

News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



July 11, 2025



CITY OF DOVER, NH

288 Central Avenue Dover, NH 03820 603-516-6000

City Hall hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Recycling Center hours:

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:30 a.m. to

Cochecho Arts Festival this week



Headliner series kicks off tonight with The Coastals

The 39th annual Cochecho Arts Festival's Headliner Series, the festival's signature series underwritten by the Rotary Club of Dover, kicks off tonight, Friday, July 11, at



6:30 p.m. with The Coastals, sponsored by Leone,

McDonnell & Roberts, P.A. The Coastals, a seacoast 3:30 p.m. collective with a solid core band and deep connections to fabulous singers and musicians from all over New England, deliver danceable soul and pop cover music. The festival lineup for this week includes: • Tuesday, July 15, 10:30 a.m.: Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate, Rotary Arts Pavilion. Rockin' Ron's fun personality and musical talent make his show of pirate music fun for people of all ages. Sponsored by: Stella's Cafe • Wednesday, July 16, 3 to 7 p.m.: Farmers Market Acoustic Music Series, 110 Portland Avenue, Ice Arena Back Lot. Sponsored by: Seacoast Eat Local Established in 1986, the Cochecho Arts Festival (CAF) is one of the most popular summer music festivals in the Seacoast. This summer-long festival, which is free and open to the public, takes place in Dover's Henry Law Park at the Rotary Arts Pavilion. It features a wide variety of local and regional performers and artists, drawing thousands of people to Dover. This year's festival is underwritten by Orpheum Apartments and Cowork. Show your support for the Cochecho Arts Festival by purchasing a Festival Button sponsored by the Rotary Club of Dover. Button holder benefits include a free bottle of water courtesy of Somersworth Storage at the Friday night concerts and special offers at La Festa, Chapel & Main, Wing-Itz, and Hi Fi Burritos. Each person who purchases a button is entered into the season-long Festival Button Raffle for the grand prize of a Lifetime Zenith 10-foot, sit-in kayak, which comes with a paddle and rooftop car carrier. For the full Cochecho Arts Festival schedule, visit dovernh.org/cochecho-arts-festival or stop by the Chamber at 550 Central Ave. in Dover to pick up a brochure and purchase a festival button. The buttons will also be available for purchase at the CAF Friday night concerts. All proceeds go directly back to the Cochecho Arts Festival.

Utility work begins at Oak Street, Broadway intersection next week

Traffic will be impacted; motorists should anticipate delays

Utility work will begin at the Oak Street and Broadway intersection next week, requiring alternating traffic managed by flaggers. Motorists should expect delays in the area.

Based on the current schedule, the intersection work is anticipated to begin on Wednesday, July 16, and continue for 5 days between 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. Traffic flow returns to normal during off-hours and weekends.

Once completed, the utility work will continue westbound on Oak Street for about 400 feet to Highland Avenue. That work will also impact Oak Street traffic.

The City of Dover has contracted with S.U.R. Construction, Inc. to replace the aging water main from the Garrison Hill water tower to the Broadway and Florence Street intersection, an area of many significant water main breaks in recent years.

Supervisors of the Checklist in session July 16

The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, from 2 to 2:30 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room at City Hall, 288 Central Ave.

During this session, supervisors will register new voters, record changes of address, record changes of party affiliation, and make other necessary corrections to the checklist.



<u>Click here</u> for the agenda.

The Supervisors of the Checklist were originally scheduled to meet on July 8; however, the meeting had to be postponed due to a lack of a quorum.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-516-6018.

Filing period for Nov. 4 municipal election is Sept. 8-19

The filing period for candidates seeking Mayor, City Council, School Board or election officer positions in the November municipal election is from Monday, Sept. 8, through Friday, Sept. 19.

Interested candidates must file a written declaration with the City Clerk during the filing period if they want to appear on the municipal ballot for the Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2025, election.

All elected positions are two-year terms that begin in January 2026. Visit the <u>2025</u> <u>Municipal Election webpage</u> for information on the elected positions, qualifications and compensation.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's office at 603-516-6018.



