



Photo courtesy of Janet Brough

Gale Avenue Summer Sunset

Laconia Links

August 17, 2012 - Edition #45



As summer draws to a close, the need for donations to our local food pantries continues to rise while contributions decline. The quantity of food at the food pantries is alarmingly low, due in part to a 40% increase in demand coupled with a decrease in foods received from the Dept. of Agriculture's surplus food program.

The community's food pantries need your support now more than ever. Please consider helping our friends and neighbors in need by a donation of food and staple items or a financial contribution to the following groups, or to an organization of your choice:

Community Action Program
121 Belmont Road

Lakes Region Vineyard Church
175 Mechanic Street

United Baptist Church
35 Park Street

St. Vincent De Paul
1269 Union Ave.

Thank you for your help!

Welcome to Laconia Links a weekly email 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!



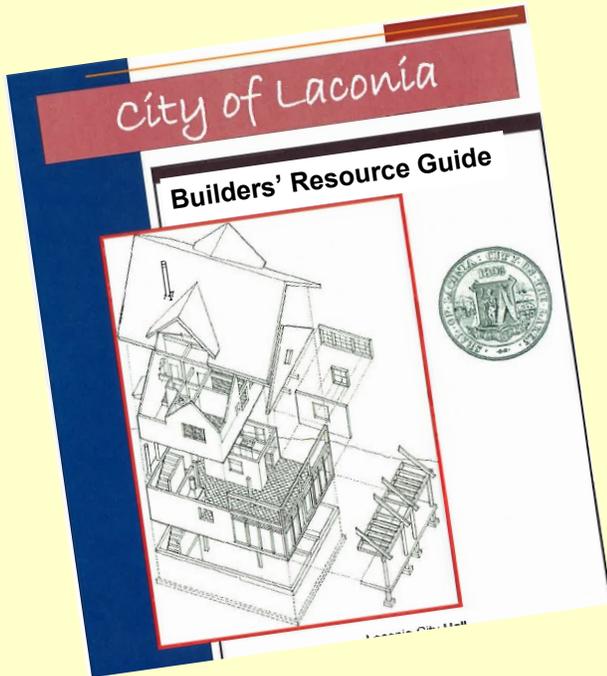
WOW Trail Annual Meeting

The WOW Trail Annual Meeting will be held August 22nd, at 4:00 pm, at LRGHealthcare, 80 Highland Street, Laconia, in conference rooms 3 & 4 (adjacent to the cafeteria). Please join us to ask questions, hear about Phase 2 plans and learn about the benefits that rail trails bring to the community. Light refreshments will be served.

The WOW Trail has been a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization since 2005. If you have questions or need more information about the meeting or the trail, please contact Diane Hanley at www.wowtrail.org; find us on Facebook, or call the Lakes Region Chamber of Commerce at (603) 524-5531. Maps of the trail are available on our website and also on www.trailink.com.

City Website Updates...

The 2012 Builders' Resource Guide is now complete and posted to the City's website!



Please click [here](#) to view the Guide.

Whether you are a current, returning or prospective property owner, this comprehensive handbook is designed to provide the basic information you will need to accomplish your building or business project.

The City of Laconia is one of the largest communities within the State and the largest within the Lakes Region. Our main purpose in conducting building plan/proposal reviews and inspections is to provide the safest community possible. Included in this is the protection of designers, contractors and you—the final building owner. In order to fulfill this pledge, several City departments are afforded oversight into each project.

City agencies may be involved at different stages of each project from initial concept review to final building acceptance. These offices may be contacted at any time you have questions or need clarification on a Code or other City requirements. Each City department plays an important role in many aspects of completing new buildings or developments and new business ventures within the City.

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.

Parks & Rec. Commission

August 20, 2012, 7:00 pm
Community Center

[Agenda](#)

Zoning Board of Adjustment

August 20, 2012, 7:00 pm
City Hall, Room 200A

[Agenda](#)

TRC II

August 22, 2012, 9:30 am
City Hall, Room 200A

[Agenda](#)

Water Commissioner

August 23, 2012, 8:00 am
117 Stark St., Water Treatment
Facility Conference Room
(re-scheduled from 8/16/12)

[Agenda](#)



Laconia Police Dept.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

[Link to Laconia
Police Dept.
Here](#)

September 11th – November 13th, 2012

**Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a police officer?
Would you like to find out more about your police department?
Why not consider attending the Laconia Police Dept.'s *Citizen Police Academy*?**

The Laconia Police Department will be hosting its 2012 Citizen Police Academy to afford its citizens the opportunity to experience our department in a fun and unique way. Through the Citizen Police Academy, citizens are exposed to many facets of law enforcement that have never been offered to citizens before. Topics of interest are taught by members of the department for the purpose of enlightening attendees to how their police department works. Many of the classes provide "hands-on" experiences that provide an element of excitement and participation. Subjects include operational information, physical interaction, demonstrations, ride-a-long and field trip experiences. The class culminates with a graduation ceremony.

What is the Citizen Police Academy?

The Citizen Police Academy will provide community members with an inside look at local law enforcement. The purpose of the Academy is to increase understanding between the citizens through education and interaction with members of the Laconia Police Department. The Academy gives citizens the opportunity to learn why we "can" and/or "cannot" do certain things. It is hoped that the instruction will increase police awareness to dispel suspicions and misconceptions, and to increase police/community rapport through this educational program.

