

Summer 2017

# Town of Hamilton

**Dates to Remember**

- Aug. 30: Brush drop off Chebacco Road landfill, 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- Sept. 4: Labor Day-Town Hall Closed
- Sept. 9: Public Safety Day, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Sept. 15-21: Friends of the Library Book Sale
- Sept. 27: Brush drop-off, Chebacco Road landfill, 7:30 a.m. -2:30 p.m.
- Oct. 9, Columbus Day-Town Hall Closed
- Oct. 28: Special Town Meeting, 9 a.m.
- Oct. 28: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day
- Nov. 1: Second Quarter tax bills due
- Nov. 10: Veterans Day-Town Hall closed
- Nov. 18: Townwide Leaf Pickup
- Nov. 23: Thanksgiving Day, Town Hall closed

## Sprinkler Use Prohibited After Vote

The Hamilton Board of Selectmen has declared the town in a state of water supply conservation, meaning that outdoor sprinkler use is prohibited. The decision came in a vote at the Board of Selectmen meeting in June. Hand watering will still be allowed. A complete copy of the decision is below: Pursuant to Chapter XXV, Section 5 of the Town of Hamilton By-Laws, the Hamilton Board of Selectmen has determined that there exists or impends a shortage of water, and that conservation measures are appropriate ensure that an adequate supply of water is available to all users, including firefighting operations and that water withdrawal volumes remain within permitted and registration limits; and that any conditions set forth in the town's water withdrawal

permit are satisfied. As a result, the board hereby declares a State of Water Supply Conservation. The following restrictions, conditions, or requirements are hereby imposed on all users of the town water system and to users of private water sources that draw from the same water sources and will remain in effect until termination of the State of Water Supply Conservation by vote of the Board: H. Outdoor Sprinkler Use: The use of lawn and garden sprinklers of all types, including the use of drip irrigation hoses or other devices that use subsurface application is prohibited. In addition to the town bylaw that does not allow mechanical watering of lawns between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. from May 1 to Sept. 30 each year, the town continues to face filtration issues at the water treatment plant.



The water ban helps the plant meet the demand. During times of high demand earlier this year, the efficiency decreased in the plant filter media, which led to discolored water around town.

**Our water...to care for**



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## Police Chief Proposes Recreational Marijuana Ban



A proposed town bylaw that would ban the sale or distribution of recreational marijuana in Hamilton is before the Planning Board. If later approved by Town

Meeting voters, it would mean that a marijuana cultivator, marijuana testing facility, marijuana product manufacturer, marijuana retailer or any other type of marijuana related business would not be allowed in Hamilton. The proposed bylaw would not apply to medical marijuana facilities. It has been reviewed by Town Counsel Donna Brewer. If the proposal moves forward, the Planning Board will hold a Public

Hearing and then later vote on whether to support the bylaw change or not. It would then go to Town Meeting, where it would take a two-third vote to approve. "We would be effectively zoning it out of the community to the extent that zoning can control such things", said the Planning Director Patrick Reffett. Police Chief Russell Stevens appeared before the Planning Board in early August to discuss the proposed bylaw.

### New hours at Town Hall include Tuesday Evening

The new hours start on Monday, Aug. 28. On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, hours will be 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. On Tuesday, Town Hall will be open 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. On Friday, Town Hall hours will be 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. "On the rare occasion that a holiday falls on a Tuesday, extended office hours will roll forward to Wednesday," said Town Manager Michael Lombardo.

## Safe Kids Rewarded with Free Froyo

Free frozen yogurt is again coming to kids in Hamilton that are wearing a bicycle helmet or otherwise demonstrating bicycle safety this summer. The summer safety helmet program is organized by the Hamilton Police Department and Chris Lee, the town's public health nurse, along with local business Cafe Shishco in the Shoppes at Hamilton Crossing. The community policing initiative is designed to promote bicycle safety

and helmet use in Hamilton and each Hamilton police officer has been given a stack of "free frozen yogurt" gift cards for Cafe Shishco. "The cards are to be given to kids in the community who are observed wearing bike/skateboard helmets or are pro actively demonstrating other means of bicycle safety," Hamilton Police Lt. Scott Janes said in a memo to all of the department's officers. In addition to wearing bicycle helmets, kids

may also be rewarded for using a designated crosswalk, using a crossing signal, riding their bicycle on the correct side of the road or skateboarding while using safety precautions.



## Call the Police If You Suspect a Fox is Rabid

Hamilton residents should be aware of the possibility that foxes in the area may be infected with rabies. The head's up comes after recent incidents in two nearby communities — Beverly and Ipswich — where people were bitten by a fox that later tested positive for rabies.