Dover High School announces freshman orientation and summer tours

Dover High School will welcome incoming freshmen with a series of summer building tours and a formal orientation ahead of the 2025-26 school year.

To assist students and their families with the transition to high school, summer tours of the building will be offered on Thursday, July 31, at 1 p.m., and again on Thursday, Aug. 14, at 10 a.m. The tours provide an early opportunity for students to walk the halls, review their schedules, and become more familiar with the layout of the school.

Freshman Orientation is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 28, from 8 a.m. to noon. Bus transportation will be provided, with pickup in the morning and return service in the afternoon. During orientation, students will meet their teachers, follow their Green and White schedule rotations, and receive their Chromebooks.

Families are asked to complete a short online form to help the school plan for the number of attendees. The form is available at: <u>https://forms.gle/8f4L3bG8mmVXE6Y96</u>.

For more information, visit <u>dhs.dover.k12.nh.us</u> or call Dover High School at 603-516-6900.



City Council honors Unified Volleyball state champions with proclamation

Mayor Robert Carrier recognized the Dover High School Co-ed Varsity Unified Volleyball Team during the July 9 City Council meeting, presenting a proclamation honoring the team for its 2025 season and state championship win.

The proclamation celebrates the team's commitment to inclusion, perseverance, and teamwork, and acknowledges the efforts of players, coaches, families, and supporters who helped create a "nurturing environment in which every athlete could thrive."

"Unified Sports programs bring together students with and without intellectual disabilities on the same team, promoting an environment of inclusion, respect, and camaraderie," the mayor said, reading from the proclamation.

Mayor Carrier commended the team for their determination and resilience, both on and off the court, and praised their journey to the 2025 State Championship as a testament to the power of working together.

The proclamation also noted that the team's achievement goes beyond wins and losses, calling it "a beacon of hope and proof that inclusive sports can transform lives and bring communities closer together."

Members of the team attended the meeting to accept the proclamation.

The full proclamation can be read on the City Council's proclamations and awards page <u>here</u>.

Nighttime 'supermove' on Sunday through Dover, downtown areas

Motorists should anticipate rolling closures of downtown arteries

The New Hampshire Department of Transportation has approved a permit for the transport of heavy equipment from Maine, currently scheduled for Sunday night. The route through downtown Dover, which is anticipated to occur after 9 p.m., will require temporary closures on sections of Portland Avenue, Main Street, Washington Street and Central Avenue. Delays should be expected in other areas of the route.

The heavy equipment hauler, Bay Crane Northeast, LLC, will transport the equipment along Route 4/Portland Avenue from Rollinsford through Dover. As the equipment reaches Portland Avenue and Main Street, it will travel the wrong way on Main Street and Washington Street. It will continue south on Central Avenue, before traveling west on Silver Street to Knox Marsh Road. It will continue on Knox Marsh Road/Route 155 to U.S. Route 4, where it will head south on Route 125. The final destination is Massachusetts, which is expected to take several days to complete.

New Hampshire state police will assist with road closures throughout the equipment's transport.

NHDOT warns motorists the rolling closures and roadblocks may last for 30 minutes or more, as the hauler takes care to move the 107-foot-long, 17-foot-wide, and 20-foot-tall equipment safely through the area. They encourage motorists to seek alternate routes.

Due to the challenges of the move, the timing is dependent on when the equipment reaches the area from Maine. It may be delayed to another night.

For more information, contact NHDOT at 603-271-3734.

Upcoming Meetings:

City Council -Ordinance Committee, July 14, 8:30 a.m.

The City Council Ordinance Committee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 8:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

City Council, Committee to Address Community Housing Needs, July 14, 4 p.m.

The City Council's Ad-Hoc Committee to Address Community Housing Needs will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 4 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

Conservation Commission, July 14, 5:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.



Paving operations underway on Back River Road, Alumni Drive

Continental Paving, Inc., the city's paving contractor, began paving operations on Back River Road and Alumni Drive this week.

