

# September 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*



## TOWN OFFICES CLOSED

Town offices will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2022 in celebration of Labor Day.



## NEW HAMPSHIRE DROUGHT

### Atkinson Board of Selectmen Recommend Residents Limit Outdoor Watering

Concord, NH - According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, over the past two weeks, “moderate drought” conditions have developed across New Hampshire and “significant drought” has developed along most of the state’s border with Massachusetts, including Atkinson. The historically observed impacts of these drought designations can also be found on the U.S. Drought Monitor, including information about effects to the environment, agriculture and the public.

A low snowpack this past winter and an early spring melt coupled with below average rainfall over the past few months have contributed to dry conditions. Additionally, over the past 30 days, only 25% to 50% of normal precipitation was received throughout most of the state. These conditions led to a rapid decline in soil moisture, surface water levels, and streamflow, which resulted in the drought declaration. So far, groundwater levels in the southern part of the state are somewhat variable, however, uniform low groundwater levels along the Connecticut Valley have been measured along with very low stream flows in the northeast section of the state.

Drought conditions are likely to persist. Precipitation outlooks indicate that the volume of rain needed to alleviate drought conditions in the next few months is unlikely to materialize. Also, temperature outlooks are signaling a potential for higher-than-normal temperatures, which can exacerbate drought conditions.

water use restrictions, such as **limiting lawn watering to before 8 AM and after 7 PM and to odd and even days**. Everyone should be aware of the current drought conditions and take responsibility for limiting their own water use to protect water supplies and home wells.

## **VIRUS-POSITIVE MOSQUITO TEST RESULTS**

The State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS) has detected Jamestown Canyon Virus (JCV) in a mosquito pool submitted for arboviral testing from the town of Atkinson. This was a pool collected on 8/2/2022 by a mosquito management contractor, on behalf of the Town, during their routine Town-wide sampling exercise. Currently the town of Atkinson is at “baseline” Arboviral risk for the season- but resulting from this detection it will be updated to “low,” as outlined by NHDHHS.

Per the CDC, Jamestown Canyon virus is spread to people by infected mosquitoes. The virus is found throughout much of the United States, but most cases are reported from the upper Midwest. Cases occur from late spring through mid-fall. Fever, headache, and fatigue are common symptoms with Jamestown Canyon virus disease. Jamestown Canyon virus can cause severe disease, including encephalitis (inflammation of the brain).

The Town of Atkinson recommends citizens and visitors take the following preventative measures as a result of these findings, proposed by NHDHHS during the Town’s low-threat of probable illness:

1. Repair Screens.
2. Dump standing water weekly.
3. Wear mosquito repellant when outdoors during peak mosquito hours (from dusk to dawn).
4. Wear long sleeves and long pants when outdoors during peak mosquito hours (from dusk to dawn).
5. Use mosquito netting on baby carriages and playpens when outdoors.
6. Arrange neighborhood clean-ups to get rid of mosquito breeding sites.
7. Be aware of stagnant water on property (e.g., unused swimming pools) and consult local health officer.
8. Clean roof gutters so that rainwater cannot collect in them.
9. Do not attempt to drain or alter natural water bodies such as ponds, marshlands, and wetlands as they are regulated under state law and any alterations may require the approval of state and possibly federal agencies.

## DISPOSAL OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Have you wondered how to safely dispose of prescription medications? A method that is safe for the environment and you can be assured that the medications will be out of your home and you can be free of worry that medications will not be taken without your knowledge? Here are the steps for safe disposal and the resources are right in our town!

The Atkinson PD has a metal drop box in the main lobby. It is open Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Anyone can come in and drop off medication (in their bottle). The metal box has a one way handle that drops into the container, so it is completely tamper proof.

From there, the medications are collected and then incinerated. The medications and the bottle! this is fantastic for two important reasons:

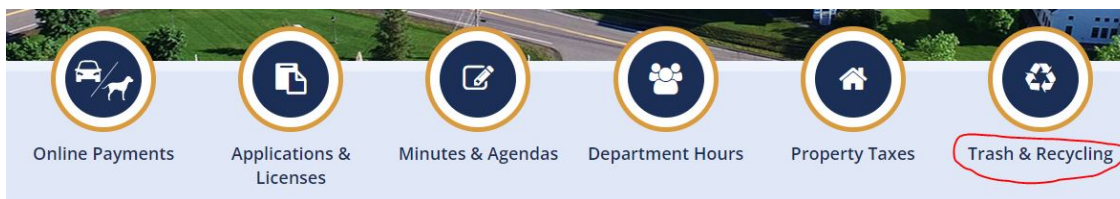
1. It does not contaminate the ground. It is incorrect to dilute the meds and put in kitty litter or coffee grounds and throw in the trash! Those remains end up in the landfills contaminating the soil and eventually in the water/bodies of water. Despite this method being circulated, it is NOT the correct way to dispose of prescription medications that can be toxic.
2. Flushing in the toilet is a no - no as well, as it also contaminates the water/septic systems.

