



Laconia Links

February 17, 2012 - Edition #19

Stone Arch at Weirs Community Park

News From the Laconia Water Department

METER MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOUR OLD WATER METER!



Meters are changed periodically to comply with the Public Utilities Commission's Rules and Regulations and in accordance with the Laconia Water Works' Tariff. The Water Department has an annual program that replaces meters before problems occur and **there is no cost to the property owner!**

The Water Department will contact those property owners who are within the time frame for their water meters to be changed out. This department is currently more than 75% completed with this year's changeover, but we are now down to a few customers that we have not been able to reach to schedule an appointment.

If by now you have not received either a phone call or a letter from the Water Department requesting for you to set up an appointment to change your water meter, it just means that your meter is not scheduled for maintenance as of this year.

On the other hand, if we have tried to contact you and we still have not gained access to your property to change your water meter, **regrettably we will be forced to terminate the water service until access is provided to us.**

For your convenience, Saturday morning appointments are available and thank you for your cooperation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at (603) 524-0901.

Welcome to Laconia Links a weekly e-mail newsletter update devoted to keeping you informed of City of Laconia department news, City projects, useful links, activities and events!

Look for a new edition of the newsletter each Friday. If you have already signed up to be on our distribution list to receive your newsletter by e-mail, thank you for your interest! If you would like to be added to our e-mail list (or to unsubscribe), please click [here](#).

As always, we welcome your ideas and comments as to what you would like to see included in future issues. Just give us a call in the City Manager's office at 527-1270, or contact us by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

We look forward to keeping you up to date on our beautiful City!

Please click [here](#) for the Water Department website!

Laconia Public Library Goss Reading Room

Mark your calendars! On Tuesday, February 21 & 28, there will be after-school storytime at Goss Reading Room at 3:30 pm. Goss Reading Room is located at 188 Elm St. in Lakeport... the beautiful little brick building on the hill!



Have you ever wondered about the history of the Goss Reading Room? The Goss Reading Room was established in 1907 with funds bestowed by Dr. Ossian W. Goss. After the Great Lakeport Fire of 1903 destroyed 108 homes including his home at 188 Elm Street in Lakeport, Dr. Goss intended to rebuild his home but in the event that his death preceded his plans, he signed his will in September 1903 proposing to replace the reading rooms his Lakeport community no longer had access to with a new building for reading rooms and bestowed the funds to maintain it. Soon after, Dr. Goss died in 1903.

The Goss Reading Rooms opened on April 8, 1907; this little gem was listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings in 1986. Over the years, the Goss has served many generations in the Lakeport community. Loyal fans celebrated the 100th Anniversary with a lawn party in 2007.

Today it is a branch of the Laconia Public Library with their trustees managing Dr. Goss' funds. In 2010, [Friends of the Goss Reading Room](#) was organized with a goal to promote and increase its users and use and to offer support in all ways possible.

The Goss Reading Room, 188 Elm Street, Lakeport, NH (603) 524-3808 is located at the corner of Franklin and Elm Streets in Lakeport and is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12 - 5 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings...

Meeting
in
Progress

Keeping the public updated and aware of what's going on in our community and receiving residents' feedback is an important goal of the City Council.

Check each week's issue of *Laconia Links* for a schedule of the upcoming week's meetings. As agendas become available, they will be posted to the City's website. You can also contact any of the City's departments for more information on a meeting or to obtain a printed copy of the agenda.

Meetings are open to the public....you are invited and encouraged to attend and provide input.

Become involved in your City and make a difference!

Follow this [link](#) to the "Calendar" page of the City of Laconia's website. Click on a specific meeting for more information. Please check the "Calendar" page often for updated info and changes.

Click [here](#) for
City's website

Board of Assessing

February 21, 2012, 5:30 pm
City Hall, Room 200B

Parks & Rec. Commission

February 21, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Laconia Community Center
[Agenda](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

February 21, 2012, 7:00 pm
City Hall, Room 200A
[Agenda](#)

Technical Review Committee II

February 22, 2012, 9:30 am
City Hall, Room 200A
[Agenda](#)

LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT



Click [here](#) to access the
Parks & Recreation website



CITY DANCE

Come join us for an exciting spring semester of classes and workshops in Dance and the Performing Arts at the CITY DANCE Program at the Laconia Community Center! New students, families and beginners welcome!

[ARTSFEST](#) is committed to offer professional education programs for NH communities for the lowest possible cost to allow children and adults of all ages and abilities to experience Dance and the Performing Arts in a non-competitive environment. Our programs foster confidence and creativity, personal and professional growth, fitness, health and wellness, offer custom home schooling and college prep, and provide excellence and innovation in Arts education.