Flaggers will be on hand to assist with traffic flow. Motorists should anticipate delays through the work area. On-street parking will be prohibited in the work area during paving operations daily between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The contractor will begin milling off the top layer of pavement, which is anticipated to be completed next week, according to the current schedule. Once the milling is completed, street castings, such as storm drains and maintenance hole covers, will be raised in preparation for paving. Motorists should use caution around the raised castings.

The work may take two to four weeks to complete.

Contact Community Services at 603-516-6450 for more information.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Recreation Advisory Board, July 14, 6 p.m.

The Recreation Advisory Board will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Dover Ice Arena, 110 Portland Ave.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Board of Health, July 14, 6 p.m.

The Board of Health will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click here</u>.

School Board, July 14, 7 p.m.

The School; Board will hold a regular meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Planning Board, TDR Subcommittee, July 15, 5 p.m.

The Planning Board's Transfer of Development Rights Subcommittee will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, beginning at 5 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Joint Building Committee Athletic Complex, July 15, 6 p.m.

The Joint Building Committee for the Dover High School Athletic Complex will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.



Payne Street weekday closure extended through July 18 for waterfront work

The weekday closure of Payne Street (formerly River Street) will continue through Friday, July 18 to accommodate work on the waterfront project. The street will be closed between Henry Law Avenue and Washington Street from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday — excluding holidays — for road and utility work related to the city's waterfront construction project.

Payne Street will reopen each day after work is complete. When the road is closed, the contractor will post road closure signs on Central Avenue at Hanson Street, Main Street at Washington Street, and Henry Law Avenue at Hanson Street to help inform motorists.

The closure allows workers to safely complete the installation of the stormwater treatment area, street curbing, and sidewalks, along with other related road work.

For more information, contact Community Services at 603-516-6450.

Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

The City of Dover is currently accepting bids for the following projects:

- <u>Crack Sealing</u>
- WWTP Ford F600 Truck with Plow and

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Board of Supervisors of the Checklist, July 16, 2 p.m.

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, beginning at 2 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

Energy Commission, July 16, 5:30 p.m.

The Energy Commission will be in session on Wednesday, July 16, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

For a complete list of upcoming meetings, visit <u>https://www.dover.nh.gov/governme</u> <u>nt/open-government/public-</u> <u>meetings/</u>.

Volunteer boards help keep Dover vibrant

The City of Dover is a vibrant community due in large part to the significant energy and talent of citizen participation on the city's many boards, committees, and commissions. Input from these boards, committees, and commissions helps guide Dover's policy decisions.

Want to get involved? There are currently committees seeking members to fill regular and alternate member vacancies, including:

- Recreation Advisory Board
- Planning Board
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at

Hook Lift

Current bid documents can be accessed on the Finance Department's <u>bid page</u>. Vendors can also join the City's bid list by visiting the site.

For more information, contact the Finance and Purchasing Office at 603-516-6030.



From Demolition to Renovation: An Update on the Transformation of Dover's Library

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Eric Sanderson, the city's project manager, and Library Director Denise LaFrance about the ongoing renovation of Dover's historic library. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <u>http://bit.ly/4lcl03V</u>.



Missed the meeting? Catch it again online www.dover.nh.gov/government/boar ds-and-commissions/

To apply, complete an application, available here and at the City Clerk's Office, and either drop it off at the Clerk's Office or email it to City Clerk Jerrica Vansylyvong-Bizier at j.bizier@dover.nh.gov. Applicants are welcome to apply to any board or commission. Applications are kept on file for one year.

The City Council appoints citizens to boards and commissions from recommendations of its Appointments Committee, which meets regularly to review applications. Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board, Planning Board or Waterfront Committee meetings on DTV, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

Simply visit <u>dovernh.viebit.com</u> to begin watching meetings on demand. Online meetings are organized by agenda item for convenience.

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

We want to hear from you. In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the results for the previous week. Participating is easy. Click on the link below to cast your vote.

This week's question:

"Have you ever attended the Cochecho Arts Festival?"

Let us know here: https://polco.us/magnr8.

Please note that if you don't already have an account with Polco, the city's polling system, you will be asked to create one. Responses are anonymous.



The following events are from various historical records, sources, and texts about the history of Dover.

