

# City Connection

*Proud Past, Bright Future*



May  
2017

## May Meetings in Council Chambers

### City Council Meetings

Monday, May 1 at 7:00 &  
Monday, May 15 at 7:00  
pm

### Public Hearings

Monday, May 1 at 6:45pm:  
Re: Ordinance No. 19-17  
Supplemental  
Appropriation for  
\$600,000 from Sewer  
Utility Fund for  
Improvements to the  
Blackwater Rd. Pump  
Station.

6:50pm: Re: Resolution No.  
38-17 Authorize City  
Manager to Sign Payment  
in Lieu of Taxes  
Agreement w/NhSolar.

### Site Review Technical Committee

Wednesday, May 3 at  
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 10 at  
10:30 a.m.

### Zoning Board of Adjustment

Wednesday, May 3 at 7:00  
p.m.



Photo courtesy of Jenne Holmes, Somersworth Now

## **Mayor's Community Forum**

Saturday, May 6 at 9:00 a.m.

## **Conservation Commission**

Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m.

## **School Board Meeting**

Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.

## **Traffic Safety Committee**

Wednesday, May 17 at 2:00 p.m.

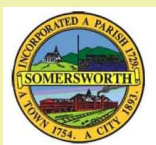
## **Planning Board**

Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m.

## **Historic District Commission**

Wednesday, May 24 at 7:00 p.m.

**To view Agendas of City Council meetings please visit City website [www.somersworth.com](http://www.somersworth.com)**



**City of Somersworth**



## **The Mayor's Corner**

### ***New Beginnings***

The bitter cold and darkness of winter quickly exits our thoughts with a warmth of just a few spring days. The barren land is replaced with an explosion of life, as Earth is awakened again. Nature reminds us of the mysteries which surround us, the circle of life. Spring is our signal of renewal, our chance to start a new, to continue on our journey to reach our goals.

As a community, we have experienced a transformation over the past three years as we continue our journey in reaching our Vision 2020 goals; of creating one of the most desired communities on the seacoast. Throughout Somersworth, the Hilltopper spirit of; neighbor helping neighbor, contributing to one's community and supporting a vision of greatness for all, has once again become the foundational qualities which identify our great city.

While the path towards success is often viewed as a personal experience, it is our collective team approach which continues to define the qualities of identifying us as a Hilltopper. When each citizen can experience personal success, our community succeeds, when our citizens' fail, our community fails. As a team and caring community, we support each other. As a team and caring community we celebrate reaching our milestones and goals. As a team and caring community, we will no longer shy away from review, areas we must improve upon.

As citizens your role is vital throughout the duration of this journey. You are the guiding hand that continues to keep Somersworth "On the Move"! Continue to adhere values which has made our Hilltop city a living definition of Yankeeism. Remember that like the changes of the season, our community is progressing. Like winter, it can be hard awaiting the warmth and energy of spring, but as nature assures us, it is coming.

***We are a community, we are on the move, and we are achieving progress and greatness.***

***WE ARE SOMERSWORTH!***

***Mayor Dana Hilliard***

**City Hall**  
**One Government Way**  
**Somersworth, NH**  
**03878**  
**(603) 692-9555**

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

**Wednesday**  
**City Hall is open until**  
**6:00 p.m.**



Stay in touch  
with City Happenings.

- Business Email List
- City e-Newsletter
- Recreation  
Department

[Join our mailing list](#)



## *Mayor Hilliard's Community Forum*

**Saturday, May 6**  
**9:00am -10:30am**  
**City Hall, City Council Chambers**

Please join the Mayor, At - Large City Councilors Dave Witham and Jessica Paradis, School Board Members Kelly Brennan and Matt Hanlon

Come discuss Community issues, voice your concerns and help move Somersworth forward! The purpose of the forums are to foster dialog and ideas, in a non-formal setting. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Please use High Street entrance to enter City Hall.

### **Please note:**

#### **The Mayor's Office Hours at City Hall**

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.

