

CHESTERFIELD TOWN HAPPENINGS OCTOBER 2024

Board of Selectmen Notes

October 2024

SPOFFORD LAKE DRAWDOWN STARTING OCTOBER 15TH

The drawdown for Spofford Lake will begin on October 15th as usual this year but it will be a **very aggressive drawdown** due to the planned boat ramp repair work being done this fall.

Please remove your boats from the lake by October 15th.

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ANIMAL PROTECTION SURVEY REQUESTED Are Your Animals Part of Your Emergency Plan?

What would you do if we had an ice storm, power outage, forest fire or another event where you needed to evacuate to another place on a moment's notice.

Whether your family includes household pets or even livestock, your animals rely on you. Your Office of Emergency Management (OEM) team can help you to work out the details, make a plan, and connect you with other resources.

Let's make our plans NOW, not at the last minute!

In Chesterfield, we have already deployed Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) where residents have come in for power, food and some comfort, but pets were not allowed. So, for how long would the pets be okay if left alone? In helping to protect your pets, we are also protecting YOU.

We need to know your needs to include in our general planning!

For our planning here in Chesterfield, it is important for the OEM team to know who in town has pets or even larger animals, as well as what type and roughly how many. This is critical information for our overall planning so we can be prepared to accommodate those who participate in this survey.

Please reach out to us so we can send a Survey to you!

Please contact Ralph Petti, Director – OEM and he will send a survey to you. Contact him at ralphpetti1@gmail.com or call during business hours at 908.310.6381. Thanks for taking this step to help Chesterfield residents!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The town and school are looking for volunteers for the following boards:

Planning Board - one full member and also alternates - these are appointed positions

Zoning Board - alternates - these are appointed positions
Contact townadmin@nhchesterfield.com for more information on Planning and Zoning positions.

School Board - one board member to fill in from October through the town election in March and also candidates to run for school board in March 2025 (there will be 3 positions open at that time).
Contact ecordell@sau29.org for more information on the School Board positions.

Library Trustee Alternates - Alternates serve for one year terms.
Contact frontdesk@chesterfieldlibrary.org for more information.

HOUSING MEETING FOR THE CHESTERFIELD COMMUNITY

There will be a community meeting on Wednesday, October 9th, 6:30 pm at the Town Hall (522 Route 63) to hear about the housing issues that face Chesterfield and its future.

Come and listen to experts in the housing field and participate in conversations with your neighbors.

Pizza and drinks will be served!

"Housing Camps" will continue every two weeks following this meeting on these dates - October 23rd, November 6th, November 20th and December 4th. All these meetings are also on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall.

TOWN OFFICE - HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2024

The Town Offices will be closed on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Monday, October 14, 2024 – Columbus Day

Monday, November 11, 2024 – Veterans Day

Thursday, November 28, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

Please note that the Transfer Station dates are different and listed below



Board and Commission Meetings

(Note: all meetings and updates to meetings can be found on the Town Website www.chesterfield.nh.gov)

Board of Selectmen

Wednesdays, October 2, 16 & 30 6:00 pm Town Office/Zoom
(Every other Wednesday)

Economic Development Committee

Thursday, October 10 & 24 6:00 pm Town Office
(2nd and 4th Thursdays)

Planning Board

Mondays, October 7 & 21 7:00 pm Town Office/Zoom
(1st and 3rd Mondays)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Thursday, October 17 6:30 pm Town Office/Zoom
(3rd Thursday - hearings begin no earlier than 6:45 pm)

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Tuesdays, October 1 & 29 6:30 pm Center Fire Station
(3rd Monday - exceptions this month)

Spofford Fire & Rescue Commissioners

Thursday, October 17 6:00 pm Spofford Fire Station
(3rd Thursday)

Cemetery Commission

Wednesday, October 9 6:30 pm Historical Soc. Bldg.

Budget Committee

Tuesday, October 22 7:00 pm OEM Room/Town Office

Library Board of Trustees

Tuesday, October 15 7:00 pm Chesterfield Library
(3rd Tuesday)

Conservation Commission

Monday, October 28 7:30 pm Town Office
(4th Monday)

Chesterfield Revitalization Group

Monday, October 14 5:00 pm Town Office
(2nd Monday)

Chesterfield Historical Society

Tuesday, October 22 7:00 pm Town Office

Watershed Committee

Thursday, October 17 9:30 am Town Office

Housing Working Group
Wednesdays, October 9 & 23 6:30 pm Town Hall - refreshments provided



The Chesterfield Police Department is Hiring!