For more on the history of Dover, visit the Dover Public Library, Locust Street, and the Woodman Museum on Central Avenue. The Public Library also maintains an online collection of historical information <u>located here</u>.

July 13, 1776 — Just days after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, the people of Dover took decisive action to support the war effort. On July 13, 1776, the town voted to offer a financial incentive to local men joining the Continental Army's campaign in Canada. Each man who had enlisted since July 11, or would soon enlist, was promised 42 shillings as a bonus for their service. The number of recruits was expected to be no more than 15 or 16. To fund this, Dover's Selectmen were authorized to borrow the money immediately, in whatever way they could, on behalf of the town.

July 12, 1792 — The first newspaper published in Dover, the Strafford Register, appeared on this day.

July 17, 1817 — On this day in 1817, President James Monroe passed through Dover as part of his goodwill tour of New England. Monroe, who had taken office on March 4 of that year, was traveling from Boston to Portsmouth and Portland, making his return journey by way of inland towns, including Dover. As he crossed into New Hampshire, Monroe was formally welcomed at the state line by a committee chosen by Dover's town leaders. He was then escorted into town by local marshals and a designated honor guard, in a display of civic pride and ceremony. Monroe's journey was part of his larger "Goodwill Tour" of the northern states, meant to unify the nation after the War of 1812 and during a period of growing nationalism. His visit helped usher in what would be known as the "Era of Good Feelings," a time marked by a sense of national purpose and a temporary decline in partisan politics.

July 12, 1999 — Dover's School Board learned the district would receive its first state "Claremont" aid payment, a check for \$620,797, representing one-eighth of the nearly \$5 million in new state education funding allotted to Dover that year. This money stemmed from the landmark Claremont education funding lawsuit, which had successfully challenged New Hampshire's school funding system. Claremont I (1993) and Claremont II (1997) were New Hampshire Supreme Court rulings that reshaped school funding. In Claremont I, the Court declared that the state has a constitutional duty to provide an "adequate" public education to every child and to fund it adequately. Claremont II went further, ruling that the existing heavy reliance on local property taxes was "disproportionate and unreasonable." as poor towns had to tax at much higher rates to raise the same funds. The Court ordered the state to fix the funding system, requiring funding to rely on taxes that are equal in rate across communities. In response, the legislature in 1999 created a statewide education property tax and an "adequacy aid" formula: every district now gets a per-pupil grant from the state (funded by that uniform tax). This change brought new revenue to cities like Dover, intended to help reduce local tax burdens. Even after Claremont, debates over education funding persisted. Lawmakers have tweaked funding formulas over the years, but critics argue state aid remains insufficient. The base per-student aid was about \$3,700 to \$4,100 per pupil in recent years, far below what many communities spend. Lawsuits continued: in 2019, a coalition of districts (led by the Contoocook Valley, or "ConVal," district) sued the state, citing the Claremont precedents and claiming the state's contribution doesn't meet actual costs. This year, in 2025, the New Hampshire Supreme Court agreed that the state is underfunding public education, calling the shortfall a constitutional deficiency. However, the Court left it to the governor and legislature to devise a remedy, echoing the ongoing challenge since Claremont, ensuring all NH students receive an adequate education without overburdening local taxpayers. The fight for a fair, sustainable school funding solution remains a live issue in New Hampshire today.



Explore the science of climate change at Dover Public Library

Parts of planet Earth are getting wetter while other parts are getting drier. Many places, like New England, are experiencing extended dry periods and then suddenly a 1-in-1000-year flood.

Join Dover Public Library virtually on Wednesday, July 16 at 7 p.m. for "Why Is the Earth Getting Both Wetter and Drier? The Science of Climate Change", brought to you in partnership with



Tewksbury Public Library. <u>Register</u> to receive a link to the live stream.

In this presentation, examine the science of climate change and why it is driving both wetter and drier conditions. Explore how the climate is changing in New England and what the future holds. The talk is led by Stephen Young, Ph.D., Professor of Geography and Sustainability Department at Salem State University.

