

CONSERVATION COMMISISON

The Conservation Commission is comprised of volunteers that are appointed by the Board of Selectmen. According to state law, it is our responsibility to protect the natural resources of the town. New Hampshire RSA 36-A directs us to “conduct researches into our local land and water areas” and “seek to coordinate the activities of unofficial bodies organized for similar purposes”. We are very fortunate that our committee has a wide range of knowledge concerning wildlife, vegetation, shoreline, forestry and wetland soil issues. Their innovative ideas, positive energy and endless contributions of time have been an asset to our town in protecting our natural resources. I thank the entire committee and their families for always being there and commend their ability to think outside of the box to accomplish the tasks we are presented with.

The Conservation Committee has the important assignment concerning the proper utilization and protection of the natural resources and of watershed resources, including but not limited to shoreline protection, wet soil issues, site walks (when responding to citizen concerns), and endangered species protection. We continue to work with the State Wetland Bureau concerning any issues in our town as well as our input on all Dredge & Fill permit applications as well as Sand and Gravel Excavations as stated in RSA 155-E-3. The Scenic Roads in town also come under the charge of this Commission, as described in RSA 231:157 and RSA 231:158. The list of Scenic Roads are: Gale Village Road, Currierville Road, Maple Avenue, Goulds Hill Road, Heath Street, Bartlett Street, Thornell Road and Town Hall Road.

Earth Day was another success this year. Gifts provided by the Conservation Commission and the Newton Greenhouse to the first 100 residents that brought Earth-Day-Trash Bags to the Transfer Station. We would like to thank those that took the time to clean up in front of their homes and along the streets in town. If you would like to participate in Earth Day 2017, please email the commission for details.

We would like to remind the residents of our 48+ acre parcel known as the “Busch Farm”. Located off Rte 108, just north of New Boston Road (look for the sign and off street parking access). We encourage the residents to use it for passive recreation. Some of our other areas for residents to enjoy are: Guscora land (off Hidden Acres), 22 acres off Hadley Road, 20 acres off Bartlett Street known as the Stronach Land, the 10+ acres known as the Pinkerton Conservation Trail (off Whittier Street), the 33+ acres known as the Marden Conservation Land (off Whitter Street), the 6 acres known as the Wilder’s Grove Conservation Land, and the Foy Property off Peaslee Crossing Road. Enjoy the wildlife all around you including a glimpse at a Blanding’s Turtle, the Blue Heron, the Great Horned Owls, the lady slippers and much, much more. The conservation easement on Hidden Acres Farm, located on Thornell Road is being monitored according to the Bylaws of the Stewardship Committee. This is a wonderful piece of Newton History that we have the ability to protect and enjoy.

This committee meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month, (during June, July & August only meet on the first Thursday of the month). The meetings are held in the rear of the Town Hall at 7:30pm. All meetings are open to the public, and we encourage anyone that is interested to attend. Feel free to log onto to the town web site at <http://www.newton-nh.gov> for access to minutes of our meetings or email us at conservation@newtonnh.net or leave a message at 603-382-4405 x17.

We look forward to another prosperous year, and encourage your input.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Mears, Chairman, Nancy Slombo, Vice Chair, Trisha McCarthy, Secretary,
Patricia Wonson, Sandra Estabrook, Jacklyn Heffner, and Selectman Liaison Lisa Gonyer
Conservation Commission

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

During 2016, The Town of Newton had a few small weather-related power outages requiring the Team to be pro-active in conducting well-being checks in the community. They worked closely with the Police Department, Fire Department and Road Agent communicating any potential issues in town including impassable roads and tree and/or power lines down.

The Newton Emergency Operating Center strives to provide the best service possible by putting the community and its needs first. The Team keeps their education up to date by using State and Federal Training Seminars (both online and real life). The goal is to improve service to residents during extreme (usually weather related) emergencies, by bringing their own skills and experience together showing the compassion and deep motivating empathy for those they serve. Our Emergency Team is available to give you information regarding disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact the Town of Newton, including road closures, additional weather information and reports from Unitil and Homeland Security. We encourage you to fill out paperwork at Newton Town Hall so you will receive updates during these emergencies. Don't forget to mention if you have pets, after all, they may be affected during emergencies. This will make sure that you receive up to date information on the "current urgent situation". You also can fill out paperwork on Election Day or at Town Hall during normal business hours.

Our Emergency Management Department Schooling includes CPR, First Aid, Homeland Security Training and the Seabrook Power Plant Drills. Our bi-annual drill with the Seabrook Power Plant was very successful in 2016, which included new training, (free) equipment and technology tools for our town's use during emergencies. All trainings and drills are paid for by the Seabrook Power Plant. The Seabrook Power Plant works closely with the towns in their jurisdictional area and fortunately that includes Newton.