If you are looking for an exciting and rewarding career, come work for the Chesterfield Police Department! We offer competitive benefits, personally assigned cruisers, and a sign on bonus.

We are looking for one full time patrol officer and will be accepting applications and resumes to fill this vacancy. Part-time positions are also available. Come join our team today! For more information, contact Chief Lance A. Rouse at lrouse@pd.chesterfield.nh.gov or by phone (603) 363-4233.

MORE THAN A JOB - A CALLING!

CHESTERFIELD POLICE NOW
HIRING

\$28.67hr Starting Pay (Uncertified)

Come work for the Chesterfield Police Department,
a Town you can call home!

- Salary Range: \$59,633-\$76,814
- \$10,000 Sign on Bonus (Certified) \$5,000 (Uncertified)
- Personally Assigned Police Cruiser
- Outer Carrier Vests
- Detail Rate: \$54.65
- 11 Paid Holidays
- Health and Dental Plans
- NHRS
- Vacation, Sick and PTO
- Town Beach Pass



CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT - For more information contact:
Lieutenant Lance Rouse 603-363-4233/lrouse@pd.chesterfield.nh.gov



HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT NEWS

Fall and leaf season is here! When you are tending to the fallen leaves on your property, please avoid blowing or raking your leaves into the ditches and culverts alongside the road. Leaves and other debris prevent the flow of water in these areas. Please also remember that maintenance of driveway culverts are the responsibility of the property owner.

Gravel road repairs will be starting on Old Chesterfield Road during October.

CEMETERY COMMISSION NEWS

The Chesterfield Cemetery Commission would like to remind visitors to the cemeteries that starting October 1st the gates will open at 9 A.M. and close at 6 P.M. The gates close for the winter on November 1st.

As families are responsible for the care of their loved ones' gravesites, we request that all annual plantings are removed by November 1st. Any plantings that are done on your family's lot must be kept within your corner markers. We would also like to make you aware that any further planting of bushes and trees

is not permitted in the cemeteries. As time goes on we find that families are not taking care of permanent plants. The plantings are covering the monuments creating the environment where mold, algae, mildew and lichens grow. The cemetery crew is not responsible for the maintenance on the bushes. We thank you for your cooperation

TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - 2024

The Transfer Station will be CLOSED on the following dates:

2024 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 – Columbus Day

Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Veterans Day

Friday, November 29, 2024 – Thanksgiving Day

Wednesday, December 25, 2024 – Christmas Day

Please note that the Town Office dates are different and listed above

TOWN CLERK NEWS

The Town Clerk's office has changed its policy on obtaining marriage licenses. Although we do not mandate appointments, we do reserve the right to ask you to come back if you come without an appointment and we are unable to serve you in a timely manner.

You can call our office to schedule an appointment at: 603-363-8071 x11.

The Town Clerk will be closed for Election Day on Tuesday, November 5th and will open late at 11:00 am on the following day - Wednesday, November 6th.



Chesterfield Public Library October 2024 Events

Children/Youth

Pumpkin Painting, Saturday, October 5, 10:00 – 11:30 am Visit the Library to paint your own pumpkin while supplies last! Kids of all ages are welcome. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for sponsoring this event.

Storytime, Mondays at 11:00 am Join us for stories, songs/rhymes, and a craft! We will not meet on October 14 as the library will be closed for the holiday.

Saturday Songs and Stories, Saturday, October 12 at 11:00 am Children 0-5 and their caregivers are invited to join music teacher Cathy Harvey at the library for simple songs, movement, and stories. Explore small percussion instruments and move to music! This program meets one Saturday a month. October's theme is Pumpkins and Scarecrows!

Pizza Book Club, Thursday, October 24 at 3:00 pm Join us for a book discussion, related activity, and of course: pizza! This month we are reading the graphic novel Hookey by Miriam Bonastre Tur. This program is open to all kids in grades 3-8. Please sign up online or call/visit the library. You can pick up a copy of each month's book at the front desk.

