



Laconia Links

December 7, 2012 - Edition #61

Holiday Spirit in Lakeport!

Recycling Update

2 Week Total - November 12th - November 23rd					
YTD recyclables collected = 949.42 tons		Savings to taxpayers YTD (@ \$150/ton) = \$142,413.00		Lost opportunity dollars YTD = \$118,599.50	
Route	Total Tons Collected (MSW + Recycling)	Total Tons Recyclables	Percent Recycled	Tonnage Required to Reach 30% Target	2 Week Lost Savings By Not Reaching Target
Remote Sites		25.50	N/A	N/A	N/A
Monday	25.26	3.91	15.4%	7.58	\$550.50
Tuesday	40.20	8.87	22.0%	12.06	\$478.50
Wednesday	41.83	5.74	13.7%	12.55	\$1,021.50
Thursday	34.11	4.62	13.5%	10.23	\$841.50
Friday	35.66	4.43	12.4%	10.69	\$939.00
Total = 177.06 tons		Route Total = 27.57 tons	Curbside Avg. = 15.6%	Total = 53.11 tons	Total = \$3,831.000
			Prior 2 wks = 14.5%	Recycling Saves \$\$	

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!



Reminder!  The next recycling collection week begins **Monday, December 17th**

Mark Your Calendar!

Join Santa & Mrs. Claus ~ Goodies for the kids!

Saturday, December 15, 1-2:30 p.m.
 Lakeport Freighthouse, Railroad Avenue
 Hosted by Lakeport Community Association



**City of Laconia
Dept. of Public Works
27 Bisson Avenue
Laconia, NH 03246**

RECYCLING TOTER PROGRAM

The City of Laconia Department of Public Works is offering commercial grade 2-wheeled 64-gal. recycling containers with a hinged lid for sale as part of the City's curbside recycling program. There are 1,000 toters available on a first-come/first-serve basis. The cost for one (1) toter is \$25, with the City supporting \$20 of the program cost. Additional toters are available at \$45 each - while supplies last. Toters are now available and ready for delivery!

Please contact Ann Saltmarsh, Dept. of Public Works, at the address above, call 528-6379, or e-mail saltmarsh@city.laconia.nh.us to purchase toters. You may also place your order by mailing in this order form. This Recycling Toter Program is for Laconia residents only -- proof of residency may be required.

Name:
Address:
Phone #:

All toters must be picked up at the DPW Office – Payment is due at the time of pickup.

Upcoming Meetings...

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.



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.

***Become involved in
your City
and make a difference!***

City Council

December 10, 2012, 7:00 pm
City Hall, Council Chambers
[Agenda](#)

Heritage Commission

December 12, 2012, 5:00 pm
City Hall, Room 200B



Laconia Fire Department

Link to Fire
Dept.'s
Website [here](#)

HOLIDAY AND CHRISTMAS TREE FIRE SAFETY

Decorating homes and businesses is a long-standing tradition around the holiday season. Unfortunately, these same decorations may increase your chances of a fire.

Following a few simple fire safety tips can keep electric lights, candles and the ever popular Christmas tree from creating a tragedy:



- Don't put your live Christmas tree up too early or leave it up for longer than two weeks.
- Place trees away from heat sources, including fireplaces or heat vents. The heat will dry out your tree causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flames, or sparks.
- Keep the live tree stand filled with water at all times.
- Use only nonflammable decorations.
- Don't link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate that this is safe.
- Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet.
- Avoid using lit candles; consider using battery-operated flameless candles which can look and feel like real candles.
- Ensure that Christmas trees and other holiday decorations don't block an exit way.

For more tips on how to prevent a holiday fire and what to do in case a fire starts in your home, visit the U.S. Fire Administration's website at: www.usfa.fema.gov





Laconia Police Department

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



D.A.R.E.

The Laconia Police celebrated D.A.R.E. graduation last week. Officer Michelle Cardinal conducted D.A.R.E. classes at the following elementary schools this year.

- Elm Street School
- Woodland Heights School
- Pleasant Street School

The students received their graduation certificates for completing the course.

The Laconia Police Department wants to congratulate all students in the program!

D.A.R.E. IS SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION AND MUCH MORE!