Professor Young is a former chair of the Department of Geography at Salem State University where he uses remote sensing (satellite imaging) to analyze climate change and deforestation. He received his Ph.D. in geography from Clark University, a master's degree in environmental science from Yale University and a B.A. in environmental studies from the University of Vermont. His geographic areas of expertise include northeastern North America and China. In addition to his academic research, he bridges the arts and sciences through art gallery exhibitions which try to expose the public to science and geography. In the summer of 2015 his exhibition "Macro or Micro?" (with Salem State University Biology professor Paul Kelly) was on display at the Museum of Science in Boston, MA and at the Sazmanab Institute of Contemporary Art in Tehran, Iran.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information or to sign up, visit the library's website at <u>library.dover.nh.gov</u> or call (603) 516-6050.

This Week at the Library

Monday, July 14, 10 to 10:45 a.m. Summer Family Storytime McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us this summer to celebrate storytelling and family, tied together in a whirl of color and art. Through stories, songs, games and activities, children will explore their art-filled world.

Monday, July 14, 2 to 3 p.m. Teen Yoga

McConnell Center, Room 306 Join fellow teens for a fun, accessible beginner yoga flow set to a cool playlist, followed by some relaxing meditative journaling. It's the perfect way to destress and reconnect with yourself in a laid-back environment. All levels and bodies are welcome – no prior experience necessary, just come as you are! This class is open to teens entering grades 6-12.

> Monday, July 14, 7 to 8 p.m. "Captain Kidd: A True Story of Treasure and Betrayal" with Author Samuel Marquis Virtual: Sign up to receive link: https://ow.ly/63bs50WmHzy

Wednesday, July 16, 10 to 10:45 a.m. Four Winds Nature Institute Garrison Elementary School

We'll be exploring nature-based play through stories, exploration, and activities. This event is for all ages, and will take place on the playground. Please bring a blanket or towel to sit on.

Weds, July 16, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Caregiver Cafe

McConnell Center, Room 323 Join Cornerstone VNA for a morning of support, education, and conversation. Loved ones are welcome.

Weds, July 16, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. All Abilities Club: Legos Great Bay Services

Join us in building with Legos. Use your imagination to make your own creation or try one of the challenges provided.

Wednesday, July 16, 2 to 3 p.m. Coffee Talk for Teens Breakaway Cafe

Teens entering grades 9-12 are invited to join us for a coffee tasting and Q&A with Ben Cole, owner of Breakaway Cafe! Author Samuel Marquis speaks about his most recent book, "Captain Kidd: A True Story of Treasure and Betrayal," a thrilling, yet tragic tale. Behind the legend is a real man woven into the tapestry of early America, rendering him a unique colonial hero and scapegoat whose life story was fascinating, exciting, bizarre, and heartrending.

Tuesday, July 15, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Adult Knitting Group McConnell Center, Room 323

Knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us with their projects for an in-person crafting circle. All levels welcome.

Tuesday, July 15, 10:30 to 12 p.m. Art Journal and Junk Journal Class McConnell Center, Room 306

Art journals tend to focus on sketching and painting and junk journals focus more on collage, mixed media, and found objects. Only you get to decide what your journal is. No artistic skill is necessary, all you need is a curious mind and willingness to play with art supplies. This class is open to teens and adults. *Registration required.*

Tuesday, July 15, 3 to 4 p.m. Crafternoon for Kids: Torn Paper Art Exploration McConnell Center, Room 306 Kids in grades 1-5 are invited to join us to

discuss torn paper collage illustration in picture books and create torn paper collage art of their own. *Registration required.* We'll sample various coffee varieties and learn more about coffee brewing and small business ownership. *Registration is required.*

Wednesday, July 16, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Drop-In Open Art Lab for Kids McConnell Center, Room 306 Kids of all ages are invited to bring their imagination and creativity to the Drop-In Open Art Lab. We will have a variety of supplies available for you to use to create artwork of your own design.

