highway crews daily to address potholes on primary streets that have been reported and/or observed by the Highway staff.

### **The Community Garden at Malley Farm is getting Ready for the Spring Season.**

The Community Gardens Stewards are making plans for the spring growing season. Gardeners from last year and new gardeners interested in reserving a plot were emailed an application packet to complete and submit the completed form to the Department of Public Works by March 31. The

Stewards will be reviewing the submitted applications and making plot assignments in early April. A spring community garden meeting will be held in April, on site to review community garden rules, procedures, and to answer questions. A meeting announcement with the date and time will be sent to each gardener that submitted an application for the 2023 season. All new and returning garden volunteers must complete the application form in order to participate and assigned a garden plot in the Community Garden

Application Gardner packets are available on the City of Somersworth website:

<https://www.somersworthnh.gov/public-works-utilities/pages/volunteer-opportunities>.

Please call Courtney at the Department of Public Works at (603) 692-4266 if you have questions.

**What's FLUSHABLE?**

A toddler will tell you that *everything* is flushable... but what you *think* is flushable could be costing you money!

Product labels can be misleading. Some items that claim to be "flushable" can clog sewer and septic systems and can end up costing you a pretty penny.

**"Flushable" does NOT mean it is SAFE for your septic system or sewer.**

"Disposable" items ARE NOT flushable and should be placed in the trash.

**The bottom line:**  
**ONLY**  
Human waste and toilet paper  
**ARE FLUSHABLE**

**The DO NOT FLUSH List:**

- Diapers
- Cigarettes
- Paper Towels
- Cotton Swabs
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Toys
- Dental Floss
- Facial Tissues
- Wipes

## Recreation Office Upcoming Programs & Events

Apply today to join our 2023 Summer Camp team! A completed City of Somersworth Employment Application is required for all job openings. The Job posting & Employment application are located on the link below.

[www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities)

[Directors & Counselors 2023](#)

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

**NOW HIRING!**

**CAMP DIRECTORS- \$16/HOUR (must be 18+)**

**CAMP COUNSELORS- \$14/HOUR (must be 16+)**

**Program Details~**

June 26-August 18  
(8-weeks)

Monday-Friday

Pre-Camp training Mid-June



We want your talent! Apply today to join our 2023 Summer Camp Team! Full job posting & employment applications are at Somersworth City Hall & on the website below.

- Gain valuable experience
- Make of difference in the community
- Spend the summer outside having fun
- Create lasting memories
- Enjoy weekends off



[www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/human-resources/pages/employment-opportunities)



# SOMERSWORTH RECREATION GRANITE STATE TRACK & FIELD



**Somersworth Children Ages 9-14** \*\*Must be ages 9-14 as of Dec. 31st 2023

**Practices: May 10-June 7** No Practice 5/29

**Mondays & Wednesdays; 3:45-4:45pm**

**Idlehurst Elementary School Track**

**District Meet: TBD/ State Meet TBD**

Join us for this beginner Track & Field program designed to teach children the basic fundamentals of running, jumping, & throwing. This program is a great way for athletes to develop new skills, stay in shape, have fun outdoors, & compete against athletes from NH towns at the District Meet in June. All athletic abilities welcome!

**Volunteers needed! We rely on volunteers to help run all of our youth programs.  
Please reach out if you can coach or help with the meets. 603-692-9508**

## REGISTRATION

Deadline to register is April 12th

**Early Bird Fee: \$45 (Register & pay by March 24th)**

**Fee: \$60 (After 3/24)**

**Cash or Checks only. Please make checks payable to: City of Somersworth**

Register In-Person at the Rec Office in City Hall or  
By Mail- 1 Government Way Somersworth, NH 03878

Space is limited. First come, first serve. Call to ensure space is available.  
Registration forms are available on the website below or in the Rec Office at  
City Hall. 603-692-9507

**[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs)**

**Granite State Track & Field.** Registration opened March 1. Space is limited, please don't wait to register. The program runs May 10 - June 7 on Mondays and Wednesdays 3:45 - 4:45 p.m.



2023 SOMERSWORTH RECREATION

# Kids Camp

Children going into grades 1-5  
 Monday-Friday; 8:00-4:00pm  
 Noble Pines Park

SESSION 1: JUNE 26- JULY 21  
 SESSION 2: JULY 24- AUGUST 18

NO CAMP 7/4

Join us for this exciting 8-week Summer Camp filled with tons of fun! This outdoor camp is designed to keep kids active while having fun under the sun with friends. Sample activities include sports, arts & crafts, field games, special events, & 1-2 weekly field trips. Field Trips are TBD & will include local walking trips and bus trips to a NH State Park or local park. Please review the Handbook on our website for more details.



*Outside, Active, & Having a Blast!*

### 2023 CAMP OPTIONS-

Resident registration opens March 20th for 8-week & 4-week option/Weekly option & non-resident registration opens May 1st if space is available.