*Citizen's Place*



The City of Somersworth raised another Flag on Monday, April 17th the Flag of United Kingdom for St. Georges Day on Sunday April 23.

### **Cultural Commission Upcoming Flag Flying Dates**

May 1 - Somersworth Youth Connection Flag for Spirit-up Somersworth.

May 1 - Israeli Independence Day.

May 19 - EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Week

June 1 - LBGT New England Pride Month

June 24 - The Provincial flag of Quebec for St. Jean the Baptiste Day (Flag raising to take place on Friday, June 16).

Flag raising will take place on Friday, June 16 at 4:00 pm.

Also, the flag of Indonesia will be flown during the annual Somersworth Indonesian Festival (TBA).

### ***Citizen Place***

To celebrate and honor the many and varied organizations and cultures that exist within this place we all call home in Somersworth.



### **Millennium Park Improvements**

Over the past 6 months, Millennium Park has undergone many improvements that are designed to enhance your experience at the park. This park is currently home to a softball field, two volleyball courts, two- sets of horse shoe pits, ample parking, a park house with restrooms, and a covered pavilion with seating. All light poles have been repainted, the bleachers were upgraded and a small path has been installed from the new Sunningdale neighborhood into the park.

Millennium Park is also open for rentals April-October, please check out the website for more information. [www.somersworth.com](http://www.somersworth.com)



### **Mast Point Dam Revitalization**

Mast Point Dam Recreation Area has undergone a major transformation over past the few years. This project began with the clearing of over a mile-long trail system that abuts the beautiful Salmon Falls River. Since the initial trail clearing there has been a footbridge added for access across the creek to continue your hike. There are 2 picnic areas that offer amazing views along the river. The parking area was improved with the installation of signage and a turn-around section for unloading kayaks and canoes. The boat launch was also completed last winter.

The City also installed trail signs to help designate the walking trails throughout the park. A park message center/kiosk sits to the left of the parking area where you can find a trail map to help navigate your hike.

We invite our community to enjoy this hidden gem located on 121 Salmon Falls Road. This park has an access road off of Salmon Falls Road and is clearly marked with an entrance sign as you pull down the road. Please note this park is carry-in/ carry-out trash policy, and all City parks are non-smoking.

*We sincerely hope you enjoy these new improvements to our City Parks and encourage you to go and enjoy these*

wonderful places!



Fun times for all at the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 14 at Millennium Park.



**Somersworth Police Department**



On April 18th Somersworth Police and Somersworth High School conducted the Seat Belt Challenge. This is a relay race where teams of students compete for the best time in being buckled up in a car. The winning team was: Nathan Chic, Troy Cutter, Connor McCabe and Matt Mahedeo.

They will go on to compete at the finals at the State Level against other high schools in New Hampshire.

### **FREE A.L.I.C.E. Training for Businesses**

We are offering FREE Active Shooter Training for any business in Somersworth. ALICE stands for Alert-Lockdown-Inform-Counter-Evacuate. Contact Chief Kretschmar at [dkretschmar@somersworth.com](mailto:dkretschmar@somersworth.com) for more information.



**Somersworth Crime Line:**  
**You can leave anonymous information at 692-9111**



### **Spring is Here...Be Safe.**

Fire Permits need to be obtained from the Fire Department for any outside fires to burn brush and garden materials.

Spring clean-up is a good time to discard unwanted combustible materials



that have accumulated in garages and basements over the winter months. Good housekeeping is a worthwhile fire prevention tool to limit the spread of fire should the unthinkable occur.

As grass and vegetation season begins, service your lawnmowers and power tools so they are in operable condition and not subject to causing fires. Remember that fueling equipment that has a hot motor with gasoline easily can cause a fire or explosion if you are not careful.



Maley Clark, a 3rd grader from Maplewood School, was one of 13 winners in the State Fire Marshal's Annual Calendar Contest. Her poster entry for February on "Burn Safety" will be incorporated in the 2017-2018 School Calendar distributed to all elementary schools in the State in September.