Wednesday, July 16, 7 to 8 p.m. Why is the Earth Getting Wetter & Drier?: The Science of Climate Change Virtual: Sign up to receive link:

https://ow.ly/8Ypc50WmliX Parts of planet Earth are getting wetter while other parts are getting drier. Many places, like New England, are experiencing extended dry periods and then suddenly a 1-in-1000-year flood. Examine the science of climate change and why it is driving both wetter and drier conditions. Explore how the climate is changing in New England and what the future holds. Led by Stephen Young, Ph.D., Professor of Geography and Sustainability Department at Salem State University.

Friday, July 18, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Collaborative Art Project with the Dover Arts Commission Park Street Park

We'll be doing a special collaborative art project with the Dover Arts Commission at Park Street Park.



Energy Tips from Dover's Energy Commission



DON'T HAVE A/C? COOL YOUR HOME WITH A CROSS-BREEZE FAN SETUP!

What You'll Need:

- At least 2 box fans or window fans
- Windows on opposite sides of your home or apartment

Step 1: Pull Cool Air In

- Place one fan in a window facing inward to pull cool air inside.
- Choose a shaded side of the house for better results.

Step 2: Push Hot Air Out

• In a different room, place another fan in a window facing outward to push warm air outside.

Step 3: Open Doors Between Rooms

- Keep interior doors open between the two fans so air can flow easily.
- Close off any unused rooms to keep the cool air moving through your living areas.

Why It Works

 This method creates a cross-breeze that replaces warm indoor air with cooler outdoor air. When timed right

 evenings, nights, or early mornings
 it can noticeably lower indoor

temps.



City Council proclaims July as Plastic Pollution Reduction Month

At the July 9 City Council meeting, Mayor Robert Carrier issued a <u>proclamation</u> recognizing July 2025 as Plastic Pollution Reduction Month in the City of Dover, encouraging residents and businesses to reduce plastic consumption and adopt sustainable alternatives.

The proclamation continues Dover's ongoing commitment to environmental sustainability, building on a City Council resolution passed in 2019 and similar proclamations in recent years. The city has supported various initiatives aimed at reducing single-use plastics, including the nationwide Skip-the-Stuff campaign and the regional Reusable Seacoast takeout container project.

"The City of Dover wishes to conserve resources, minimize waste, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollution, and protect the welfare of our residents and wildlife, all of which contribute to the quality of life in Dover," the mayor said, reading from the proclamation.

The proclamation also highlights the environmental and health risks associated with plastics, from fossil fuel extraction and manufacturing to their breakdown into microplastics that contaminate food and water sources. It notes that less than 5% of plastic is recycled in the United States, with the rest often ending up in landfills for centuries.

Residents and local businesses are urged to consider alternatives such as reusable water bottles, cloth bags, compostable containers, and silicone storage bags.

Plastic Pollution Reduction Month aligns with the global Plastic Free July movement and reflects Dover's broader sustainability and resilience goals.

For more information about the city's sustainability efforts, visit https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/resilient-dover/.

Tri-Chambers to host State of the State forum with Gov. Kelly Ayotte

The Tri-Chambers of Commerce (Dover, Rochester, Somersworth) will hold their annual State of the State forum with Gov. Kelly Ayotte on Monday, July 14, from 8 to 10 a.m. at the Frisbie Memorial Hospital Community Education & Conference Center, 11 Whitehall Rd. in Rochester. Underwritten by Eversource, the State of the State forum will feature a keynote address by Governor Ayotte, who will offer insights and updates on the economic landscape and business climate in the region. Governor Ayotte will also answer questions from attendees.

"We look forward to hosting Governor Ayotte in person to address our member businesses," says Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce President Laura Ring. "The annual State of the State forum presents a great opportunity for Tri-Chamber members and members of the general public to connect with the Governor and learn more about the issues that are important to them."

The State of the State forum, which includes a full breakfast, costs \$30 per person to attend, and pre-registration is required. To register, visit rochesternh.org/stateofthestate or call the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce at 603-332-5080. As space is limited, <u>pre-registration</u> is required. Breakfast and networking start at 8 a.m.; the program will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.

The Tri-Chambers of Commerce is a collaborative partnership of the Greater Dover, Greater Rochester and Somersworth Community chambers of commerce with the goal of bringing networking and informational opportunities to their members in the Tri-City region.