#### FULL 8-WEEKS-

Register & Pay in full by April 28th  
**\$800- Residents Only/Non-refundable**

#### 4-WEEKS (SESSION 1 OR 2)-

Register & Pay Session 1 in full by May 26th. \$100 non-refundable deposit required to hold spot for a session  
**\$450 Residents/ \$600 Non-Residents**

#### WEEKLY-

Weekly registration opens May 1st/if space is available  
 Register & pay for selected weeks by May 26th  
**\$150 Residents/ \$200 Non-Residents**

### REGISTRATION DETAILS-

Space is limited & will be first come, first serve. Call to ensure space is available prior to mailing forms or stopping in the office. Registration packets are located in the Rec Office at City Hall & on our website below. Please review the Parent/Guardian Handbook for more info. Registration Deadline is May 26th.

Make checks payable to: City of Somersworth

#### IN-PERSON-

Cash or Checks only. Rec Office is 2nd Floor of City Hall.

#### BY MAIL-

Call to ensure space is available prior to mailing forms. Mail registration packet & check to 1 Government Way Somersworth, NH 03878

[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/summer-camp](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/summer-camp)

**Kids Camp.** Registration opened on March 20 for residents. Space is limited. Register early to save your spot!. Please review the parent handbook on our [website](#) for more program details.

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION



# Easter Egg-Stravaganza Egg Hunt



JOIN SOMERSWORTH RECREATION FOR OUR ANNUAL EGG  
HUNT & POP-UP STORYWALK® PRESENTED  
BY SOMERSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY



Free event for Somersworth children ages 3-12. Bring a bag or bucket to help collect candy-filled eggs. There will be a photo opportunity with the Easter Bunny. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/special-events](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/special-events)



**Easter Egg Hunt.** Friday, April 7 at 4:30 p.m. at Jules Bisson Park. We are seeking volunteers to help with the event. Please contact the Recreation Office at 603-692-9507 if you would like to help.

SOMERSWORTH RECREATION



# Tiny Toppers Play Program



Somersworth Children ages 2-4 & Adult Caregivers

Wednesday Mornings; 9:45-10:30am

May 3- 24th (4 sessions)

Noble Pines Park

Register by April 28th / Free Program



HAVE FUN  
OUTSIDE

MEET NEW  
FRIENDS

EXPLORE  
NEW ACTIVITIES  
& GAMES

GET  
EXERCISE

Children ages 2-4 & their adult Caregivers are invited to join us for this fun outdoor play program at the Pines! There will be various age-appropriate activities and sports equipment for children to try with their caregivers & friends. Adult participation is required. This program is weather dependent. Come join the fun this spring!



Visit our website below to register &  
complete the waiver:

[www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs](http://www.somersworthnh.gov/parks-recreation/pages/youth-programs)

**Recreation Office Program Updates**





Biddy Basketball (Ages 3-6) The kids had fun this year learning basic skills and playing games while getting an introduction into basketball.

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

**Volunteers are Sought for  
Adopt a Spot at Forest Glade  
Cemetery**

We are looking for residents



interested in our Adopt-A-Spot program to service and maintain the area in front of the Furber Chapel and flagpole at the Forest Glade Cemetery. Please follow the link below for an application.

If you have any questions, please contact Courtney Valarese at the Public Works Department 603-692-4266.

<https://www.somersworthnh.gov/public-works-utilities/pages/community-garden-adopt-spot>

### **Cemetery Trustee Vacancy**

There is a vacancy on the Cemetery Trustees. Somersworth residents interested in the history of the City and preserving the historic grounds and structures at Forest Glade Cemetery, you are invited to apply at the City Clerk's Office.



### **Students Connect to Local Food Straight at the Source**

In March, Somersworth High School Sustainability Club students paid visits to Wentworth Greenhouses to learn more about growing pollinator gardens, and what plants work best for this (answer– native plants are always the best). They got a behind the scenes tour of the growing room (which covers acres), the composting areas, and the machinery that make the business of growing a more efficient process. Given that these students are at or approaching working age, this was a nice intro into how one can make a living in the field of agriculture and sustainability, while making a difference for the planet too. If you have a high-schooler interested in sustainability issues, send them to Ms. White's room, Room 219, after school on Thursdays to meet the current club members and become one too.



HS Sustainability Club students Jasper Curran and Jack Higgins touring Wentworth Greenhouses

Maple Wood Sustainability Club also took some fun trips last month: one to Wentworth Greenhouses to pick out starter plants, and another to Brandmoore Farm in Rollinsford to learn more about sourcing food locally and supporting our local agricultural economy. Becky and Sophie from Brandmoore, however, packaged that lesson in the form of gathering freshly laid eggs, meeting the new calves and the very friendly pigs, and discovering that this is where many of the tasty vegetables come from for their Farm to School Friday sampling activities in the cafeteria.