Please share this important information with persons who may find themselves in this situation.

## TRASH & RECYCLING NEWS

### OCTOBER BULK PICK-UP

**Saturday, October 1, 2022**, is the scheduled Bulk Pick-Up Day for residents who wish to dispose of bulk Items. Please visit the Town's website, [www.town-atkinsonnh.com](http://www.town-atkinsonnh.com), 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 September 28, 2022**. A fee of \$33 is required for each item, except for a mattress for which the charge is \$58. **Residents may pay with check or EXACT cash ONLY**. You must register by Wednesday before **Noon September 28, 2022**, to have an item collected.



## FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

### UPDATING AEDs

The Fire Department is working with the state to update and geographically map all Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in Atkinson using an online database registry.

To make this AED database as complete and accurate as possible, we ask that all business owners with an AED please contact Director of EMS Paula Holigan at 603-490-1301 or [pholigan@atkinson-nh.gov](mailto:pholigan@atkinson-nh.gov).

### ATKINSON FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION 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 are being scheduled for groups of 5 or more. Contact Director of EMS Paula Holigan at 603-490-1301 or [pholigan@atkinson-nh.gov](mailto:pholigan@atkinson-nh.gov) for more information or to sign up for a class today!

### HEART SAFE COMMUNITY

The Atkinson Fire Department is working toward a Heart Safe Community recognition. The primary goal of the program is to increase survival rates from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.

Individual communities can develop and implement lifesaving networks that focus on coordinating local resources to prevent sudden cardiac arrest from becoming sudden cardiac death. Group efforts involving individuals, businesses, public officials and emergency responder agencies establishing a cardiac arrest response system to make the difference between life and death. Visit the [NH Department of Safety website](#) for more information.

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION NEWS

### SELECTIVE TIMBER HARVESTS

Within the next few months, depending on weather and contractor schedules, we are planning a selective timber harvest in the Stickney and Ruth Marshall Town Forests, including the newly-acquired Beckhorn parcel on Boulder Cove Road. For your own safety, residents are asked to follow posted signs and avoid using the trails if they are closed.

## TOWN CLERK NEWS

### SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

Atkinson Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session **Tuesday, September 6, 2022** from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm at the Atkinson Community Center (4 Main Street, Atkinson, NH).

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.
- This will be the last opportunity for new voters to register to vote prior to the September 13th State Primary. *Same day registrations will be available at the polls on September 13th.*

Questions? Please email the Supervisors of the Checklist at [supervisors@atkinson-nh.gov](mailto:supervisors@atkinson-nh.gov).

### ELECTION INFORMATION

The State Primary Election is being held on **Tuesday, September 13, 2022** from 7:00am-8:00pm, at the Atkinson Community Center.

[Sample Ballots](#) as well as [Absentee Ballots](#) are available at the Town Clerk's Office for this election. Absentee Ballots are available for registered voters who are unable to vote in-person due to a legal reason as noted on the Absentee Ballot Request form. Absentee Ballot requests must be received in the Town Clerk's Office no later than **Monday, September 12, 2022**, by 6:00 p.m.



## State Primary.

New Voter registrations can be accepted at the:




- Town Clerk's Office through 5:00pm Tuesday, September 6th
- Supervisor of the Checklist meeting taking place on Tuesday, September 6, 7:00 p.m. at the Atkinson Community Center
- Polling place (Community Center) on Election Day, Sept. 13th 7am-8pm

For more information about voting in NH, absentee ballots, or upcoming election information, please visit the [Elections page](#) on the TOA website.

## MOTOR VEHICLE INFORMATION

Did you know you can renew and/or inspect your vehicle up to 4 months in advance? This is a great tip if you head to warmer weather for the winter months and your registration expires during that time.