Dover's water tank capacity remains limited; city urges mindful use, especially during hot weather

Major water tank offline for repairs; city relying on smaller tank until late July Dover's water operators urge citizens to continue limiting outdoor water use — especially water irrigation on hot, humid days — to ensure sufficient water reserves for residents, businesses and emergency needs.

The city can store only 20% of its normal water holding capacity, with its 4-million-gallon Garrison Hill tank offline for repairs. Dover is relying on its 1-million-gallon Smith Well tank to meet city water needs until the Garrison Hill tank resumes operation, expected by July 25.

If water irrigation is necessary, water operators urge users to consider irrigating overnight before 6 a.m., when household water demand increases significantly across the city.

"Hand watering and avoiding watering during the heat of the day will go a long way to ensure enough water for everyone, including our firefighters," said Community Services Director John Storer, noting that automatic irrigation systems often waste lots of water.

Dover's current limited water storage capacity, combined with high seasonal demand, can strain the water system by requiring groundwater production facilities to start and stop more frequently than optimal. Unlike turning on a faucet, each start/stop cycle involves time-consuming power-up and power-down processes to avoid stressing the aquifer or damaging critical equipment, such as pumps and wells.

"Our goal is to buffer the extreme usage peaks that drain the smaller tank," Storer said.

The Garrison Hill tank has been offline since March for its first significant rehabilitation since it began operation in 1968. The original project schedule had the tank online for peak summer water use; however, the higher-than-normal precipitation this spring created additional moisture and condensation within the tank, delaying some of the project repairs.

Track water use, get leak alerts with 'Eye On Water'

Water customers can monitor their water usage with the Eye On Water online portal and mobile app. The system helps track daily, monthly, and yearly consumption; users can also sign up to receive alerts for potential leaks. Access the portal at <u>https://eyeonwater.com/signup</u>. Customers will need their account number from their water bill. For assistance, contact the Water and Sewer Billing Office at 603-516-6028.

Ways to conserve

Residents and customers can conserve water by adopting the following best practices:

- Limit outdoor watering. According to the EPA, irrigation accounts for 30% of residential water use nationally about 9 billion gallons per day. Avoid irrigating during the hottest parts of the day when evaporation is highest.
- Utilize commercial car washes. They are more efficient with water and don't dump dirty water into the storm drains.
- Fixing leaky plumbing conserves water and saves money. Leaking faucets and toilets can waste thousands of gallons a year, leading to increased water bills.
- Be mindful of indoor water use. Take shorter showers, turn off the water when brushing teeth, and run dishwashers and washing machines only when full.

For more information, contact Community Services at 603-516-6450.

City of Dover employment opportunities

Want to work for the City of Dover? The City's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and a downloadable application for employment. The City of Dover is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Fire/Life Safety Inspector, Part-Time
- Parking Enforcement Officer, Per Diem or Part-Time

- Utility Systems IT Technician
- Parking Enforcement Officer
- Police Officer
- Wastewater Pump Station Operator
- Swim Instructor, Part-Time
- Lifeguard I, Part-Time
- Water Exercise Instructor II, Part-Time
- Fire Fighter/AEMT
- Truck Driver Streets
- Laborer Public Works Streets & Stormwater
- City Attorney
- Diesel Mechanic
- Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- Deputy Community Services Director

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, <u>click here</u>.

Dover School District employment opportunities

Want to work for the Dover School District? The District's website offers an updated list of open positions, including job descriptions and online applications. The District is now seeking applications for the following positions:

- Accounting Specialist
- Boys JV Soccer Coach
- Dean of Students
- EMT Instructor
- Freshman Boys Soccer Coach
- Interventionist
- Long Term Substitute 7th Grade Math Teacher
- Long Term Substitute Grade 4
- Noon Aide
- Paraprofessionals
- Registered Nurse
- Second Grade Long Term Substitute
- Ski Coach
- Special Education Teacher/Case Manager
- Substitute Teacher

For more information about these positions, click here.

CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE | www.dover.nh.gov



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