



## Laconia Links

April 20, 2012 - Edition #28



Gale Library

## Recycling Update

2 week total - April 2 thru April 13

Route	Total Tons Collected (MSW + Recycling)	Total Tons Recyclables	Percent Recycled	Pre-Challenge % Recycled	Councilor
Remote Sites		17.58	N/A	N/A	Lahey
Monday	24.58	3.67	15%	12%	Doyle
Tuesday	38.11	7.94	21%	18%	Lipman
Wednesday	41.96	4.96	12%	10%	Hamel
Thursday	35.86	4.33	12%	11%	Bolduc
Friday	35.67	4.16	12%	10%	Baer

**It's time to step up our recycling efforts...  
We can do better!**

Curbside Avg = 14.2%      Curbside Avg = 12.1%      Prior 2 weeks = 14.0%

**Reminder!** The next recycling collection week begins Monday, April 23!

## City Manager Updates

A new, updated version of the [Monthly Economic Development Report](#) has been posted to the City's website to keep you up-to-date and informed on what's happening in your City.

This report contains information pertaining to Laconia's unemployment rate and wages, as well as business and economic development partnerships.

Contact the City Mgr's office at 527-1270, or [info@city.laconia.nh.us](mailto:info@city.laconia.nh.us)



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 Police Department

[Link to Laconia Police Department Here](#)

## *“Join the New Hampshire Clique” Seat Belt Campaign*

The Laconia Police Department with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration will be conducting an aggressive, statewide campaign during daylight hours May 1<sup>st</sup> – June 30<sup>th</sup> to enforce the state’s child passenger safety law and encourage all motor vehicle operators and passengers to use seat belts. Drivers will also be educated about the lifesaving value of child safety seats and seats belts.

### **RSA 265:107-a Child Passenger Restraints Required.**

No person shall drive a motor vehicle on any way while carrying as a passenger a person less than 18 years of age unless such person is wearing a seat belt or safety belt which is properly adjusted and fastened. No person who is less than 18 years of age shall drive a motor vehicle on any way unless such person is wearing a seat or safety belt which is properly adjusted and fastened. No person shall drive a motor vehicle on any way while carrying as a passenger a person less than 6 years of age unless such passenger is properly fastened and secured by a child restraint system which is in accordance with the safety standards approved by the U.S. Department of Transportation in 49 C.F.R. section 571.213. If the passenger is 55 inches or more in height, the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply.

While the primary emphasis will be placed on child passenger safety, adherence to all traffic laws will be monitored and enforced.

**Please contact the Laconia Police Department at 524-5257 for additional information or questions.**



## 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.

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

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.

Meeting  
in  
Progress

### **Trustees of Trust Funds**

April 23, 2012, 10:00 am  
City Hall, Mayor's Office  
[Agenda](#)

### **City Council Budget Work Session**

April 23, 2012, 6:00 pm  
City Hall, Room 200A  
[Agenda](#)

### **City Council Meeting**

April 23, 2012, 7:00 pm  
City Hall, Room 200A  
[Agenda](#)

### **MSP Meeting**

April 25, 2012, 2:00 pm  
City Hall, Room 200A  
[Agenda](#)



## *Adopt-A-Spots Available!*

Click [here](#) for  
the Parks & Rec.  
website



This year marks the 18<sup>th</sup> year anniversary for the Adopt-A-Spot program in our fine City. Once again, we will be distributing flower barrels in the downtown area and encouraging sponsors to adopt areas in the downtown, Lakeport and Weirs. We also welcome businesses, community groups and homeowners to enter their properties for our Landscape Recognition Award.

To those who may be interested, the City has quite a few spots available to adopt. They are spread throughout the City, some are in secluded areas and some are highly visible.

Those who adopt are asked to maintain the area throughout the growing season. You will receive a sign in your area that shows who adopted the area. This is a great way to advertise!!

If you would like to participate in the Adopt-A-Spot program, contact Laconia Parks & Recreation by April 30<sup>th</sup>. Click [here](#) for the application form.

## *Laconia Fire Department*



Reminder to all residents that no burning permits are being issued until after we receive some significant rainfall. We are in very dry conditions and the warming trend is causing even bigger concerns. The fire danger remains very high. See related story on page 4...