Did you know you can get an estimate for your vehicle registration renewal or prior to purchasing a new vehicle? This handy tool is located through the Online/Payment link found on the TOA website homepage. Just click and follow the three buttons below:

-   
Online Payments
-   
E-Reg - Motor Vehicles
-   
**Registration Estimates**  
Obtain a free registration estimate. The next screens will walk you through the process.

## **THE KIMBALL LIBRARY IS CHANGING ITS HOURS!**

We are excited to announce that starting on September 6th, the Library will open at 9:30 AM every morning Monday through Saturday. In order to offer expanded morning hours, we will close on Friday evenings at 5:00 PM. Our weekly hours will be:

Monday – Thursday from 9:30 AM – 8:00 PM;

Fridays from 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM; and

Saturdays from 9:30 AM – 3:00 PM.

We believe these new hours will better serve the community.

## **THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING SUMMER AT THE LIBRARY!**

It was a record-breaking summer here at the Kimball Library! During June and July, 7,100 residents visited. That's akin to every person in town coming to use their public library! Fully, one third of the collection was borrowed. And during that same period, more than 2,000 residents of all ages came to a library program. 222 children and teens participated in the summer reading program.

The Library has a nominal programming budget; the vast majority of events (including all summer reading programs) are funded by our wonderful Friends of the Library. We simply couldn't do it without them! At the Friends' request, this summer, The George Family's Charities sponsored the entire annual concert series! We are deeply grateful to both benefactors for making such an exciting summer at the Kimball Library possible.

## **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

As election season draws near, the Library welcomes all local political parties and their candidates to take advantage of their public library as a venue where they can express themselves in order to best inform the public as they make their voting decisions.

A public library meeting room is legally constituted as a designated public forum – open for expressive activity by part or all of the public. *Doyle vs. Comm'r, N.H. Dep't of Res. & Econ. Dev.*, 163 N.H. 215, 221 (2012). The Library is content neutral and cannot discriminate among groups or individuals – including political groups or candidates. The use of a public meeting room by any group does not imply library endorsement or support



For further information, please contact Karen Brown, Library Director, at 603-362-5234.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS/EVENTS**

### **The Timberlane Community Jazz Band - Thursday, September 1 @ 6:00 PM**

Join us as we wrap up our 2022 Summer Concert in the Courtyard Series. Performing will be the Timberlane Community Jazz Band. Directed by Nick Mainella, they play a repertoire of big band tunes from yesterday and today. They perform with a modern, jazzy, swinging edge. Don't forget to invite your friends and family to join you and enjoy an evening of music.

### **Film Enthusiast Club – Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris. Tuesday, September 6 @ 1:00 PM \***

### **Relieving Neck, Shoulder and Back Pain Naturally. Thursday, September 8 @ 6:00 PM**

Relieving muscle pain is all about knowing the root cause. Join us as Elizabeth Gallien, Licensed Massage Therapist introduces and demonstrates ways to relieve neck, shoulder and back pain with stretching. Participants who wish to try out the exercises should bring a yoga mat or beach blanket to lay on, a standard size pillowcase and wear comfortable clothing

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/relieving-neck-shoulders-and-back-pain-naturally-2/>

### **Film Enthusiast Club – Elvis. Tuesday, September 20 @ 1:00 PM**

\*There is no registration required for films but seating is limited to room capacity. Please plan to arrive early for a seat. Unfortunately, due to the movie's popular demand individuals may not save seats for others in their party. Thank you for your understanding.

### **Friends of the Library Fall Book Sale. Saturday, September 24 from 8:00 AM –2:00 PM**

Join us for the Fall Friends' Book Sale! Pick up books, music and films all in great condition for adults and youth and support your library at the same time! Prices range from \$5.00 to \$20.00 per bag. The Friends will also be selling raffle tickets for gift baskets.

### **Needle Crafters. Every Wednesday @ 10:30 AM**

meet-up for those who are currently working on projects or who wish to start one.

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/needle-crafters-90/>

### **Community Knitters – Every Thursday @ 10:00 AM**

Join us each week as we knit for charity. No Registration is required. Just show up and we will be thrilled to have you.

## **YOUTH PROGRAMS/EVENTS**

### **Homework Club (Gr. 1-5) Thursdays starting Sept. 8 @ 3:15 PM**

Kids in grades 1-5 are invited to come to the Library to study with us. We will work on our homework until 3:45 and then open up the Craft Barn for some STEAM toy fun!

