



# Laconia Links

October 14, 2011 - Edition #2



## LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

*Check out the two recreational programs offered next week...*

On Saturday, October 22 Laconia Parks & Recreation is offering two events. One is the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Explore A Truck Day. Kids of all ages enjoy this event where they get to come to the Laconia Public Works garage on Bisson Avenue and go through all kinds of trucks. We will have trucks there from Public Works, Water Works, Al's Towing, BestWay Disposal, Fire and Police Departments and more. The event runs from 10 – 12 in the morning and is free of charge! There will be food available for a fee.

The second event is the American Red Cross Babysitting Training for kids ages 11 – 15. This does have a fee of \$90.00 and the class runs from 9:00 – 3:30pm. You will need to preregister with the department.

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



**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](mailto:info@city.laconia.nh.us)

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



### LACONIA WATER DEPARTMENT

988 Union Avenue  
(603) 524-0901

[water@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:water@city.laconia.nh.us)



### HYDRANT FLUSHING NOTICE

As part of our continued effort to improve drinking water quality, Laconia Water Dept. will be flushing hydrants

**October 24th through October 28th**

While this may produce discolored water, it is not harmful. Simply run the cold water until it clears. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

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



# Laconia Police Department

The Drug Enforcement Agency has scheduled another **National Take Back Day** on **Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 2:00pm** to provide a venue for persons who want to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs. The drop off location will be located at the Laconia Police Department, 126 New Salem Street.

**National Prescription Drug Take Back Day** addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. More than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs, according to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Each day, approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partners for a Drug Free America. Studies show that the majority of abuse prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet.

Link to Laconia PD [here](#)

If you are unable to drop off your unused medications on October 29<sup>th</sup>, you may dispose of them by following these six steps.

#### 6 steps to safety:

- 1) Pour medicine into a sealable plastic bag.
- 2) If the medicine is a solid, add a small amount of water to dissolve it.
- 3) Add any undesirable substance (such as dirt, coffee grounds or kitty litter) to the liquid medicine in the plastic bag.
- 4) Seal the bag and immediately dispose of it in the trash for regular pick-up.
- 5) Use marker to black out any personal contact information on the empty medicine container prior to disposing of it in the trash.
- 6) For more information on disposing medications contact the Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.



## NEWS From the City Clerk's Office

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

The City Council will be holding three public hearings on Monday, October 24, 2011.

Beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the cul-de-sac of Phoenician Way, the Council will open a public hearing to discuss the request for a Betterment Assessment. The public hearing will adjourn after a walk through has been completed and will conclude at City Hall.

During the regular Council meeting that begins at 7:00 p.m., the Council will hear public input on the proposed City Charter amendments for the Library Trustees and the redistricting of ward lines. To view the proposed amendments, please contact the City Clerk for a copy at [cityclerk@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:cityclerk@city.laconia.nh.us) or call 527-1265.



Daily, the Tax Collector's office receives notifications of impending foreclosures and public auctions in the City. We want to make sure if you are facing foreclosure you know about a resource that is available to help you:

The State of New Hampshire has a great website with information on foreclosures. The website covers everything from getting helpful tips, foreclosure timelines to trusted website resources. The Banking Department also has scheduled seminars throughout the state. Some seminar topics include: The Making Home Affordable Program, Deed in Lieu of Foreclosure, Short Sales and Filing for Chapter 13 or 7 Bankruptcy.

Please call the NH Banking Department at 271-3561 or visit [www.homehelpnh.org](http://www.homehelpnh.org) for more info.

Follow this [link](#) to our Tax Department for more info.....



# Laconia Fire Department

Click [here](#) to access the Fire Department website

In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week the Laconia Fire Department has these fire safety guidelines for your family and home.....

One of the most important things you can do to enhance your safety is install smoke alarms. A properly located and operating smoke alarm can greatly improve your chance of escaping a home fire. The second most important thing to do is to develop a home escape plan. Walk throughout your home and talk about the various ways to escape in an emergency. Remember, you and your children may get separated and may not be able to use the stairs or get out the regular door. Point out where the other doors are and where the windows are. Can your child reach the window? Practice exit drills in the home. Young children will remember what they practice. We teach the basics of fire safety at the public schools. You must reinforce what we teach in your home.

There are many homes in Laconia where children are sleeping in basements and attics converted to bedrooms. These spaces are not designed to be bedrooms and will present challenges to a child if they needed to escape quickly. These spaces will also present challenges to firefighters who are searching your home. If you do have a child living in a non-approved space, how would they get out? Can they open the bulkhead? Can they reach the basement window? Can they fit through the window?

Another big problem that we see frequently in Laconia is blocked exits. Many people store belongings and rubbish in hallways and on porches. These items can contribute to a fire, but more importantly, they block your exit from the home. We find that this is a big issue around secondary doors, which are not used very frequently. The message is this – do not block any exit from your home!

- Do not allow items to block the exits, especially doors that are not used frequently.
- Do not leave objects on the stairway.
- Make sure your children know how to open the door in an emergency.
- Put flashlights in each bedroom near the bed.
- Put smoke alarms outside the sleeping areas and at least one on each floor.
- Keep doors closed while sleeping.
- Teach your children to touch a door before opening it to make sure it is not hot, which could mean fire is on the other side.
- Teach your children to crawl low in smoke.

You may be surprised to find out that your children already know many of these safety tips. However, it is good to reinforce these tips at home.