This year millions of school children around the world will benefit from D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the highly acclaimed program that gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence.

D.A.R.E. was founded in 1983 in Los Angeles and has proven so successful that it is now being implemented in 75 percent of our nation's school districts and in more than 43 countries around the world.

D.A.R.E. is a police officer-led series of classroom lessons that teaches children from kindergarten through 12th grade how to resist peer pressure and live productive drug and violence-free lives.



From left to right: Elm St. School Principal Kevin Michaud, Capt. Matt Canfield, Darren the DARE Lion, DARE Officer Michelle Cardinal, Police Commissioner Armand Maheux and Police Chief Christopher Adams

D.A.R.E. IS COMMUNITY POLICING

D.A.R.E. is universally viewed as an internationally recognized model of community policing. The United States Department of Justice has identified how D.A.R.E. benefits local communities:

- D.A.R.E. "humanizes" the police: that is, young people can begin to relate to officers as people
- D.A.R.E. permits students to see officers in a helping role, not just an enforcement role
- D.A.R.E. opens lines of communication between law enforcement and youth
- D.A.R.E. Officers can serve as conduits to provide information beyond drug-related topics
- D.A.R.E. opens dialogue between the school, police, and parents to deal with other issues

Downtown Laconia Open House

**Saturday,
December 8th
10:00 to 4:00**



Frozen Five K Road Race
Starting near MC Cycle & Sport

Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire along with a wine tasting
at All My Life Jewelers

Paint—Along Lunch w/ Larry Frates at the Downtown Deli

Mix 94.1 FM Broadcasting Live
from Sawyers Jewelry & Bootleggers Footwear

Toys for Tots and Cash 'N Cans Collections
Cut-a-thon

*** **

Refreshments and sales promotions at many merchants' stores
on gift ideas from **Art** supplies to **Zable** bracelets

Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....

Preschool Storytime Holiday Party



Wednesday, December 12
@ 10:00 and
Thursday, December 13th
@ 9:30 & 10:30
in the Selig Storytime Room.

Please bring a donation for the
food bank. Stories, snacks,
and lots of fun!



Movies & More for Kids !

Friday, December 14th
@ 3:45 in
Laconia Rotary Hall

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Kung Fu Panda Holiday" !



Admission and
snacks are free!

Kids under 10 must be
accompanied by
a responsible
caregiver 14 or older.



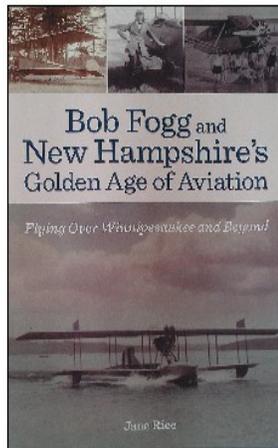
Check out the Library's
website—click [here!](#)

LACONIA AIRPORT HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 8th
10AM–12noon
FREE Admission!



MEET NH AUTHOR JANE RICE!
Book Signing & Slide Show



- Photos with Santal
- Refreshments!
- Local Crafts!
- Goodie Bags for the Kids!

WIN A FREE AIRPLANE RIDE!

Bring a new unwrapped toy for the Santa Fund to be entered into a drawing



www.laconiaairport.com
603-524-5003



Writing the Great American Novel a Journal, a Life

This entertaining program will help attendees explore how their day-to-day life and personal background play a role in all creative endeavors.

Art Deleault, Professor of English at Lakes Region Community College – and the 2012 LRCC Instructor of the Year – will also lead the audience through keeping a journal and the importance of writing one's life's experiences.

This free lecture is open to the public and will be presented Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Taylor Community's Woodside Building, 435 Union Ave. Please RSVP by calling 524-5600 to ensure available seating, as Professor Deleault's engaging personality is sure to draw a full house.

The event is a cooperative effort between LRCC and Taylor Community to provide interesting and informative events to Lakes Region residents and visitors.

News From the Tax Department...

PROPERTY TAX BILLS ARE OUT!



Tax bills were mailed on Tuesday, November 27, 2012. They are due on December 28, 2012. Payments are accepted by mail and at the counter in City Hall during normal business hours. Office hours are Monday – Friday 8:30-4:30. For your convenience there is a drop slot located on the side door of City Hall. We are now accepting credit cards over the counter and online. Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted. Convenience fees apply to all credit card transactions. Please call the tax office at 527-1269 if you have any questions.

