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March Newsletter

For Atkinson news directly to you.

Greetings!

Thank you for being a part of our community. We hope you find this and future newsletters both informative and enjoyable.

Angela Wesson,
Assistant Town Administrator



GENERAL NEWS

TOWN WEBSITE

The Town Newsletter will no longer be published through the current direct email application (MailChimp) after the April Newsletter.

All future Town Newsletters will be posted to the [website](#) along with all other news and announcements. This means that anyone who wants to be notified via email that a newsletter, alert, etc., has been posted will need to subscribe to "Notify Me".

However, newsletters will eventually become less frequent and will only include the most important information for the upcoming month(s). Therefore, we highly encourage residents to customize the information they would like to receive as individual posts will go out more frequently than newsletters.

To subscribe to news alerts, please click the subscribe button and follow the instructions below.

NOTE: If you would like to receive notifications regarding newsletters, holiday

that will be posted to the main page of the website.

Subscribe



When on the website, you will see "Notify Me" at the top right-hand corner of your screen. When you click the link, it will bring you to the screen below where you may select the News & Announcements of any Department, Board, or Committee that you would like to be notified about.

Simply enter your email address, check off as many topics as you would like, check "I am not a robot", and click "Subscribe Me".

Should you no longer want to receive emails about a particular Department, Board, or Committee, simply repeat the steps above, but instead of clicking "Subscribe Me", click "Unsubscribe Me".

Should you have any questions, please call 603-362-1060 or email AsstTownAdmin@atkinson-nh.gov.

2022 TOWN REPORTS

2022 Town Reports will be available AFTER March 7th. You can pick up a report at the Town Hall, Community Center, or Library. An electronic copy is also available on our [website](#).

NOTE: Hard copies are limited, so please utilize the electronic copy if you can.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

CPR & FIRST AID CLASSES

Are you a resident of Atkinson or a business owner that wants their employees trained to save a life? The Atkinson Firefighters Association has resumed in-person CPR, First Aid, and Bloodborne/Airborne Pathogens classes. Classes can be scheduled for individuals or

information or to sign up for a class today.

PLANNING BOARD NEWS

INVESTNH HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT



WELCOME TO THE ATKINSON HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT!

This project is funded by a grant from the [INVESTNH Housing Planning Grant Program](#). Learn more about this program and the ways it can help NH communities explore and expand housing opportunities.

The goals of the Atkinson Housing Needs Assessment Project are to:

- Phase I: Gather public opinions about housing needs and challenges through a community survey, and
- Phase II: Create a profile of Atkinson's housing status based on demographics, statistical data and participation by the public.

Specifically, the project will focus on affordable and workforce housing, its availability and barriers that exist to developing these housing types and the ways these various housing types can be accommodated into the fabric of the town. As defined by state law:

- **Workforce Housing** is housing that is affordable to a family earning 100% of the median income for the area. As reported by the [Rockingham Planning Commission's 2023 Regional Housing Needs Assessment](#), the area median income (AMI) is \$101,480 for homeowners and \$54,754 for renters.

The Housing Needs Assessment Survey will be launched in the next few weeks. A link to the online Housing Survey will be provided from the [Atkinson Planning Board webpage](#) as well as other information about the project and opportunities for community members to participate in discussion groups. Please check the Planning Board webpage under the Housing Needs Assessment tab and the Atkinson Facebook page for future project updates.



This project is being supported, in whole or in part by, federal award number SLFRP0145 awarded to the State of New Hampshire by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NEWS

BULK WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, April 8, 2023, is the scheduled Bulk Waste Collection Day for residents who wish to dispose of bulk items. Please visit the Town's [website](#) for all the details including a copy of the form that needs to be completed and returned to the Town Hall any time **before Noon on April 5, 2023**. A fee of \$35 is required for each item, except for a mattress for which the charge is \$60. **Residents may pay with check or EXACT cash ONLY.** You must register by **Wednesday before Noon April 5, 2023**, to have an item collected.

WASTE COLLECTION CALENDAR

The 2023-2024 Casella brochure and calendar will be available in April. Please subscribe to "Notify Me" on the Town website, to be notified when they are available. You can pick up a copy of the brochure at the Town Hall. An electronic copy will also be available on our website.