## **Information from Public Works 692-4266**

### **Bagged Leaves and Brush Pickup**

Brush will be picked up the third week in May. You must call 692-4266 by Friday, May 12th to be added to the pickup list. Please have your brush curbside no later than 7:00am on Monday, May 15th. 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 22nd. Leaves and grass clippings must be in brown paper leaf bags, sold at many local stores.

### **Street Sweeping**

Highway crews have started sweeping City streets focusing on main corridors in the City. Downtown sweeping operations will occur from Monday, May 1 to Friday, May 5. Parking restrictions in the downtown area from 5:00 am-1:00 pm will be imposed during this week in order to accommodate sweeping operations. Please avoid creating piles of sand in the street, as it is difficult for the sweeper to pick them up. Sweeping operations are necessary to control debris, clear catch basins and prepare City streets for repainting lane markings and crosswalks.

### **Malley Farm Facility is Open**

Malley Farm opened for the season on April 11th. Malley Farm is located off on Centre Rd which is off of Main Street. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday: 8:00am - 2:30pm. Saturday & Sunday: 8:00am - 6:00pm.

**Household Hazardous Waste Collection  
May 6, 2017  
8:30 AM to 12:30 PM  
Waste Management - Turnkey Landfill**

### **What are Household Hazardous Waste Products?**

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW), also called retail hazardous waste or home generated special materials is a product that when it's used or disposed of poses a threat to your health or the environment. To help you identify these hazardous products, federal law requires them to be labeled with warnings about their use, storage, and disposal. The words "Danger" (most toxic), "Warning", "Poison" and "Caution" (least toxic) are used to help identify the various degrees of toxicity. These words and the properties that make the product hazardous are listed to help you use these products safely.

### **What To Do With a Potential Hazardous Product**

- \* Identify which items are hazardous household wastes
- \* Set aside those products that you will use up before you move
- \* Ask someone if they want any of the remaining products.
- \* Check with your city or town to see when the next household hazardous waste collection day will be held
- \* DO NOT dispose of any chemicals, petroleum products, or other hazardous wastes down the drain or on the ground. IT IS AGAINST THE LAW.

[Read more about what you can bring...](#)

### **Road Work on Indigo Hill Road to Commence May 1**

The City is gearing up to start the other half of the construction/rebuilding, of Indigo Hill Road from Green Street to Davis Street. The project will involve the removal and replacement of pavement, curbing, new sidewalk and pedestrian crossing, and a water line replacement. The project will require road closures during the day from 7am-5pm. While local and emergency traffic will be accommodated during the construction period, picking up recycling and trash bags will be challenging during these hours, we asked that residents in the affected areas have their recyclables and trash bags out by 6:00 AM.

### **Water Main Flushing Work**

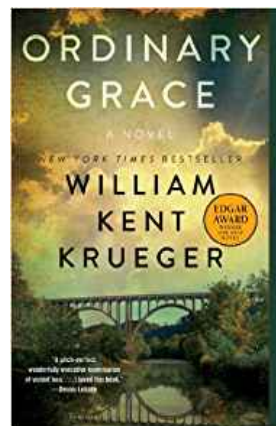
The Public Works Water Distribution Division will be conducting night time flushing of water mains starting on Monday, May 15 to Thursday May 25. Flushing operations will be from 7:00pm-5:00am. Additional flushing will continue during regular business hours until all service areas of the City are completed.

This is an annual maintenance program that assists in maintaining good water quality. If possible, please refrain from using water when crews are observed in your area as this flushing may cause a temporary discoloration of your water supply. If you do experience discoloration, run a cold water tap for a short time to clear your water.

An estimated schedule including dates and areas to be flushed can be found on the homepage of the City of Somersworth website [www.somersworth.com](http://www.somersworth.com).

## Somersworth Library News

**What is Somersworth Reading in May (this book club will meet on Wednesday, May 31st)**



### **"Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger**

Krueger, known primarily for his Cork O'Connor mystery series, ventures into new territory with this coming-of-age stand-alone that has a hint of mystery. In 1961, Frank Drum is a typical 13-year-old who likes baseball and getting into trouble. He has a younger brother, a minister father, a sister bound for Juilliard, and an artistically inclined mother. Narrating the story 40 years later, Frank recalls the five deaths that occurred that summer that scarred many, especially his family.