Anyone who encounters a fox in Hamilton that is

possibly infected with rabies should contact the emergency dispatch center (978-468-1212) so proper personnel can be dispatched, said Hamilton Police Chief Russell Stevens. Responders include Hamilton police, an Environmental Police Officer or the Animal Control officer, he said. Rabies is a very serious disease that affects the brain and spinal cord of

mammals and is caused by a virus. It almost always leads to death, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH). Rabies in animals is fairly common in Massachusetts and since 1985, more than 5,000 animals, including foxes, have tested positive for rabies in Massachusetts, according to the DPH.



## Blue Trash Bags Available at Cumberland Farms

Cumberland Farms in Hamilton is now the fourth store where you can buy blue town trash bags. This is in addition to Crosby's Marketplace in the Shoppes at Hamilton Crossing, Hamilton Convenience and Aubuchon Hardware in Beverly. Large blue trash bags are \$2.50 per bag and small bags are \$1.50 per bag. Blue trash bags must

be used when you have more than one full trash can each week. The Town is also anticipating to implement the Bulky Sticker Program in the Fall. The stickers will cost \$25 and the Public Works Director, Tim Olson is working with a vendor to make them available for purchase through the same outlets as the PAYT bags.



# Hamilton Recycles

## Police: Hide Valuables in Vehicles at Trailheads

Hamilton police want to remind residents during the summer as there is more activity on local hiking trails to take simple sense steps to prevent crime when parking at trail-heads. There were a few car break-ins this spring at Bradley Palmer State Park parking lot and the Appleton Farms Grass Rides parking lots, both located on Highland Street. It is important to not leave any valuables visible inside your vehicle when

you park it, police says. Purses, wallets, laptops or anything else that looks like it could be of value should not be left in the car or should be put out of sight. Hamilton Police Lt. Scott Janes recommends that hikers, even before they get to the parking lot should put things away in the glove box or cover it up. The best bet is to put it in a locked trunk. And always make sure your vehicle is locked when you leave it.

All three car break-ins this spring occurred when the thief smashed a rear window to gain access to the vehicle. Typically, thieves are only looking for small items which can be easily pawned for cash, police said. In summary, be cautious when heading out to enjoy the outdoors this summer because police don't want your adventure ruined at the end.



*“Loyal to our mission and the community we serve”*

## Sign up for Emergency Alerts Via Phone, Text, Email

A new, more robust community notification has been rolled out to Hamilton residents and businesses. Police Chief Russell Stevens said that the Town has licensed the CodeRED Community Notification System to help disseminate important or critical information to residents and businesses in Town. The system uses phone calls, emails, text messages and social media to get out information about everything ranging from evacuations, flood and fires to planned road closures or water main repairs. When signing up,

residents have the option of getting only emergency alerts or also getting more general alerts and announcements. Residents can add as many phone numbers, text numbers and emails addresses as they want. "We encourage all residents and businesses to go to the Town's website [www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov) and click on the **CodeRED** logo to enter your contact information to ensure all of the data in our system is accurate and current", Stevens said. The CodeRED login page can also be reached directly and there is also a mobile app and Android smart-phones- go to

App Store or Google Play and search for CodeRED. There is no cost to residents to use the service and all of the information will be kept private. For anyone that uses call blocking, please add these numbers to your contacts- 866-419-500 for emergency calls and 855-969-4636 for general alerts. CodeRED is used by many local communities and replaces a notification system from Blackboard Connect that the Town had been using. If you do not have internet access, contact a friend or family member to help add your information to CodeRED, Stevens said. If needed residents can also call the Hamilton Emergency Communications Center at 978-468-1212 for assistance.



## Firefighters Help Dry Out Playground for Summer Weekend

The Patton Park playground received help from the Hamilton Fire Department earlier this summer. Fire Capt. Ray Brunet, firefighter Bob Wallace and firefighter Jared Dolan pumped out the excessive water in the park to help it dry out faster, according to Police Chief Russell Stevens.



## Gravel Roads Have Been reclaimed,

Three gravel roads in Hamilton were reclaimed and regraded in July. A contractor was hired to do the work on Winthrop Street, Cutler Road and Chebacco Road, according to the Public Works Director, Tim Olson. All of the roads remained open during the work but drivers were asked to choose an alternate route during work hours. "The Department greatly appreciates the community's patience," Olson said.



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# Our summer



**We're on the web:**  
**[www.hamiltonma.gov](http://www.hamiltonma.gov)**