Teen Library Club, Thursday, October 24 at 4:00 pm This month's activity will be watching a spooky movie! Chow down on pizza and discuss ideas for the library. For teens in grade 7+. Registration is required. Please sign up online or call/visit the library.

Adult

Makers Meeting, Tuesday, October 1 at 11:00 am Come talk to other creators in our community. Bring your lunch!

Spice Club, Monday, October 7 at 6:00 pm This month we will feature Cloves and there will be something for you to taste. Join our group to receive a sample and learn new recipes.

Library Book Club, Tuesday, October 8 at 5:30 pm The Library's adult book club will discuss the novel Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone by Benjamin Stevenson. Stop by the library to sign up and pick up a copy of the book.

Knit Chix, Tuesday, October 1 & 15 at 1:00 pm The Knit Chix meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month to craft gear for people in the Monadnock region. Crocheters welcome!

Quilting Guild, Monday, October 21 at 1:00 pm Our quilting group meets once a month to work on projects and discuss their work. All levels are welcome! Join us to learn from the best.

Tech Drop-In, Wednesdays at 4:00 pm Do you have technology questions or need help with using the internet and online resources such as Libby? Stop by the library during our drop-in hour and let us assist you.

Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library Meeting, Tuesday, October 1 at 5:30 pm Join the Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library to help work on special projects. The Friends of the Chesterfield Public Library are instrumental in providing support to the library.

Inquire at the Front Desk for more information on any event. Reach us by phone at (603) 363-4621 or email FrontDesk@ChesterfieldLibrary.org

Chesterfield Conservation Commission News

The Chesterfield Conservation Commission is pleased to present:

Beavers and Wetlands Pisgah Park Woods Walk

With Matt Tarr and Kim Nilsen



October 12, 9:00 AM
Horseshoe Road Trailhead, Pisgah State Park

Beavers are one of the most fascinating animals within the Chesterfield landscape. Take a walk with Matt Tarr of UNH Cooperative Extension and Kim Nilsen of Pisgah Park and learn how beavers create and shape wetlands in the protected Broad Brook Watershed of Pisgah Park, and how to manage the inevitable conflicts with people.

Questions? Contact us at chesterfield.conservation@gmail.com

All are welcome at this free event. Wear suitable clothing and footwear for a 2-3 mile hike. This is part of a continuing series of talks, field walks, and workshops sponsored by the Conservation Commission focused on ecological connections and watershed health.



Parks & Recreation News

Happy Fall,

Beach season has come to an end. Wares Grove Beach will keep the gates open through October 10th weather permitting. Summer 2024 was a great summer and our beaches were very busy. Thanks to all our awesome staff for making this summer so much fun,

Soccer is underway with 105 kids playing. We have 9 teams and looking forward to the Putney Tournament for the 4-6 grades the weekend of October 12. This will be held at The Putney School in Vermont.

We have an informational meeting about our new Parks and Rec Building on Tuesday, October 1st at 6:00 PM at the Town Hall. Come and listen to the plans we have for the future building for our kids and community members. We will be looking for support from as many people in the community as we can get.

Yoga at Town Hall at 10:00 AM on Tuesday morning. We are working on a few other classes as well, just trying to get the dates and instructors' availability.

Darlene Smith
Parks and Rec Director

OEM/Office of Emergency Management: October 2024 Report

As always, our thanks to our Selectmen, Town Admin & volunteer members of the OEM team for their support. Here is a sampling of OEM activities underway in Chesterfield:

1. Animal Safety for Evacuation with Families – When disaster strikes (fires, floods, power outages, etc.) residents will want to relocate with their pets and other animals. Over the past few months, Cheryl, Karen, John & Ralph have acquired the following items to care for pets – Cat & Dog Food, Cages, Leases, Bowls, etc. It is important for residents to relocate during a disaster with their pets!!
2. Route 9 Accidents – Please make sure you drive safely on Rt. 9 and other roads in our community. We had several accidents and the police are to be thanked for their efforts. Please tell your out-of-town visitors of the need to do so. Thanks!
3. Grants - We are assessing whether our OEM priorities might be eligible. We may to hear about available Grants from other communities – soon to be underway.
4. Emergency Supplies – to be added to our 500 MREs, cots, blankets, water, PPE.
5. Mailing lists – We need to find ways to educate residents about OEM support.
6. Special assistance – analyzing needs for residents to relocate during disasters.
7. Mutual Aid - Check in w/Spofford and West Chesterfield Firehouses for support.
8. Training – Ralph & John are registered for more ICS/Incident Command Center training as sponsored by the Massachusetts Emergency Mgmt Agency (MEMA).
9. EOC updates – Our Emergency Operations Center in the new Town Hall is ready to go, and now we have added one in the old Town Hall. In doing so, we have hooked up the power to take on our generator, for which we are buying a trailer.
10. Maine/Vermont partnering – Ralph met with the Maine Emergency Mgmt Agency for new ideas. We also received names of their key contacts in NH for our information. We are also working with Vermont on the animal training tasks.

Submitted by Ralph Petti, Director, OEM • John Keppler, Deputy Director, OEM Cell: 908.310.6381
ralphpetti1@gmail.com Cell: 802.579.7940 jkep@myfairpoint.net

CHESTERFIELD SCHOOL NEWS

The Chesterfield School Board has a vacancy to be filled for the period of November 2024-March 2025. This is a great opportunity if you have been considering running, but want a taste first!

Please share your letter of interest (and/or any questions you may have) by October 9 via email to the Board Chair @ ecordell@sau29.org.

Chesterfield School Events Calendar -

Open House - Wednesday, October 9, 5:30-6:00 for K-4 and 6:00-6:30 for Grades 5-8

Trunk or Treat (sponsored by Friends of Chesterfield School) - Sunday, October 27 - 1 pm

Chesterfield School Board Meeting - Monday, October 14, 5:00 pm

Friends of Chesterfield School monthly meeting - Monday, October 21

Community Events

CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chesterfield Historical Society Annual Meeting

Sun. Oct. 20th

12:30PM

The Potluck has Returned!

Chesterfield Town Hall

Plus a Free Program

The program will feature a recorded interview with Audrey Ericson & Skip White of Chesterfield Memories. Who better knows the truth behind a lot of myths than these two longtime residents.

(This is part of CHS new Chesterfield Memories Archive Program.)

Community contributions to the Potluck are welcomed but not required.

Please come, eat, and enjoy a walk down memory lane.

SENIOR LUNCHEON

*Wednesday, October 9 - 12:30 pm
At the Chesterfield Town Hall*

*Menu - Meatloaf & Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Carrot Salad, Vegetable, Rolls & Apple Crisp
Please call (603) 363-9319 to make a reservation
by 5 pm on Monday, October 7th*

FRIENDS OF CHESTERFIELD SCHOOL

Will be holding their annual Trunk or Treat event on Sunday, October 27th at 1 pm on the front field at Chesterfield School

LIONS CLUB NEWS

The Lions Club will be picking up trash on the side of Route 63 south of Route 9 on October 12th (Saturday), with a rain date of Sunday (October 13th).
If any residents would like to participate, please email Doreen at eleganthatchery@sbcglobal.net.

There is a safety list each participant must read and sign, and safety gear will be provided.

It is only about 1 1/2 hours of commitment.

Doreen will respond to inquiries with more details.

If you would like to add to the Community Happenings next month, please see the guidelines below!

Anyone can post an event so long as it is of broad public interest, is open to all Chesterfield residents and is not meant solely to enrich the individual or organization. The following criteria also apply:

No tag sales;

No "help wanted" or "for sale" ads;

No politics or religion (Churches may list suppers or bazaars so long as they are open to the general public and have no overt religious function;)

No business advertising (Businesses may list events of community interest, i.e. grand openings, blood drives, food drives, but not any event that requires a purchase or is for the financial gain of the business itself.)

All submissions must include the name, address and phone number of the person submitting the item.

Each entry is limited to a maximum of 25 words.

The coordinator and Town reserve the right to reject any submission. Items may be rejected because of incomplete information, lack of clarity, or for going beyond the word limit. Neither the coordinator nor the Town will contact the submitter for corrections. Deadline for submissions: the 22nd of the month preceding. Email to jwscott924@gmail.com with the subject line "Happenings".



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