### **Story Times for May**

The Children's Room will hold the weekly story time programs on Tuesday at 6:00pm, Wednesday at 11:15am, and Friday at 10:00am throughout the month of May. The story hour includes several stories and an easy craft based on the weekly themes of Counting, Mother's Day, Birds, Scents, Goats and Vegetable. Each story hour lasts about 45 minutes. No registration is required.



### **Don't Forget "Spring Book Sale"**

The Friends of the Somersworth Public Library annual Spring Book Sale will continue through May 13th during regular library hours. There are still hardcover, soft cover and paperback books as well as DVDs and audio books. Beginning May 9th, take all you want and make a donation to the Friends. All proceeds will benefit the Somersworth Public Library.

### **Library Saturday Hours Change on June 4th**

Beginning June 3rd, the library's hours on Saturday only will change to 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Please note the early closing time of one o'clock for Saturday on your calendars. The library's regular Saturday hours will

resume in September.

### **Hours at the Library**

Tues - Thurs 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Fri - Sat 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

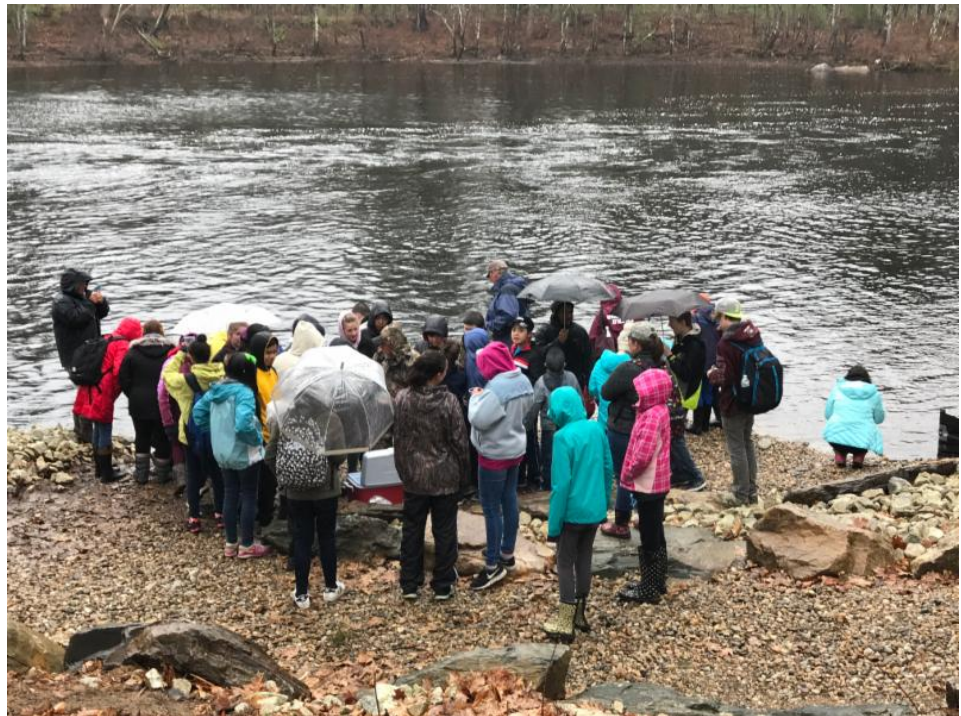
Closed Sun, Mon and Holidays.

**If you have any questions, call the Library at 692-4587 or visit our website.**

**<http://www.somersworth.com/departments-services/library/>**

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## **Somersworth Farm to School Projects**



Chris Asbell and the 7th grade teachers from Somersworth Middle School had a successful event at Mast Point Dam last week. Although steady rain and overcast, Chris was able to get some vegetation plantings in, testing water quality and released about 300 baby trout in the Salmon Falls River. He had a few folks on hand from Trout Unlimited who helped demonstrate the art of fly fishing to the 7th graders and assisted with the trout release.