How is the Academy Structured?

The class is made up of a cross-section of the Laconia Community. The Department will conduct one Academy per calendar year, usually in the fall. The Academy will meet once a week on Tuesdays from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Laconia Police Department unless otherwise noted. During the twelve week curriculum, students will be taught by police executives, veteran police officers, civilians and volunteers from the law enforcement community. The participants will have the opportunity to meet with the Chief of Police and staff members. Students are encouraged to participate, ask questions and express ideas and concerns to their instructors. Applicants will be asked to commit to full attendance of all scheduled classes.

Selection Process

Anyone over 18 yrs. of age who resides, works or attends school in the City of Laconia may apply to participate. Participants are selected on a first come, first serve basis. Classes are limited to no more than 15 people per class.

Due to the sensitive nature of some of the information taught, background investigations are conducted on all participants. No past Felony or Domestic Violence convictions or violent Misdemeanor convictions. No probationers or parolees.

The Academy is not an accredited course. It is for Informational Purposes Only. At no time will you act as a Law Enforcement Official. After completion of the course, a graduation ceremony is held with Command Staff participation. For more info contact: Lt. Rich Simmons at 524-5257 Ext 332 or Lt. Alfred Lessard at 524-5257 Ext 356.

Topics

During the Academy, students will be introduced to a variety of topics to include:

- Search and Seizure
- Use of Force
- Internal disciplinary process
- Domestic Violence
- Criminal & Traffic laws
- Criminal Investigations
- Weapons demonstrations
- Police K-9 Demonstration
- Numerous other law enforcement-related topics
- Tour of the County Jail
- Tour of the State 911 Communications Ctr.

News

From the Laconia Water Department

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

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Clean Water Act.

The Clean Water Act is one of the reasons why our lakes and rivers are as clean as they are today. Like many places around the United States, Laconia, along with the entire Lakes Region area, is heavily dependent on the integrity of our lakes not for just recreational activities and economy reasons but also for our drinking water supply.



(NH Bass Tournament on Winnisquam and Paugus Bay)

History

The **Clean Water Act** (CWA) "establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters," according to the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA). Its basis is the 1948 Federal Water Pollution Control Act, which was expanded in 1972 and became known as the "Clean Water Act" in 1977, after the passage of amendments.

In 1972 Congress felt that a change had to be made in order to reduce water pollution and gave this responsibility to a new federal agency, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). During this time, EPA's primary responsibility was to implement an ambitious and optimistic goal of ensuring that all waters of the United States be "fishable" and "swimmable" by completely eliminating the discharge of pollutants into the waters. Congress and EPA had originally envisioned that this goal would be reached by 1985 and although today this goal has not been completely achieved, EPA is proud to announce that approximately 75% of the waters tested have reached this goal.



To celebrate the legislation's four decades of helping to protect our nation's water resources, EPA invites you to submit a 15 second video containing only original content that describes the important role water plays in your life.

Each video should include the phrase "Water is worth it because..." but the rest is up to your creativity!



EPA will select the best videos to highlight on its website and Facebook page. Applicants must fill out a video entry form and submit their entries as a video response to EPA's promotional clip, which is found on [EPA's YouTube page](#). To be considered, video submissions must be received by September 14, 2012.

Everyone enjoys clean water—it is vital for our health, communities, environment and economy. So let EPA know why "water is worth it" to you! To learn more and register, visit [EPA's video project Web page](#).

Public Works Department

LACONIA RESIDENTS ON CURBSIDE TRASH COLLECTION ROUTES:

Please Note!

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN ALLOWABLE LIMITS

On May 14, 2012, the Laconia City Council voted to approve a reduction in the number of containers of trash allowed for curbside collection **effective October 1, 2012:**

1. Single-family dwellings and duplexes **will be reduced from 5 containers to 2 containers** on a weekly basis.
2. Multi-family dwellings and commercial establishments **will be reduced from 10 containers to 7 containers** on a weekly basis.

All trash set out for curbside collection must be in a container – bagged trash must be tightly sealed and placed in the container. **NO** loose trash in containers will be collected.

The City of Laconia strongly encourages all Laconia residents and businesses to recycle -- by participation in the curbside collection program for those on collection routes, by utilizing the 4 remote drop-off sites around the city (behind 257 Messer St, behind the Lakeport Fire Station, at the Weirs Community Center parking lot, and across from the Memorial Park Club House) or, by delivering recyclables directly to the Laconia Transfer Station.

Recycling bins are provided free of charge. There is currently no limit on the amount of recycling which is collected curbside.



Questions? Please call Ann Saltmarsh at 528-6379

Reminder! From the City Clerk's Office

The City Clerk's Office is responsible for ensuring that all local, state and federal elections are conducted with accuracy and compliance. This would not be possible without the team of dedicated people that work at our polls to ensure that the democratic process is followed. These positions include Ballot Clerks, check-in assistants, and the elected positions of Moderator, Ward Clerk, Selectman and Supervisor of the Checklist.

We would like to encourage any individual interested in becoming a part of the team of election officials for your ward to contact the City Clerk's Office. Currently, there are vacancies in the following elected positions:



Ward 1 – Moderator
Ward 2 – Selectman
(3 positions)
Ward 5 – Ward Clerk,
Selectman (3 positions)

The City Clerk's Office can be contacted at 527-1265, or by emailing cityclerk@city.laconia.nh.us

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