## Assessing

Owners who travel during the fall months may be interested in changing their address with the Assessing Department in order to receive their fall bill in a timely manner. These changes can be submitted to: [daigneaultb@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:daigneaultb@city.laconia.nh.us)

We are still working on the 2011 update with the hopes to be completed by the end of the month. Preliminary statistics indicate slight changes to certain 'pockets' of properties, but as a whole the 2010 values are in-line with state parameters/guidelines. Owners should check their assessment record cards on a yearly basis to ensure we have the proper information. If errors exist, we can take appropriate measures to correct them before the final bill is sent, thereby possibly saving the need to file an abatement.

[Click for Assessing Dept.....](#)

# CODE ENFORCEMENT



October is when we enjoy the foliage but it is also the time that it can get a bit chilly in the am and pm. Not surprising that the Code Enforcement Office has begun to receive inquiries from tenants asking "When does the landlord need to turn on the heat?"

The answer to the parameters for heat are provided by several codes: the International Residential Code, International Property Maintenance Code and the International Plumbing Code for NH, as follows:

**Heat must be provided at 68 degrees from Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 until April 1, 2012 for Laconia, or if the outside temp maintains less than 60 degrees on a given day.**

NH has a Legal Advice & Referral Center which assists tenants at [www.larchnh.org](http://www.larchnh.org) or call 1-800-639-5290.



Click [here](#) to access Code Enforcement website

*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](mailto:info@city.laconia.nh.us)

*Have a great weekend!*

Scott Myers, City Manager  
City of Laconia  
City's Website: [www.city.laconia.nh.us](http://www.city.laconia.nh.us)

Interested in attending a Planning Board or City Council meeting? Or maybe you'd like to play basketball, participate in a Jazzercise class or learn to line dance? With one easy [click](#) you can access the City's calendar to view activities and meetings, and link to further details such as locations, times, etc.

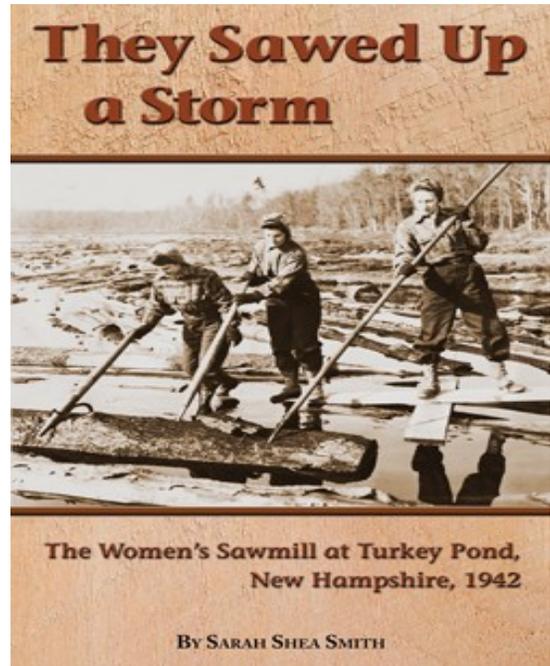
## Laconia Public Library

***They Sawed Up a Storm***  
**Thursday, October 20, 2011 at 7 PM**  
**Laconia Public Library**  
**695 Main St.**  
**Laconia, NH**  
**(603) 524-4775**

In 1942, a group of New Hampshire women operated a sawmill on the shores of Turkey Pond, Concord. The sawmill, one of two on the pond, was built to saw logs remaining in the water from the 1938 hurricane salvage efforts.

***They Sawed Up A Storm*** is a photo presentation about this group of women, the 1938 hurricane and the determination of the people of New England. Sarah Smith, Forest Industry Specialist with the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, will have copies of the book available for sale after the program.

Check out the Library's website—click [here!](#)



**NOTICE!**

**The Laconia Public Library  
will be closed on Saturday,  
October 15th for  
carpet replacement.**

**We apologize for the inconvenience!  
Questions? Call (603) 524-4775**



*Have you been lucky enough to attend one of the performances presented by the*

## **Laconia Putnam Fund?**

*If not, you're in for a real treat! Take a look at the Fall 2011 – Spring 2012 Program below:*



### **FREE ADMISSION!/NO TICKETS REQUIRED/ FIRST COME—FIRST SEATED**

Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
Laconia High School  
**The Four Freshmen**

Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 p.m.  
Sacred Heart Church  
**Andy Cooney & The Irish Sopranos**

Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m.  
Laconia High School  
**An Evening with Groucho – Frank Ferrante**

Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m.  
Laconia High School  
**Odds Bodkin, Storyteller**

See our schedule online at [www.city.laconia.nh.us](http://www.city.laconia.nh.us)  
Special Events/Putnam Fund

## **CANDIDATES NIGHT!**

**Sponsored by:  
WEIRS ACTION COMMITTEE**

A question & answer forum between the  
Laconia City Council candidates and the public  
and press

**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2011

**Time:** 7:00 p.m. forum begins  
(Mix & Mingle to follow)

**Place:** Weirs Community Center  
Route 11B, Weirs Beach

**R.S.V.P:** Dyan Driscoll at The Cozy Inn  
by October 11th - 366-4310 or  
cozyinn@cozyinn-nh.com

Light refreshments will be served



## From City Hall...

City Manager Scott Myers has announced the appointment of Donna Woodaman to the position of Finance Director for the City of Laconia. Donna has been a dedicated employee within the Finance Department for over 3 years, most recently serving as Assistant Finance Director and currently filling the position of Acting Finance Director. City Manager Myers stated Donna's knowledge of City operations and her ability to work collaboratively with other team members in order to improve efficiencies made her an ideal selection for this position.

Prior to her employment with the City, Donna worked for many years in the private sector with a focus on financial reporting, accounting, payroll, inventory and computer software.

*Please join everyone in City Hall in  
congratulating Donna on her new position!*