### SPRING LEAF PICKUP

During the Weeks of  
April 23<sup>rd</sup> & May 7<sup>th</sup>

Please click [here](#) for additional information  
or call Ann @ 528-6379

## **Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....**



On Thursday, April 26th at 7pm in Laconia Rotary Hall the Library will host the lecture "The Great Sheep Boom and its Enduring Legacy on the New Hampshire Landscape". In a brief 30-year period in the early 19th century, the New Hampshire countryside became home to hundreds of thousands of sheep. Production of wool became a lucrative business, generating fortunes and providing the only era of true agricultural prosperity in the State's history. It left behind a legacy of fine architecture and thousands of miles of rugged stonewalls. Farmers overcame enormous challenges to make sheep husbandry succeed, but forces from beyond NH were to doom the industry with social consequences that would last a century. Presenter Steve Taylor, independent scholar, farmer, journalist and longtime public official, will speak on this all but forgotten period in the State's history. This program is graciously sponsored by the Laconia Public Library and the NH Humanities Council.

Access the Library's  
Website [here!](#)

## **The Great Sheep Boom and Its Enduring Legacy on the New Hampshire Landscape**



# Laconia Fire Department

Link to Fire Dept. [here](#)

## *Fire Danger from an historical perspective.....*



Very few Laconia residents remember the significance of May 26, 1903, but firefighters do, even though they only hear stories about that day. It was early afternoon and a fire started in Wood's Mill just below the Lakeport Dam. The fire spread throughout the Mill and then started spreading to adjoining buildings. By the time the fire was under control early that evening, 200 families, 500 people, were homeless. 108 homes were destroyed; several mills, two churches, the power company, and a fire station were all destroyed. The fire stopped just before what is now the Elm Street School. There were no more homes and the land flattened out. There was no more fuel to burn.

The fire spread rapidly. And that is the reason for the historical perspective. The weather conditions in May of 1903 were very similar to the conditions we are experiencing right now. There had been very little rain and the temperatures were unseasonably warm. The day of the fire winds were out of the southwest at about 15 to 20 miles per hour.

The fire service and weather service now issue fire danger warnings. We have had a dozen red flag warnings since the end of March. On April 17th of this year the winds were between 15 and 20 miles per hour. The relative humidity currently is very low as is the dew point. Everything has been drying out, not just the brush and forests. Firefighters look at things differently than the average person. You see a beautiful forest.....we see fuel. You see a nice clapboarded home.....we see fuel. If it is combustible, it is fuel. Today everything that can burn is very dry. The winds will push a fire quickly from house to house. The high temperatures and sun are actually preheating the fuel. There are no leaves on the trees to absorb heat, block the sun, or slow down the winds. The dry air and wind is pulling moisture out of all fuels.



Laconia is always at risk of fire. We are a city of mostly wood buildings and they are very close together. Our homes are built on sloping terrain, which stacks house one above the other. Today and for the next few weeks, or until we get several inches of rain, we are at a very high risk of a major fire that could easily consume several buildings. In some areas our homes are literally on top of each other. Unless buildings are separated by more than 30 feet they are subject to fire spread, especially in these conditions.

So heed the warnings. Be extra careful with any fire. Do not burn brush until the conditions have improved. If you see a fire or smoke or suspect a fire, call 911. Let the Fire Department check it out. We do not have time to spare when fighting fires. We do not want history to repeat itself.



# Conservation Commission News

**2012 Earth Day  
April 28th**



Over the past year, the Laconia Conservation Commission, working cooperatively with Waste Management Industries and Laconia Public Works Department, created an all-inclusive Earth Day event to be held at the Laconia Transfer Station. The goal of the project is to enhance wildlife habitat while identifying, isolating and properly removing invasive species. Last year's goal of bringing bluebirds back to the site was achieved thanks to the assistance of local Boy Scouts and a small group of volunteers who helped construct and install bluebird boxes.

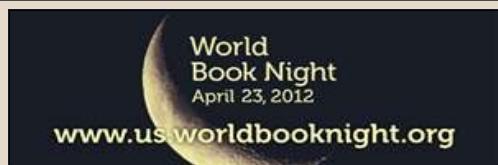
The 2012 Earth Day project on Saturday April 28 will focus on enhancing bluebird habitat by planting native vegetation to support the bluebirds and other existing wildlife. The Belknap County Conservation District will supply us with master gardener recommended native vegetation to be planted by local Middle School students and other volunteers. Belknap Landscape Company, Inc. will assist by monitoring the planting process. A later project will remove previously identified invasive species on the site.