- Somersworth Middle School continues to work toward a school wide, and eventually district-wide, composting that 6th grade math teacher John Dinger has been researching.
- Equipment for the tapping of 40 maple trees on the High



School/Middle School property has been provided through Maureen Jackman's SYC/Farm to School Funds, so fresh maple syrup will be closer than ever before!

- We also saw the start-up of the Idlehurst Gardens. All of grades 3-5 teachers and students planted cold season vegetable seeds, and have cared for the plants as they grow with the help of the K-2nd graders. By the end of the school year, the students hope to taste the fruits of their labor!
- Idlehurst thanks the Somersworth Home Depot and Lawn and Garden Dept. Manager Jay Sterry and his crew for constructing and donating 6 new raised beds, delivering them, and filling them with soil. SYC and STEAM after school clubs were a great help in getting the soil spread out across all of the gardens. Thanks also go out to the Somersworth DPW for donating, delivering and spreading wood chips around the beds to control weeds, and to Wentworth Greenhouses and Strawberry Banke for seed donations.

### *A Message from the Sustainability Committee*

The Sustainability Committee has vacant seats for a Somersworth student and for a member of the business community? If you would like to be on the Sustainability Committee please email Scott at

[Scott.Orzechowski@comcast.net](mailto:Scott.Orzechowski@comcast.net)



Please remember there are retail stores that will accept many household items for recycling:

Best Buy recycles a wide variety of household e-waste. See the following link for details:

Electronics and Appliances Recycling at Best Buy

<http://www.bestbuy.com/site/clp/recycling/pcmcat149900050025.c?id=pcmcat149900050025>

The Home Depot accepts compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs)

Lowe's stores have permanent recycling centers, located at the store entrance for customers to recycle rechargeable batteries, cell phones, compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) and plastic shopping bags.

Most supermarkets have receptacles for used plastic shopping bags.

## EVENTS AROUND THE CITY MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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### Spring Craft Fair - April 29th

The Somersworth Festival Association will be hosting a Spring Craft Fair on April 29th from 9am to 3pm at Somersworth High School. The Spring Craft Fair features over 100 of the best crafters in New England.

There is plenty of free parking and come shopping where you will be able to shop from our talented crafters to your heart's content. Delicious food will be served by Festival Association volunteers offering both breakfast and lunch at reasonable prices. Come and spend the day with us and do all of your Spring decorating, Mother's Day and birthday shopping. For more information call 692-5869 or go to our website @ [nhfestivals.org](http://nhfestivals.org) or you can email us at [sfachild.festival@gmail.net](mailto:sfachild.festival@gmail.net)

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### **TRI-CITY POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND DRUG PREVENTION COALITIONS TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS APRIL 29th AT ROCHESTER, SOMERSWORTH, AND DOVER POLICE DEPARTMENTS.**

On April 29th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bridging the Gaps of Rochester, Somersworth Prevention Coalition, and Dover Coalition for Youth, in partnership with their respective Police Departments and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will be hosting National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. This will give the public an opportunity to substance misuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription medications.

This initiative addresses a vital public health and safety issue. "Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet," said Bridging the Gaps Coordinator, Molly Martuscello, "Medicines that sit in home cabinets are highly susceptible to misuse, and abuse. Don't let your home be a place of temptation."

Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines-flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash-both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Bring your pills for disposal to the Rochester Police Department at 23 Wakefield St., Somersworth Police Department at 12 Lilac Ln, or the Dover Police Department at 46 Chestnut St.

**This Service is Free and Anonymous, No Questions Asked.**



***10th Annual Spiritup  
Somersworth Clean-up Day  
Hosted by Somersworth Youth Connection  
Saturday, May 6th***

**7:00am - 7:30am**

Registration at Middle School for all groups, families. Pick up gloves, trash bags, rakes and head to designated locations throughout the Community.

**12:00pm - 2:30pm**

Meet back at the Middle School for Block Party. Free luncheon for all volunteers. Raffles, entertainment, demos & displays. Bike Safety course and Touch a Truck.