NOTE: Hard copies are limited, so please utilize the electronic copy if you can.

2022-2023 CURBSIDE RECYCLING COLLECTION CALENDAR

Your pickup day is either Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.
Place containers at the curb the night before pickup.

MAY 2022							JUNE 2022							JULY 2022							AUGUST 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31			
														31													

SEPTEMBER 2022							OCTOBER 2022							NOVEMBER 2022							DECEMBER 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5				1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30	31																			

JANUARY 2023							FEBRUARY 2023							MARCH 2023							APRIL 2023						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4				1	2	3	4							1
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29
																					30						

KEY: ■ = Trash pickup ■ = Recycle & trash pickup ■ = Holiday ■ = Bulk Waste Day ■ = HHW Day



RECYCLING • SOLUTIONS • ORGANICS • COLLECTION • ENERGY • LANDFILLS

casella.com

TOWN CLERK NEWS

2023 ELECTION SCHEDULE

March 4, 2023 - the Supervisors of the Checklist will meet, 11am-11:30am, Atkinson Community Center, 4 Main St. The supervisors will be meeting to update the voter checklist and to accept new voter registrations or Atkinson resident changes.

- Current registered voters to bring photo ID and proof of domicile to change address.
- Newly registering voters to bring proof of residence, proof of citizenship and age as well as a photo ID. More information available [HERE](#) (Link to this page please:

- This will be the last opportunity to register to vote prior to the March 14th Town Election. Same day registration will be available at the polls. Questions? Please email the Supervisors of the Checklist at supervisors@atkinson-nh.gov.

March 5 - March 13, 2023 - New Voter Registration black-out period at Clerk's Office.

March 7, 2023 - Candidates Night will be held at Atkinson Community Center from 7pm to 9pm. This event is sponsored by The Atkinson Women's Civic Club and will take place in-person and livestreamed.

March 14, 2023 - Town Election will be held from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the Community Center, 4 Main St, Atkinson.

2023 Absentee Ballot Application Request Forms are now available in the Town Clerk Office and [website](#).

2023 Sample Ballots for the Town are now available in the Town Clerk's Office and [website](#).

VEHICLE REGISTRATION TIPS

If you're renewing a vehicle registration in-person for someone other than yourself, you must bring either the registrants signed registration or their signed renewal notice.

If you bought out a leased vehicle, you need to visit the Town Clerk's office to transfer the registration to your name and process a new title in your name as soon as possible.

DOG LICENSES

It's time to renew your dog(s) license! All 2022 licenses expire April 30, 2023.

You have 3 ways with which to renew:

- *Through our on-line portal: <https://pay.eb2gov.com/Service/Index/1442?towncode=802&source=DL&towncodemasterid=367>
- Mail (USPS) a check to our office and include an additional \$1.00 mail fee and we'll mail you the new tags
- Visit the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours – cash/check/credit card.

LIBRARY NEWS

Please visit the [Kimball Library page](#) on the Town website for all March news and events.

RECREATION NEWS

Please visit the [Recreation page](#) on the Town website for all March news and events.

ELDER SERVICES NEWS

Please visit the [Elder Services page](#) on the Town website for all March news and events.

COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

Please visit the [Community Center page](#) on the Town website for all March news and events.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

TERRIFIC TURTLES OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Want to learn about the turtles we have living here in New Hampshire? Did you know New Hampshire is home to seven native turtle species, four of which are listed by the state as being threatened or endangered? Would you like to learn how to help save both common and vulnerable species of turtles? Join the Kimball Library and the Atkinson Conservation Commission on **Monday, April 3, 2023**, as we host both a NH Fish & Game wildlife biologist and a turtle rehabilitator from NH Turtle Rescue! **“Terrific Turtles of New Hampshire”** will be held from **6:00pm - 7:30pm at the Kimball Library**. The presentation will include: ecology of NH turtles, geographic distribution, threats to their populations, and conservation actions currently underway. The talk will also cover actions landowners can take to benefit turtle populations and the technical assistance that NH Fish & Game can provide. The important aspects of rehabilitating turtles, and what our community can do to help will also be discussed. This program is free and open to the

3RD ANNUAL POLLINATOR EVENT

Save the Date, **Saturday, April 15th** for our 3rd Annual Pollinator event at Freshwater Farms! Help save the monarchs and all pollinators ... starting with your own yard! Stop by from **11am to 3pm** to pick up a packet of free Milkweed seeds and other native plant seeds! Talk to the experts from Pollinator Pathways! Sit in on a presentation about Birds, Bats and Butterflies. Enter to win exciting raffle prizes! Enjoy fun kids' activities, and we may even have a few food trucks!

