

## ALEXANDRIA TODAY

## MAY EDITION

### Town Administrator's Corner

You may have noticed that the heading of this newsletter is for a month rather than a season. In response to requests from our townspeople, we will be trying to produce a shorter, but more frequent newsletter, bringing you information in a more timely manner. Any response or suggestions you wish to make may be emailed to [alexandrianh@metrocast.net](mailto:alexandrianh@metrocast.net) or otherwise delivered to this office at 47 Washburn Road Monday through Friday from 8am to 4pm

That said, the town offices will be closed on May 25 in observation of Memorial Day.

The "Low to Moderate Income Homeowners Property Tax Relief" forms are in the office now. The income limits to qualify for this relief are \$20,000 for a single person and \$40,000 for a married couple. These forms must be returned between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>.

We are planning an Alexandria vegetable garden in front of the town hall this year. Since we are starting with what is essentially a large patch of brown sand, donations of loam and aged manure will be needed. Volunteers interested in participating in wresting vegetable crops from Alexandria's soil should contact this office.

You should be aware that the census workers are out and about. They will carry ID, and you may ask to see their identification. Usually they have it hanging around their neck where it is visible.

---

### Alexandria Planning Board

The Alexandria Planning Board met on April 15 and held annual elections. The results are: Maggie LaBerge, Chairman and Merry Ruggierello, Vice-Chairman. Ed Skroback was reappointed to the position of Alternate.

A presentation by Boyd Smith of the Newfound Lake Watershed was made.

### Planning Board cont'd.

Discussed were:

Gravel pits – 1000 cu/yds. Will continue to be the level where no permit is required. A public hearing will be held on May 20 to present the changes in the Excavation Regulations. The town wide survey results are now available and will be posted on the town's website. Work to update the Masterplan will begin. A natural resources inventory and the conservation issues will be completed by the Alexandria Conservation Commission and submitted to the Planning Board for approval and inclusion in the Masterplan. The natural resources inventory will take some time therefore it may be an addendum to the Masterplan. Proposed projects for the Planning Board in the coming year were presented. Prime wetlands was suggested by the NH RSA's place responsibility for those under the Conservation Commission. The remaining suggestions center around land use ordinances. Exactly what form they will take will be decided at the May, 2009 meeting.

A boundary adjustment regarding the Crouse subdivision on Mt. Cardigan Road was discussed and a formal agreement is expected to be signed over the couple of weeks.


As always, the residents are welcome to join the Planning Board at the regularly scheduled 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7PM. To appear on the agenda, 21 day notice is required.

Thanks and happy spring.  
Maggie LaBerge

---

.Memorial Day celebrated May 25, 2009



<p><b>Transfer Station</b></p>	<p><b>Alexandria Highway Department</b></p>
<p>First I would like to thank all of our customers who have been taking the time to recycle. If you need help or are not sure where to place things, please ask and I will be more than happy to help you.</p> <p>The transfer station free shack roof has once again been repaired by Bob Carlin. Unfortunately, the container has seen better days. To keep the free shack operating, donations to save or rebuild the shack would be appreciated.</p> <p>Interior paint has been donated by an interested citizen to spruce up the office. A donation of exterior paint would be appreciated to pain the outside of the building. We all want to thank Steve Whitman for his donation of a microwave.</p> <p>I have learned that Bestway in Belmont on Route 140 will accept bulky materials and construction debris. If our scheduled “open” times conflict with your workday you may find this business to be more convenient. Their phone number is 888-818-7274.</p> <p>It was decided at the Alexandria Selectmans’ Meeting on April 7, 2009 that all loads fees are to be paid before dumping.</p> <p>Please remember that we are here to follow the town’s rules. If you have nay suggestions or complaints, please send them to the Alexandria Selectmans’ office.</p> <p>Thanks, Helen LoPresti, Transfer Station Supervisor</p>	<p>Happy, happy spring. Although some of us haven’t seen a mud season like this year’s, it could have been worse. We have been grading rough spots as much as possible. We will begin our actual spring grading schedule around May 4<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. With the help of Flanders &amp; Sons Concrete, we replaced the second bridge on Gove Road. We have also started our sweeping process.</p> <p>Jeff Cantara, Road Agent</p> <hr/> <p><b>Office Hours</b></p> <p><b>Selectmen’s Office</b> – 744-3220 Office hours Monday through Friday 8am-4pm Summer schedule for Selectmens’ meeting-6pm 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month Work sessions will be posted in advance</p> <p><b>Town Clerk &amp; Tax Collector</b> – 744-3288 Office hours: Monday 9am to 4pm Tuesday 9am to 4pm Wednesday <b>CLOSED</b> Thursday 9am to 7pm Friday 9am to 4pm</p> <p><b>Transfer Station</b> Monday 8:00am to 12:00pm Wednesday 11:30am to 7:30pm Saturday 8:00am to 4pm</p> <p><b>Police Department</b> - 744-6650 Chief Donald Sullivan When dispatcher picks up – give dispatcher your message. They will page an officer on the radio. Cell phones are not reliable locally.</p>
<p>Mother’s Day May 10, 2009</p> 	<p><b>Highway Department</b> 744-6516 Jeff Cantara Road Agent</p>