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/homework-club/>

### **Saturday STEAM (Gr. K-3) Saturday, September 10 @ 10:30 AM**

This month we will be: making ice cream in a bag!

School may have started, but Summer isn't over yet! Join us in this yummy class and learn how to make ice cream with only a few ingredients!

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/saturday-steam-gr-k-3-3/>

### **Mother Goose (Babies-3) Mondays starting September 12 @ 10:15 AM**

Infants through age 3 with their caregivers are invited to join us for simple stories, rhymes, finger plays, and songs modeling after the Mother Goose curriculum.

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/mother-goose-babies-to-age-3-56/>

### **Kindergarten Club (Ages 5-6) Mondays starting September 12 @ 3:30 PM**

Kindergarten Club is back on a new day! Kids ages 5-6 can join us for games, books, and maybe an experiment or 2!

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/kindergarten-club-ages-5-6/>

### **Bitty Books (Ages 3-6) Tuesdays starting September 13 @ 10:15 AM**

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/bitty-books-ages-3-to-6/>

**Discovery Storytime (Ages 3-6) Wednesdays starting September 14 @ 1 PM**

PreK friends ages 3-6 (and their caregivers) are encouraged to join us for some tactile fun, stories, finger plays or actions songs, and crafts.

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/discovery-storytime-ages-3-6-2/>

**Sensory Storytime (Ages 3-4) Thursdays starting September 15 @ 10:15 AM**

Join us for one story, followed by an opportunity to play with sensory and art activities that reinforce what was heard in the story!

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/sensory-storytime-ages-3-4/>

**Write It Out! (Gr. 3-6) Wednesday, September 28 @ 6 PM**

Kids in grades 3-6 are invited to join us to write it out! We'll start off with a prompt or two to read to the class and then free write.

Register: <https://kimballlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/write-it-out-gr-3-6/>

## RECREATION NEWS

I hope you had an enjoyable time at our annual Ice Cream Social and Summer Concert by the Timberlane Community Music Association Band at Kimball Library Courtyard on August 18th.

A big thank you to Kimball Library for hosting us, thank you to Leavitt's Ice cream for their ice cream contribution, and a big thanks to the many volunteers for scooping ice cream & serving the toppings!

## **DAY TRIPS (REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN)**

All these programs require pre-registration and payment will be due upon registration. Tickets are non-refundable unless we can replace your seats. Please contact the Recreation

convenience, please create your Atkinson Recreation RecDesk portal account for future registration. We accept cash, check (Payable to Town of Atkinson Recreation), and credit card (visa, MC with 2.79% service fee). Payment is due upon registration.

### **Shades of Bubl : Tuesday, September 20th**

Located at Danversport Yacht Club in Danvers, MA, the Three-Man Tribute to Michael Bubl  brings the swinging standards and pop hits of Michael Bubl  to the stage in an unforgettable high-energy concert event. Cost for Atkinson resident is \$98.00 per person and \$103.00 per person for non-residents. In addition to the show, the tickets include: transportation, plated luncheon, meal tax and gratuity. Ticket Payment due upon registration. There are no refunds for cancellations received after September 9th. Plated luncheon meal choice: stuffed breast of chicken or baked schrod. Also Included: salad, potatos, vegetables, breads, dessert, coffee / tea. Organized by the Best of Times Travel.

### **Foliage Trip - Castle in the Clouds and Hart's Turkey Farm: Thursday, October 13th**

The bus is scheduled to leave from the Community Center (4 Main Street Atkinson NH) at 8:15 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m. It is \$70 for Atkinson residents and \$78 for non-residents. If seats are still available after September 12th, non-residents can purchase an \$8.00 ticket.

The ticket cost includes: deluxe coach bus transportation, Castle in the Clouds admission, and lunch (choose one for main entre from Turkey dinner, roast Beef Dinner, or Broiled Haddock dinner), gratuities for restaurant staff and bus driver. 100% refundable until September 28th and non-refundable after September 29th.

At the Castle in the Cloud, after the orientation, we will enjoy a self-guided tour of the historic Lucknow estate, exporting the mansion and surrounding grounds, visit their gift shop, carriage house and exhibit gallery. Then we are off to the famous Hart's Turkey Farm Restaurant for lunch. Each dinner includes Fresh whipped potato & Fresh butternut squash, a tossed Garden salad with cranberry vinaigrette dressing and rolls & butter, carrot relish. Choice of coffee, decaf or hot tea, and apple crisps for dessert. Bar service and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (including iced tea) are available upon request on a cash basis.