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

LACONIA PARKS & RECREATION



Holiday Happenings!

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

HURRAY FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

On Dec. 11th, 2012 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, we will be having a family program called Hurray for the Holidays. At this event we will be making Christmas ornaments and singing or listening to Christmas carols.

The fee is \$2.00 per person. Remember, this is a family event so come join in on the fun! Call Laconia Parks & Recreation to register by Dec. 7th at 524-5046.

MOTHER/CHILD COOKIE DECORATING

This program will be held on
December 13th from 6:00 –
8:00 pm and is always
lots of fun!



Moms... sign yourself and the kids up to decorate your Christmas cookies. All materials will be supplied and you will take your cookies home with you!



The fee for this program is \$10.00 per family of 4 with \$2.00 for each additional person. You must register with Laconia Parks & Recreation by December 7th at 524-5046.

Updates from the Planning Office...

The City's Master Plan is a document set forth as a requirement of the Planning Board under state statute. Every city and town in New Hampshire that has established a Planning Board must have a Master Plan, which is to be updated every 5-10 years. The purpose of the Master Plan is to guide development of the municipality. This means that the Master Plan should lay out the long term development goals such as density, extent of water, sewer, roadway and drainage infrastructure, high value natural resource areas that may be important to protect, important historical areas or structures, and proposed patterns of economic development. The Laconia Planning Board adopted the most recent Master Plan in 2007 with Chapters on Community Character, Economic Development, Housing, Transportation, Natural Resources, Cultural and Historic Resources, and Community Facilities and Services. The plan is located online: http://www.city.laconia.nh.us/uploads/planning_dept/docs/Laconia%20Master%20Plan%20FINAL%20COMPRESSED%2005-03-07.pdf

The Master Plan also included an extensive Goals Objective and Actions section. A recent audit of that action plan shows that much has been accomplished by the City including the WOW Trail, the Impact Fee Ordinance, the Open Space Cluster Ordinance, expansion of water quality monitoring, creation of TIF districts, etc. But our work is not done. The Master Plan must be updated every 5-10 years. The Planning Department is once again going to request funding for a savings account to be put toward the Master Plan update. We hope to start the update processes in 2014.

Link to the Planning Dept's website for info and updates —click [here](#)!

*The Laconia Historical and
Museum Society
Presents
A Holiday Program*

*Monday, December 10 7:00 pm
At the Laconia Public Library*

*Join us for an evening of beautiful
holiday music -*



*Performances by :
The Laconia High School
Concert Choir*

Led by Mrs. Debbie Gibson

K.C. Nowack, Pianist

*Christmas Carols
Sung by All*

*This program is free and open to the
public. Refreshments will be served.*

Donations are appreciated.

For more information about this program, call
Laconia Historical and Museum Society at
(603) 527-1278 or email lhmslpl@metrocast.net

Assessing

[Click](#) for
Assessing Dept.

The abatement filing period is now open until March 1. This is the process taxpayers can use to dispute their final 2012 value.

Applications are available in our office or can be mailed upon request, 527-1268. We always recommend owners get a copy of their PRC (property record card) to verify its accuracy and to be able to compare on a year-to-year basis to monitor what changes have occurred.

Questions? Call 527-1268

City Manager Updates

Two new updates have been posted to the City's website to keep you up-to-date and informed on what's happening in your City!

First, check out the newest version of [Project Updates](#) providing a concise update of projects in the community.

Next, take a look at the updated [Financial & Operational Trends](#) report. In this document you'll find financial information for the current year compared to prior years in several departments, such as fire and rescue call data, revenue from motor vehicle registrations and property taxes, winter storm costs, police incidents, overtime costs and much more!

*We hope you find these documents
helpful and informative!*

Contact the City Mgr's
office at 527-1270, or
info@city.laconia.nh.us





Laconia Fire Department

Link to Fire
Dept.'s
Website [here](#)

Call 911!



Laconia Fire Department wants to remind people that if they need emergency services the best thing to do is call 911. If you think you need our assistance, then in all likelihood it is an emergency.