PUBLIC HEARING

On **Thursday, March 9 at 7:30 PM in Town Hall**, The Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing about expending funds from the Conservation Fund for the purchase of Map 20, Lot 16-1, the 1.4-acre triangular parcel that is surrounded by the Stickney Town Forest. Acquisition of this land will complete the Stickney Town Forest, and will ensure that this land, which has become an integral part of our Stickney trails, will remain protected in perpetuity.

WALKS IN THE TOWN FOREST

Looking forward to spring? The public is invited to two educational walks in our Town Forest lands:

On **Saturday, June 3rd**, our Consulting Forester Charlie Moreno will lead a walk in the Caroline Orr Town Forest (behind the Community Center) to discuss the impact that a selective timber harvest on this land 6 years ago has had to the health of the forest and the diversity of wildlife habitat that is found there today. This will take place in the morning, the exact time to be announced. *Rain date for this event will be the following Saturday, June 10th.*

And on **Saturday, June 24th**, County Forester Greg Jordan will lead his ever-popular Tree and Plant Identification walk, this time in the Chadwick Town Forest behind the Woodlock Park playing fields. This event will also be in the morning, the exact starting time to be announced. *The rain date for this event will be Saturday, July 1st.*

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE NEWS

Save the date, **Tuesday, April 11th**. The forum for the Master Plan will be held at the Community Center. This will be your chance for face-to-face input into the Master Plan.

[Committee](#)” now has an active Facebook page. Please join us.

WATER RESOURCE COMMITTEE NEWS

PROPER STORAGE OF SALT AND OTHER DEICING MATERIAL

As winter marches on, the Atkinson Water Committee would like to remind town residents (with special attention to Condo Associations and Commercial Property Managers) of the importance of proper storage of salt and other deicing materials.

Road salt can contaminate drinking water, kill or endanger wildlife, increase soil erosion, and damage private and public property.

NH DES has published best management practices for storage of deicing materials. These practices include:

- Storage in an enclosed and covered area on an impervious surface
- The facility should be located on a flat site away from surface water and wetlands
- Site drainage should be designed to direct clean storm water away from the material
- Drainage that is contaminated with salt should be collected and sent for disposal

More can be found at NHDES.GOV -

<https://www.des.nh.gov/sites/g/files/ehbemt341/files/documents/2020-01/dwgb-22-30.pdf>

FREE PRIVATE WELL CLASS

The NHDES is offering free online trainings regarding the maintenance, operation, and safety of private wells. Please see the upcoming trainings below. You may choose to subscribe to their newsletter to get updates on upcoming trainings and other pertinent information.

- February 28, 2023: [Register for "Funding/Financing Options for Private Well Owners"](#)
- March 28, 2023: [Register for "Water Well Chemistry 101"](#)
- April 12, 2023: [Register for "What Environmental Health Professionals Need to Know about Wells"](#)
- May 10, 2023: [Register for "Well Care 101 - What You Need to Know to Protect Your Family"](#)

You may also want to review the [Drinking Water](#) chapter of the Health Officer Manual to learn more about the health officer role in drinking water protection.

Sophia Johnson, MPH

Health Officer Specialist - NH DHHS/DPHS/Bureau of Public Health Protection

Phone: 603-271-3468

Email: Sophia.L.Johnson@dhhs.nh.gov

ABOUT THE WATER RESOURCE COMMITTEE

The Atkinson Water committee serves as an advisory and educational resource to the Town of Atkinson on issues concerning environmental sustainability. We focus on water access, quality, conservation, economics, education, and regulation.

The committee welcomes volunteer members who have a stake in the health of our town and want to find a meaningful way of becoming involved. For new neighbors, this is a great way to meet some of us. If interested, you can contact Mike Trasatti

@ mtrasatti698@gmail.com



Follow on Facebook



Website

Our mailing address is:

19 Academy Avenue
Atkinson, NH 03811

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