For more information or to sign up your family or organization please contact Maureen Jackman at 692-2126 or email her at [mjackman@sau56.org](mailto:mjackman@sau56.org)



**Cultural Commission Presents  
Ethnic Food Sampling Event  
Wednesday, May 10**

The Somersworth Cultural Commission is proud to announce their Ethnic Food Sampling Event. This will take place on Wednesday, May 10 at Mulligan's Grill in the Somersworth High School Career Technical Center from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Our City is home to various ethnic populations who's culinary skills will be explored and enjoyed at this event. Reserve now to enjoy Irish, French, Indonesian, Asian, Greek, English and other ethnic selections.

Tickets are available at the Greater Somersworth Chamber of Commerce. Cost is only \$10.00 per ticket.

Registration/contact information [www.somersworthchamber.com/events](http://www.somersworthchamber.com/events)  
or call the Somersworth Chamber at 692-7175.





## **HILLTOP HUSTLE**

### **5K ROAD RACE**

4TH Annual Hilltop Hustle  
5k Road Race and  
Fitness Walk!  
June 17th, 2017  
8:30am Race Start  
18 Cemetery Road,  
Somersworth

2017 Registration Fee: \$20 - Adults / \$5 - 17 Yrs & under.

Day of registration will open at 7:30am.  
This is a rain or shine event!

Go to this website: [www.hilltop5k.org](http://www.hilltop5k.org) and register on line or print out the registration sheet.



*Food Truck Festivals of America is heading to  
Downtown Somersworth for its Seacoast Food Truck  
&  
Craft Beer Festival  
Sunday, June 18 from 12:00 - 5:00 p.m.*

Some of New England's most popular food trucks, dishing out fan favorites, and dozens of regional and national craft breweries, This Festival

will be bringing the ultimate food truck experience to NH.

\$5 gets you into the Festival where you can let your taste-buds try all the delicious eats, this price is online exclusive at [www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com](http://www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com), so BUY TODAY!

If you wish to purchase a ticket On-Site the cost will be \$10.  
The Somersworth Chamber of Commerce is excited to partner with the Food Truck Festivals of America to make this event possible!

For more info and details, including what trucks are participating and beers available, visit their website at [www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com](http://www.foodtruckfestivalsofamerica.com)



Left to right: Don Houde, Matt Lagarde, Christopher Gorman, Julie Reynolds.

Photo Courtesy of Jenne Holmes, Somersworth Now

## *A Blue Ribbon Affair*

Friday May 12 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Spring Hill

## **South Berwick, ME**

This Annual Flagship Event recognizes awardees throughout our 5-town area. Here are the winning recipients who were chosen for their outstanding achievements, dedication and service with our Community.

### **Business of the Year**

Cross Insurance - Christopher Gorman, Branch Manager

### **Citizen of the Year**

Don Houde - A man dedicated to his Family, Friends and Community

### **Educator of the Year**

Matt Largarde - Band/Chorus, Somerworth Middle School

### **Non-profit of the Year**

Cornerstone VNA - Julie Reynolds, CEO

Come show your support for these honorees. A night of celebration, good food, and few surprises!!

[www.somersworthchamber.com](http://www.somersworthchamber.com)



**Strafford County Master Gardeners Plant Sale**  
**Sunday, May 21 from 9:00am - 1:00pm**  
**Durham Town Hall**  
**8 Newmarket Road (Rte. 108)**  
**Rain or Shine**

Sponsored by Strafford County Master Gardeners to raise funds to benefit educational gardening projects in Strafford County.

Perennials, annuals, small trees and unique plants (most locally dug by Master Gardeners).

"Ask a Master Gardener" table

Soil testing information

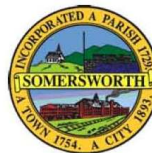
Find out how to become a Master Gardener



City Hall will be closed on Monday, May 29 for Memorial Day

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

***"We Believe in Somersworth"***



***Proud Past, Bright Future***