Recently there have been several instances where people called us for help, after they have tried to solve their problem themselves. This is very dangerous, especially in a fire. Any fire in a home, which is not controlled, is a severe threat to the occupants and the property. We do not care how small the fire may appear to you – call 911. Every major fire in this country started small.

A small fire in a building will grow very rapidly. Within just a few minutes it can be out of control and spreading so fast you may not be able to escape. Other people in the building may not be aware of the fire. As the fire grows it produces very dangerous by-products such as carbon monoxide and hydrogen cyanide. The toxins are in the smoke and can be lethal in very small doses. We have the equipment and training to work in this dangerous environment – you don't.

Many people who try to fight a fire actually can cause the fire to grow by allowing fresh air to feed the fire. If you cannot quickly put out a fire (within 60 seconds) call the Fire Department. Even if you think you have put out the fire call us so we can make sure it is out and has not spread. Most people have no experience dealing with an uncontrolled fire; especially a fire in a building. Most people's exposure to a fire is from a camp fire, or a wood stove. If we do not arrive on-scene within four to six minutes then we will have a difficult time gaining control. The problem actually intensifies in the winter months because our homes get very dry and we actually pre-heat the contents. Fires spread much quicker in the cold winter months.

A final note - Do not call the Fire Department directly. During the course of a business day the administrative staff is in and out of the station continually. The firefighters on-duty may be out of the station for a number of reasons: they train frequently, which takes them out of the station; they conduct inspections; they walk-thru buildings all over the city to prepare for an emergency in that building; they are at other emergencies – we respond to an average of 10 emergencies each and every day. So it is not uncommon to have no one at the fire station. This is especially true during weekends when there is no administrative staff on-duty. If you call you will get an answering machine.



We cannot emphasize this enough – if you need us for an emergency call 911. Time is of essence in an emergency and we cannot get it back. Just the loss of 1 or 2 minutes can have a devastating impact!



CITY OF LACONIA Notice of Public Hearing

According to Article V of the Laconia City Charter and other applicable State laws, the City Council will hold a Public Hearing on December 10, 2012 during the regular Council Meeting which begins at 7:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers, Room 200A regarding:

Proposed Ordinance Adopting RSA 79-E, Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive

Mary A. Reynolds
City Clerk



Please Note:

In order for City Hall employees to attend their annual Christmas luncheon, City Hall will be closed during the lunch hour on Tuesday, December 11, 2012 from 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

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



CITY OF LACONIA PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessing	527-1268
<i>Assessor - Jon Duhamel</i>	
City Clerk.....	527-1265
<i>City Clerk - Mary Reynolds</i>	
City Manager.....	527-1270
<i>City Manager - Scott Myers</i>	
Code Enforcement.....	527-1293
<i>Planning & Zoning Dir. - Shanna Saunders</i>	
Finance	524-3877
<i>Finance Director - Donna Woodaman</i>	
Licensing	528-6331
<i>Licensing Clerk - Katie Walsh</i>	
Planning & Comm. Dev.	527-1264
<i>Planning & Zoning Dir. - Shanna Saunders</i>	
Tax	527-1269
<i>Tax Collector - Lindsey Allen</i>	
Welfare.....	527-1267
<i>Welfare Specialist - Suzi McCormack</i>	
<i>Welfare Director - Donna Woodaman</i>	
Fire Dept. (Central Station) *	524-6881
Fire Dept. (Lakeport) *	524-7777
Fire Dept. (Weirs Station) *	366-2229
<i>Fire Chief - Ken Erickson</i>	
Library	524-4775
<i>Library Director - Randy Brough</i>	
Parks & Recreation.....	524-5046
<i>Parks & Rec. Director - Kevin Dunleavy</i>	
Personnel	524-3877
<i>Personnel Administrator - Paula Baumel</i>	
Police (Administration) *	524-5257
Police (Crime Line) *	524-1717
<i>Police Chief - Christopher Adams</i>	
Public Works (Main Office)	528-6379
Public Works (Transfer Station)	528-5822
<i>Public Works Director - Paul Moynihan</i>	
Water.....	524-0901
<i>Superintendent - Seth Nuttelman</i>	

* For emergencies, remember
to always dial 911



Visit the City's website at:
www.city.laconia.nh.us