### Conservation Committee

A lovely time of year! There is an abundance of workshops providing great information about our natural life in New Hampshire.

The United States Department of Agricultural, Natural Resources Conservation Services offered laminate book marks at one of the workshops. The bookmark illustrates the state of New Hampshire showing the percentages of land use categories. Listed are pastureland 2%; cropland 2%; federal land 13%; water areas 4%; developed land 11% other rural land 3%; and 65% forest land. (Based on 2003 data)

Grafton County Conservation District sends a newsletter to the local conservation commissions a couple of times a year. A timely article of interest is titled "Planting for Pollinators". The following is a summary of the information. For every three bites of food we eat, is delivered to us by pollinators. We owe our lives to these creatures. There are several thousand known species of native bees in the United States. Managed honey bee hives have declined significantly since the 1950's due to disease and influx of aggressive honey bees. Native bees require abundant flowers and a diverse habitat for population growth. Bees are not the only pollinators. Butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, birds and bats provide help. Butterflies and moths prefer broad flat flowers, giving a place to land and rest. To extend the opportunities of the pollinators, planting in groups and different varieties to stagger the time of blossoms is important. Providing a mix of shrubs and trees offers shelter and protection from severe weather. Strive to eliminate pesticide use, birds and insects are very sensitive to the toxins. Bees are active from February to November, longer in milder weather. Bees can fly about seven miles per hour and beat their wings 190 times per second. About 75% of all flowering plants need pollinators to move pollen grains from plant to plant for fertilization.

### Conservation Committee Cont'd.

Dandelions provide nectar in early spring before other flowers are open.

#### **Helpful information: Conservation Commission Review Timeframes**

Standard Application:

14 days from the Town Clerk's signature to request intervention by Wetlands Bureau  
40 days from the Town Clerk's signature to provide a report to Wetlands Bureau

Expedited Application:

Conservation Commission signature required before the bureau can review as expedited, if **no signature reviewed as standard.**

Permit by Notification:

Permittee can start work within 25 days of Town Clerk's signature, if no Conservation signature; or within **10 days if signed by Conservation Commission.**

### Old Time Garden Lore

Last expected frost by the last full moon of May on May 9, 2009. Unless you truly believe in global warming, plant at your own risk.

Plant your corn when the oak leaves are the size of a squirrel's ear. The lore doesn't tell us whether that's a gray or a red squirrel.

And that bit about the Indians putting a herring in each hill of corn? I bet every bear in the mountains waited for spring planting. And that was probably a good thing as no human being would want to set foot in a corn field otherwise.

On the other hand, planting squash and pumpkins around the hills of corn really may help deter pests like raccoons and skunks from feasting on your corn. Try it and let us know.

Plant your potatoes in a shallow trench lightly covered with earth; then keep applying chopped leaves over the trench. It's much easier to harvest the potatoes later.