*Oriental Bittersweet*

If you come across invasive species in your yard enhancements or landscaping, please follow these simple guidelines to dispose of them: First, call the Conservation Commission at 527-1264 and/or the State Invasive Species Coordinator, Doug Cygan, at 271-3488 for general removal instructions. Second, call the Laconia Public Works Department at 528-6379 to set up a time to transport the materials to the Hilliard Road brush facility so that local personnel can properly dispose of the materials.

## Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....



World Book Night is coming to the Laconia Public Library on Monday, April 23rd! This is an international event designed to inspire reluctant readers to get lost in a good book! The librarians will be giving away some of their favorite books to members of the community who are interested in becoming more prolific readers. So if you hardly read, or read hardly, come to the Library on April 23rd and pick up a free copy of any of these exceptional books! A wide range of genres will be represented, and we will have children's, teen, and adult books to give away.

*Check out the Library's Website...Click [here](#).*

## Laconia's 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Pooch Parade: **BOW WOW FEST 2012**

**Saturday, May 5, 2012  
WOW Trail - Elm St. Entrance -  
Lakeport Square**

Registration forms found at [www.wowtrail.org](http://www.wowtrail.org)

For info contact Claire Hebert at Melcher & Prescott Ins. 524-4535  
[chebert@melcher-prescott.com](mailto:chebert@melcher-prescott.com)

**Reminder!**



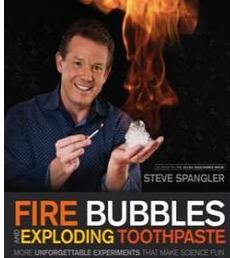


## LACONIA'S SPRING CLEAN-UP DAYS MAY 5 and 12, 2012 8 AM to NOON

Please click [here](#) for additional info, or call  
Ann @ 528-6379

### Laconia Public Library Upcoming Events.....

#### Teen Weird Science



Tuesday, April 24th @ 3:30 in Laconia Rotary Hall for teens in grades 6-12. Come discover your inner mad scientist with wacky experiments guaranteed to knock your socks off!

Based on Steve Spangler's book  
*Fire Bubbles and Exploding Toothpaste*

Check out the Library's  
Website...Click [here!](#)

*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)



Click [here](#) for more info

### Lakes Region Rotary LACONIA, NEW HAMPSHIRE

#### 2nd Annual Community Yard Sale

Clean out your attic for a great cause!

Saturday May 19th, 2012 , 7 am to 2 pm

*At Laconia Public Works Warehouse on Bisson Avenue, Laconia*

*Lakes Region Rotary will be accepting donations Saturday May 5 to Saturday May 12, 2012. Call (603) 556-8184 for drop off times.*

### CIVIL AIR PATROL The U.S. Air Force Auxiliary



#### INFORMATION NIGHT

Thursday, May 3, 2012  
6:30—8:30 pm  
Laconia Mun. Airport  
65 Aviation Dr.  
Gilford, NH

The local squadron of the C.A.P. will hold an open house meeting to provide information to interested young men and women (ages 12-19), adults, parents and educators, interested in opportunities available to them by this program.

For more information visit  
[www.hawksquadron.nhcacade.org/](http://www.hawksquadron.nhcacade.org/)

### Lilies For The Lakes Region ~ Thousands Of Daylilies Ready For Planting In Local Public Spaces



The Laconia Rotary Club's new beautification project will plant 10,000 daylilies over the next 3 years. While the Club is paying for the plants, volunteer assistance is needed. Also, the Club is happily accepting donations to help with the cost at \$1/plant. On Saturday, May 5th, starting at 8am, rain or shine, volunteers are asked to meet at Rotary Park Grandstand for coffee and instructions. Please come with a shovel or hoe in hand!

For more information or to volunteer please contact:  
Dale Squires at Belknap Landscape Co., 603/455-1594 or  
[dale@belknaplandscape.com](mailto:dale@belknaplandscape.com)