Our employees must take National Incident Management Systems classes in order for the Town to stay compliant with Homeland Security and this also allows the Town's eligibility for Grant money. That being said, we have been successful in receiving Grant money for a new phone system for the Emergency Operating Center. Many grant applications were submitted and only a few were approved, ours being one of them. In addition to the phone grant we are currently in Grant process for new Automated External Defibrillator, known as AED's, for the Town Buildings and all safety vehicles. We have also completed the Newton Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as a result of another Grant. This will keep the Town compliant for the next five years.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lawrence Foote, Emergency Management Director
Trisha McCarthy, Deputy Emergency Management Director

Meet the Team

Kristen Sirois, Melissa Adams, Courtney Foote, Debra Alcaidinho, Matt Burrill, Jim Doggett,
Kimberly Hughes, Nancy Wrigley, Ricky Harris III, Heather Kathan, Tracy Ryan

FIRE DEPARTMENT

To the residents of Newton NH:

The Newton Fire/Rescue consists of 27 Paid On-Call professionals staffing the town's two fire stations. The Central Fire Station is located at 35 South Main Street and the Newton Junction Station is located at 29 West Main Street. The members of the department respond to all fire related incidents, HazMat calls, motor vehicle accidents, water rescues, ice rescues, mutual aid, service calls, and EMS calls.

This year the department has seen a major increase in total call volume of approximately 17.286%, with just over 631 calls for service; compared to last year's 538 calls. The department has seen an increase this year in building fires and mutual aid calls but, EMS calls for service once again topped the list with close to 70% of the total call volume.

Newton's new 3,000-gallon tanker truck was placed into service and was immediately used for two building fires within the town and for mutual aid to the surrounding towns. This truck will service the Town of Newton for many years to come.

Last year the department adopted and approved the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) maintenance schedule for all its apparatus fire pumps, apparatus ladders, and all its fire hoses, etc. I am proud to say, with the help from the Board of Selectmen and our members, that all fire apparatus, pumps, ladders, and hoses were tested and repaired or replaced as needed.

Newton Fire/Rescue is proud to announce that they are still providing free home safety inspections, free fall risk assessments, free smoke detector placement checks and free carbon monoxide detector placement checks. Please contact the Fire Chief at 382-8811 to set up your free safety check today.

On a safety note, the Fire Department would, once again, like to request that everyone display their house numbers. These numbers should be clearly visible from the street in reflective or contrasting color to the background. Common driveways should have a sign at the street, listing the numbers on that driveway. These numbers are available through the Newton Firefighters Association by calling the Fire Station at 603-382-8811 or they can be purchased at any home repair retailer. **Your house number could save someone's life!**

Newton Fire/Rescue has gone through countless positive changes and they continue to occur. These changes are due to the Board of Selectmen, and its officers who have taken the department in the right direction and our members have enthusiastically adopted new concepts and adapted to change.

In closing, I would like to once again thank the citizens of the Town of Newton for their continued support. It is our job to keep this town safe. This is a responsibility that we take very seriously.

I would also like to thank the Firefighters, Officers, EMT's and Drivers of this department for taking the time and effort to make this department what it is today.

If anyone has any questions, concerns, or comments about your Fire Department, please call 382-8811 or stop into the Central Fire Station during normal business hours. You can also follow us on Facebook, Newton NH Fire Department, Twitter, @NewtonFireNH, or visit our web page, Newtonfire.com, for up-to-date safety information, including major weather events and fire department activities.

**REMEMBER, SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE (The “*Invisible*” Killer)
DETECTORS SAVE LIVES, AND HOUSE NUMBERS INSTALLED PROPERLY SAVE
TIME!**

**IN AN EMERGENCY, CALL 911. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE FIRE STATION FOR
EMERGENCIES.**

Respectfully submitted,
John R. Alcainho
Fire Chief

2016 Fire Department Statistics

FIRE	Number
Fire, other	1
Building Fire	3
Chimney or Flue Fire	2
Fuel Burner/Boiler Malfunction	2
Passenger Vehicle Fire	1
Forest, Woods and Wild Land Fires	1
Brush or Grass Mixture Fire	3
Outside Rubbish, Trash	1
Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle	1
Overpressure Rupture, Explosion	1
TOTAL	16

SERVICE CALLS	Number
Service call, other	1
Person in distress	1
Lock-out	2
Water or steam leak	1
Smoke or Odor removal	7
Animal rescue	1
Public Service assistance	6
Assist Police	8
Police matter	3
Water problem, other	1
Unauthorized burning	7
Cover assignment, standby or move up	7
TOTAL	45

FALSE ALARMS	Number
Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	1
Smoke detector activation	10
Heat detector activation due to malfunction	1
Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	5
CO detector sounded due to malfunction	2
Unintentional transmission of alarm	1
Smoke detector activation, no fire	8
Alarm system activation, no fire	4
CO detector activation, no CO	2
TOTAL	34

HAZARDOUS CONDITION (No Fire)	Number
Gas Leak	1
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	2
Electrical wiring/equipment problem	1
Heat from short circuit (wiring)	2
Overheated motor	2
Power line down	11
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	4
Vehicle accident, general cleanup	1
TOTAL	24

RESCUE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL	Number
Emergency Medical Service	68
EMS call, excluding vehicle accidents	170
Motor Vehicle with injuries	9
Motor Vehicle with no injuries	10
Pedestrian Accident	2
Search for person on land	0
Watercraft rescue	0
Rescue or EMS Standby	1
TOTAL	260

GOOD INTENT CALLS	Number
Good intent call, other	2
Dispatched & cancelled	10
No incident found on arrival	1
Authorized controlled burning	3
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	8
TOTAL	24

SEVERE WEATHER & NATURAL DISASTERS	Number
Severe weather or natural disaster standby	2

OTHER	Number
Fire permits, fire inspections, home walk throughs, plan reviews	227