Mondays:

- 3:30 Beginner Ballet/Tap/Theatre Dance
- 4:00 Intro to Violin and Piano - Ages 6-Adult
- 4:00 Intro to Circus and Performing Arts for Kids
- 4:00 Pop Chorus
- 4:30 Boys' Hip Hop
- 4:45 African Drumming for ages 5-10
- 5:15 Intermediate Hip Hop
- 5:15 African Drumming and World Rhythms ages 10-Adult
- 6:00 Lyrical Jazz Dance - Teen/Adult
- 6:45 Choreography and Dance Film 101
- 6:45 AbunDANCE: a sit down workshop on creating personal and financial abundance



Wednesdays:

- 7:15 Hoop Dance - Express yourself and get fit quick with Hula Hoops
- 8:00 ARTSFEST Aerial Dance Sky Gym Workshop - Intro to Aerial Silks (Aerial Silk class is \$65/month, Start date TBA, Please register.)

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

New students, beginners and families welcome!

Tuition is \$34/month

\$24/month for 2nd class or additional members of family

\$65/month for ARTSFEST Aerial Silk Workshop

Questions? or to Register Call 603-520-6868 or email

artsfestnh@yahoo.com

www.artsfest.us



*Erin Lovett Sherman instructor of ARTSFEST and
CITY DANCE showing an advanced pose
for the Aerial Dance Class.*



Laconia Fire Department

Link to
Fire Dept.
[here](#)

Don't Let the Bed Bugs Bite!

Bed Bugs are alive and well right here in Laconia, New Hampshire. Even though the thought of these unwanted house guests make your skin crawl, they don't transmit disease and there are steps you can take to minimize your chance of meeting them.



Bed bugs on a mattress

- Always take precautions when you travel.
- If you find a bed bug or suspect you have them in your apartment, call your landlord. The quicker you address the issue, the easier it is to ensure they never come back.
- Never move just because you have bed bugs...you'll just move the bed bugs somewhere else. It is important to work with your landlord and pest control professional.
- Use extreme caution buying used clothes. If you do buy used clothes, make sure you wash them in hot water and dry them before bringing them into your house.

- **NEVER** bring home furniture or mattresses from the street!

When hiring a Pest Control Company make sure they are experienced managing bed bugs. You can see if your company meets the national standard at www.bedbugcentral.com.

For more information contact Deputy Chief Shawn Riley at 524-6881.



Adult bedbugs are reddish brown in color, approx. 7 mm long

Updates from the Planning Office...

Planning Dept's
website —click [here!](#)

As part of the Council's strategic plan, the number one Goal was to improve the City's appearance, focusing especially on the City's "Gateways". These are the transportation corridors that lead into the City; they are the areas of the City that visitors see first as they enter. As part of this process, the Zoning and Code Department will be stepping up their enforcement of both the Zoning Ordinance and the Property Maintenance Ordinance.

Areas of the Ordinance that are the most often misunderstood include:

- Not more than 1 currently unregistered or uninspected vehicle shall be parked on any lot
- Recreational vehicles, travel trailers, campers or boats shall be stored in a carport, enclosed building, or rear yard area and shall not be located within 10 feet of the lot line
- Storage containers (including dumpsters) shall be obstructed from view, both from the street and adjacent properties and from water views by the provisions of a year-round screen
- All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage
- All exterior surfaces (of a structure) shall be maintained in good condition

If you do see us out and about completing our inspections, please come over and say "hi"! We are happy to explain what we are doing or how your property may not meet the City code. If you receive our courtesy letter, again please do not hesitate to call us at 527-1264. We are here to help you understand the Codes, and can help you find the resources to meet them. An open line of communication is the first step to compliance, and we are always happy to help!



Laconia Fire Department

Link to
Fire Dept.
[here](#)

Important Message
from the Laconia
Fire Department

HOME OXYGEN USE

Nationally, the use of home oxygen systems has increased over the past decade. As we respond to medical emergencies here in Laconia, we are seeing the same trend.

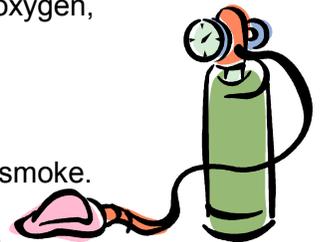
It is very important for people to practice fire safe behaviors when oxygen is in use. Oxygen itself does not burn, but a fire needs oxygen to start and to keep burning. When more oxygen is in the air, a fire will burn hotter and faster.