Maple Wood Sustainability Club students on a treasure hunt at Brandmoore Farm in Rollinsford

Winter came late this year, but the ground will soon be ready to plant. Remember, if you're interested in a plot at the Community Garden this season, contact the Somersworth DPW at 603-692-4266, or stop by their office M-F 7-3:30(closed 12-12:30) behind the police station for an application. And follow @farmtosomersworthschools on Instagram to see what other farm and food

activities are going on in our schools and our community.



## 2023 Parenting Classes, Support Groups and Family Programs

### Parenting Classes

- **Communication is Key** | Online | Wed Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17 @ 6 p.m.
- **Intro to Mindfulness** | Families First, Portsmouth | Mondays, April 10 thru May 15 @ 9:30a.m. \*Free Child Care



### Support Groups

- **Parents & Caregivers of Children with an Incarcerated Parent** | Online | last Mondays @ 7 p.m.
- **Grandparents Connect** | 2nd Tuesday at Idlehurst School, Somersworth, 4th Tuesday online @ 9:30 a.m.

### Family Morning Out

- Somersworth, Portsmouth, Exeter, and Epping

### PROGRAM SIGN-UP

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### **New Support Group: The Families we Make, Coffee & Company.**

Are you a grandparent, family member, or kinship caregiver who is raising children? Join Ellen Michniewicz for this exciting new group!

- Free coffee and snacks
- Celebrate successes and share challenges
- Friendly and welcoming

- Learn about resources and connect with others

Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month. 2nd Tuesday meets at Idlehurst Elementary in Somersworth. 4th Tuesday is online. Drop in's welcome. If you would like to learn more, please contact our Kinship Navigator, Ellen Michniewicz at [emichniewicz@familiesfirstseacoast.org](mailto:emichniewicz@familiesfirstseacoast.org).

Interested in joining our Grandparent Connect group? Join us on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month.

2nd Tuesday meets at Idlehurst Elementary in Somersworth, 4th Tuesday is online. [Sign Up Here](#)

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*Playing with cars outside at Somersworth Family Morning Out*

## Family Morning out Schedule

Join us:

- **Somersworth** on Fridays, 9:30-11am, at Idlehurst School, 46 Stackpoole Rd.
- **Portsmouth** on Wednesdays, 9:30-11am, Families First, 8 Greenleaf Woods Drive
- **Exeter** on Thursdays, 9:30-11 am, at the Parks & Rec building, 32 Court St.
- **Epping** on Fridays, 9:30-11 am, in the SAU building, 213 Main St.

*Free. In-person. No signup necessary.*

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## Making Space: Introduction to Mindfulness

- 6-week series
- Nurture your mind, body and heart
- Enhance Relationships
- Increase joy and well-being
- Learn strategies and practices to calm and focus your mind
- Reduce your symptoms of stress, anxiety and depression



- Taught by Kathleen Macleod
- Fee child care during the program

Learn more about mindfulness with ***Intro to Mindfulness at Families First***

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### **Shopping on a Budget: With Cooking Matters - April 13: 9:30am - 11:00am**

Take a scroll through our pop-up grocery store at Families First.

- Healthy choices
- Benefits of each food group
- How to read nutrition labels
- How to use unit prices to make the most of your food dollars.
- How to save money at the grocery store

Fee child care provided during this program and all participants will go home with a \$10 Hannaford gift card. **Sign-up for Shopping on a Budget**

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**Let's Start the Party**  
**Somersworth Festival Association**



*Spring Craft Fair*  
May 13th  
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



This craft fair is being hosted by the Somersworth Festival Association.  
Proceeds from the craft fair help support all of the children's  
events hosted by the SFA.

Phone: 603-692-5869 • Email: [sfachild.festival@gmail.com](mailto:sfachild.festival@gmail.com)



## Somersworth Festival Association Kids' Concerts 2023



*Save the Dates!*

We have some great entertainment lined up for this summer's Kids' Concert Series at the Pavilion at Somersworth High School! All shows are from 6 to 7 p.m. on consecutive Wednesdays. We sell inexpensive meals and hold some great raffles. Bring your blankets and enjoy the shows! (In the event of inclement weather, we will move the shows inside.)

July 12th - Steve Blunt



July 19th - Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate



July 26th - Tricky Dick's Magic Show



August 2nd - Lindsay and Her Puppet Pals



August 9th - Wildlife Encounters



Email: [sfachild.festival@gmail.com](mailto:sfachild.festival@gmail.com)

Phone: 603-692-5869

Visit our website, [www.nhfestivals.org](http://www.nhfestivals.org).

Follow us on Facebook!

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## City of Somersworth Employment Opportunities

Finalists 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](#)

## RECREATION

### Camp Directors and Camp Counselors

**Directors (must be 18+) \$16.00hr.**

**Counselors (must be 16+) \$14.00hr.**

## PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES

### Equipment Operator

**\$44,096 - \$47,694 \*Note: Effective July 1, 2023 \$48,027-\$54,808**

### Summer Seasonal (40 hours a week / May - Sept)

**\$17.00hr.**

## POLICE

### Dispatcher

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

### Patrol Officer

**\$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>



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