



Official Newsletter of the Town of Stockton Springs

STOCKTON SUMMER

Welcome to the August 2021 edition of the official newsletter for the Town of Stockton Springs. The publication has been inactive for a while, but is now back by popular demand.

This newsletter is a great chance to help disseminate official news and information. The frequency of the newsletter is not certain at this time, but hopefully this will become a monthly publication.

SHORT-TERM RENTALS

The issue of short-term rentals is now before the people of Stockton Springs. Short-term rentals, as you may or may not know, is the situation in which a homeowner rents out their home to short-term renters. Much of this activity is done through national companies such as Airbnb, though some rentals occur privately. Concerns have been raised by town residents regarding problems with short-term rentals and the lack of regulation.

This is an issue that potentially affects the entire town. A community input session will be held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. on the basement floor of the Stockton Springs Town Office regarding the subject of possible regulation of short-term rentals. This is the second meeting on the subject. At the first, the problems regarding short-term rentals were identified. At the August 19 meeting, possible solutions will be examined.

Welcome to our Newest Select Board Members

Congratulations go out to Marsha Shute and Darren Shute, who have both been elected to seats on the Stockton Springs Select Board. Many thanks go out to Melissa Moody and Peter Curley for their dedication to the town. Melissa stepped up after the unexpected death of Selectman Tom Fraser, and Peter has served the town in many capacities, including as a member of the Planning Board. Peter retired in June due to health concerns. Both Melissa and Peter are appreciated, and missed.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

A big thank you to all the volunteers who serve on the town's boards and committees. New members to committees are:

Planning Board: Melissa Moody and Rebecca Emery.

Zoning Board of Appeals: Mark Emery.

Shellfish Conservation Committee: Kristen Lynch, Jeff Walls, and Peter Walls.

Cemetery Committee: Kristen Lynch and Jeff Walls.

Help is needed on the following committees: Harbor Committee, Parks and Trails Committee, Planning Board, Board of Assessment Review, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

ANIMAL CONTROL

After 15+ years of dedicated service, Stockton Springs Animal Control Officer Bruce Gray has handed the baton to Allyson Corriveau-Moore. Allyson can be reached at 323-5588. Many thanks to Bruce for his many years of dedicated service to the people and animals of our community with his work as Animal Control Officer.

Spirit of America Award

Congratulations go out to the Stockton Springs Community Builders for their Spirit of America Award nomination. The Spirit of America Award seeks to build the spirit of volunteerism in Maine, and as part of that mission they recognize the efforts of local volunteers. The Stockton Springs Community Builders was specifically honored for the work they did during the recent quarantine in keeping things as normal as possible for the people and families of our town. Whether it was the Easter Bunny parade (two years in a row,) or holiday activities, or even a drive-in movie night, the Community Builders kept the spirit of Stockton alive during those dark times, and did everything with safety in mind. Volunteerism is the backbone of our town, and the volunteers of the Stockton Springs Community Builders are very much appreciated.

Recycling and Energy Conservation News

The Stockton Springs Recycling and Energy Conservation Committee has been hard at work over the past months. They continue to collect e-waste at the Public Works Building on Cape Jellison on the last Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The items that can be accepted on those Saturdays continues to change, based on what our vendor can accept. For a complete list of items accepted for e-waste, please check the Town's Facebook page, or email manager@stocktonsprings.org.

Recycling continues on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. All items should be curbside by 7:00 a.m. Trash pick-up is every Friday, with material curbside by 7:00 a.m. There is a 40-pound weight limit per bag.

The Town is working in partnership with Central Maine Power to convert our 50+ streetlights from sodium to LED. We expect to see a savings of approximately \$3,000 per year with this change.

Tip of the Month from the Recycling and Energy Conservation Committee:

Want to save on plastic garbage bags?

Want to cut the amount of your bagged garbage by 30 to 40%?

Compost!

Save on the cost of plastic garbage bags, feed your flower gardens and shrubbery, and reduce additions to landfills. Win, win!

For more information on composting: <https://www.nrcm.org/sustainability/home-composting-resources/>

NEWS FROM THE STOCKTON AMBULANCE SERVICE

There have been many changes at the Stockton Springs Ambulance Service. Long-time Director Charles Hare has moved into the well-earned world of retirement. The new director, Ken Folette, was promoted from within the ranks of the Stockton Ambulance Service. There are many opportunities to serve the town through the service, with positions open as drivers, EMTs and paramedics. On-call pay is provided, as is training. Please contact ambulance@stocktonsprings.org or 567-4322 for more information.

TRAFFIC DELAYS

Traffic on Route 1A in Stockton will be down to one lane beginning Monday, August 9, as the Maine Department of Transportation begins preparation work for the replacement of the culvert at Carley Brook, between Old County Road and Church Street. Towards the end of August both lanes will be closed and traffic will be routed through Route 174 in the center of Prospect. Traffic is expected to return to one lane towards the middle of September. The project's completion date is yet to be determined. For more information, contact MDOT Representative Art Morgan at 446-2708 or Arthur.Morgan@maine.gov.

TAI CHI

Tai Chi at Stockton Harbor! Yes! We are going to be practicing tai chi outside at the harbor. This is truly one beautiful place. Please join us. All levels are welcome. There is plenty of level space, and you can social distance as much as you like. Tuesdays and Fridays from 930 to 11 starting Tuesday, June 8th. In case of bad weather, we will be meeting at the town hall. Please call the library (567-4147) and we will put you on our email list and send you additional information.