Smoking should NEVER be allowed in a home where oxygen is in use. In the past two weeks alone here in New England, there have been two fatalities and one very serious burn injury here in Laconia, as a result of smoking while on oxygen. Annually, there is an average of 185 home fires in the United States in which oxygen equipment is involved. These result in an average of 46 deaths and 60 injuries every year. Smoking is by far the leading cause of these fires, burns and deaths. Cooking and candle or incense use was also a common factor.

When oxygen is in use, the user and the surroundings become saturated with the oxygen. The air normally contains 21% oxygen. With medical oxygen equipment in use, the person's hair, clothing, and skin as well as the furnishings, linens, carpeting and any plastics in the area, can catch fire at lower temperatures AND burn hotter. The victims of these oxygen rich fires, if lucky enough to survive, will often have serious facial burns, respiratory burns and other thermal injuries to the head, neck, and chest.

If you, or a friend, neighbor or loved one is currently using home oxygen,
PLEASE consider the following **SAFETY TIPS**:

- NEVER smoke in a home where oxygen is used.
- Post "NO SMOKING" signs in and outside the home to remind guests not to smoke.
- Remember that there is a higher risk of both fires and burns with oxygen use.



- NEVER use an open flame, such as candles, matches, wood stoves, and any sparking items.
 - People who have difficulty escaping a fire, should have a phone nearby their bed or chair.
 - Make sure the home has smoke detectors or alarms and test them monthly.
- Have and practice a home escape plan with two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place.

Please don't hesitate to call the Laconia Fire Department at 524-6881 if you have any questions about your oxygen equipment, and, as always call 911 if you have a fire or medical emergency.



Laconia Police Department

“Boston’s Run to Remember”

CrimeReports.com

Members of the Laconia Police Department will be taking part in “Boston’s Run to Remember” half marathon (13.1 miles) on May 27th, 2012.

CrimeReports.com is a free service provided by the Laconia Police Department which can be accessed through the Department’s website.

The race honors Law Enforcement officers killed in the line of duty by celebrating their lives and giving back to the community and the families left behind. Approximately a dozen Laconia Police Officers have been training for the upcoming event.

Keep updated on City-wide crime trends and sign up for crime alerts in your neighborhood. Officers also utilize information from the site to forecast criminal activity allowing them to be more proactive.

[Link to Laconia PD here](#)

Take a minute and see what is happening in your neighborhood!

Department of Public Works



City of Laconia COMPOST BIN SALE

Click [here](#) for link to our Public Works Dept. website

ORDER FORM – MUST BE RETURNED BEFORE APRIL 2, 2012

ITEM	QUANTITY	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL
Earth Machine Compost Bin		\$52.00	

Make checks payable to the City of Laconia – return to Ann Saltmarsh, Laconia DPW, 27 Bisson Avenue, Laconia, NH 03246 (Phone #: 528-6379)

Earth Machine Composters are a \$100.00 value!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ (will call when received/2-4 weeks after 4-2-12)

Compost bin order forms are also available at the following locations: Department of Public Works, Laconia Library, SAU Office, Parks & Recreation Community Ctr., and in City Hall at the City Clerk’s Office, the City Manager’s Office and the Planning Department.



The City's new Recycling Drop Off Center located on Lindsay Court (across from Memorial Park Club House) is NOW OPEN!

Additional recycling drop-off sites are at the Laconia Transfer Station, behind the Lakeport Fire Station, at the Weirs Community Ctr. parking lot, and behind the old City Garage at 257 Messer St. The Lakeport, Weirs and Messer St. (and the new Lindsay Court) locations are well lighted and open 24 hrs. a day / 7 days a week.



Single Stream Recycling
NO SORTING!

For questions and additional information, please call Ann at DPW, 528-6379.

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....



Guitar Hero Vacation Elation

Check out the Library's Website...Click [here!](#)

Teens in grades 6-12 are invited to rock out Friday, February 24th @ 3:30 in Laconia Rotary Hall.



Bring your friends!

Reminder!



City Hall will be closed on Monday, Feb. 20, 2012 for President's Day

A complete list of 2012 City Hall closings can be accessed on our website by clicking [here](#).

We apologize for any inconvenience!

*We hope you have enjoyed this Edition of **Laconia Links***

We welcome your input, comments and suggestions!

Feel free to contact us at the City Manager's office, 527-1270, or by e-mail at info@city.laconia.nh.us

Have a great weekend!

Scott Myers, City Manager
City of Laconia
City's Website: www.city.laconia.nh.us



Department of Public Works



Pres. Washington



Pres. Lincoln

President's Day Monday, February 20th NOTICE TO RESIDENTS ON CURBSIDE COLLECTION ROUTES

There will be **NO DELAY** in curbside collection of trash on Monday February 20th – President's Day

Monday collections will be on their normal schedules.
Any questions, please call Ann @ 528-6379.