## **WEEKLY WELLNESS PROGRAMS**

### **Jacki's Aerobic Dance (Fall Session): September 14th - December 7th on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (No November 11th Class)**

Jacki's Aerobic Dance is back for in-person classes at the Atkinson Community Center. All

25 classes \$175 (\$7 per class). Contact Arline Descheneau at 603-401-1514 or [Arline.Descheneau@comcast.net](mailto:Arline.Descheneau@comcast.net) to register.

**Yoga: Tuesdays from 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

It is \$10 per class. Contact Mary Krikorian at 978-837-1738 for more information.

**Fusion Fitness: Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. (8:00 a.m. - 8:45 p.m. on first Tuesdays)**

Contact Vanessa Underwood at 603-382-7460 or at [fitnessa@aol.com](mailto:fitnessa@aol.com) for more information.

**Temple Exercise (Tai Chi): Mondays from 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.**

Donation \$1.00 for local food pantries / class. This class is led by the volunteer leaders and participant are taking turns to lead ten (10) routines of Temple Exercise.

**\*Tai Chi (Fall 10-week Session): Tuesdays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. beginning September 20th and ending on November 29th (No class on November 8th).**

Atkinson residents must pay \$70 for a full session or \$9 per class. Non-residents must pay \$90 for a full session or \$12 per class. Full session payment is due upon registration. No refunds are available except for in the case of medical emergency. Register online at [https:// atkinson.recdesk.com/Community/Program](https://atkinson.recdesk.com/Community/Program)

**Line Dancing: Mondays from 9:45 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.**

It is \$5.00 per class. The instructor is Jason McCollin.

*Please contact Atkinson's Recreation office at 603-362-1098 or [commrec@atkinson-nh.gov](mailto:commrec@atkinson-nh.gov) for any questions, additional information, or if you wish to register for any of the available programs. Online registrations are also available at <https://atkinson.recdesk.com/Community/Home>*

## ELDER SERVICES NEWS

The Elder Services Fundraiser Cookout was held on August 18th, and it was a tremendous success. We deeply appreciate all the residents' contribution and support.

Also, we are having our annual donation drive. I hope you received the Elder Services Director's letter for our annual donation drive. From this drive, all the funding goes toward replacing our two 2015 Toyota Venza in 2026. Again, we appreciate your support in advance.

#### Summary of Programs:

- Senior Transportation Service
- Medical Assistive Equipment
- Library Homebound Program
- Referral to Veteran Administration Services
- Referral to community resources
- Work collaboratively with Atkinson Recreation Department

Are you a resident that utilizes Elder Services Transportation? If yes, please consider providing your emergency contact information to us. Call the office at 603-362-9582, or find us on our [website](#).

## COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### **Car Show: Monday, September 5, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The Atkinson Firefighters Association and Atkinson Lions Club are hosting a car show at the Dow Common.

<https://www.facebook.com/AtkinsonFirefightersAssociation/> ,

<https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/atkinsonnh/index.php>

#### **Town Wide Yard Sale: Saturday, September 24, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

The Atkinson Women's Civic Club is hosting a Town Wide Yard Sale. Visit the AWCC website for more information [www.awcc-nh.org](http://www.awcc-nh.org).

#### **Artisan Market: Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



**Shredding Fundraiser: Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

The Atkinson Women's Civic Club is hosting a shredding fundraiser at the community center. Visit the AWCC website for more information [www.awcc-nh.org](http://www.awcc-nh.org).

**DONATION BINS**

There are three donation bins at the Community Center parking area. Accepted donations include clothing and shoes ONLY. Do not leave any other items outside of the bins or it will be hauled away as trash. If the bins are full, please come back another time because your donations will help the Atkinson Women's Civic Club's charitable funding and keep our environment cleaner.

**RENTAL INFORMATION**

Residents can rent out our Banquet room for their special gathering at a reasonable price. Please check out our rental application for policy and guidelines [https://www.town-atkinsonnh.com/sites/g/files/vyhli8101/f/uploads/community\\_center\\_rental\\_application.pdf](https://www.town-atkinsonnh.com/sites/g/files/vyhli8101/f/uploads/community_center_rental_application.pdf)



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