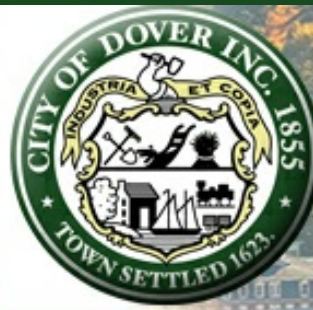


DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



December 22, 2023



**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
3:30 p.m.

School Board continues FY2025 budget review

**Next workshop slated for Jan. 8; Board
plans to adopt at a Jan. 16 special meeting**

The School Board plans to adopt its proposed fiscal year 2025 budget at a special meeting on Monday, Jan. 16. The board will continue its budget review at a workshop on Monday, Jan. 8 at 6 p.m., before its regular monthly meeting at 7 p.m. It will also be the first meeting of the new School Board, which includes new members Elizabeth Goldman representing Ward 2 and Craig Flynn representing Ward 5.

The School Board, with Superintendent William Harbron and Business Administrator Michael Limmanni, has reviewed and refined the proposed FY2025 budget since they introduced it to the School Board at its Nov. 20 meeting. Currently, the FY2025 proposed budget totals \$85,507,439 in estimated revenue and expenditures. Of that, \$58,022,509 is proposed to be raised by local property taxes, a \$6,263,209, or a 12.1% increase over the adopted FY2024 adjusted budget. Based on the current estimated tax cap calculation, the School Department's budget is an estimated \$2,962,549 above the education side of the tax cap.

The new budget does not add any new positions, and Superintendent Harbron and Business Administrator Limanni have explained the request for additional money above the tax cap is to maintain current services due to the significant loss in state education funding. The current services include an increase of \$1,518,309 in wages and benefits from the three union contracts approved by the School Board and City

Council this year, affecting the Dover Teachers Union, Dover Paraeducators, and the Dover Educational Office Personnel unions. In addition to wage increases, there is \$1,446,369 in legally required special education services, and \$1,211,344 in transportation costs, which includes an \$88,344 increase in district transportation costs and \$1,123,000 in legally required special education transportation costs.

Based on the recent state aid calculations, the School Department will receive a 16.8% reduction from the state adequate education grant, totaling \$2,328,513, and a 2.6% reduction in the statewide education tax, totaling \$183,412. The reduction of state aid is a combination of lower student enrollment, fewer students receiving free and reduced lunch, and Dover's increased property valuation, among other variables, according to the Department of Education's adequate education aid calculations. Find the calculation for this and previous years at

<https://www.education.nh.gov/who-we-are/division-of-educator-and-analytic-resources/bureau-of-education-statistics/state-adequate-education-aid>.

Once the School Board's budget is adopted, it will be incorporated into the City Manager's city-wide budget, scheduled to be presented to the City Council on Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2024. The Council is to adopt its final budget by April 15, 2024. The School Department is scheduled to present its budget to the City Council on Wednesday, March 13, 2024 with a public hearing tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2024.

Find videos of the School Board's budget meetings and workshops, along with budget documents, at the FY2025 Budget Revealed webpage at

<https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/open-government/budget-revealed/fy2025-budget/>.

Upcoming Christmas holiday hours for City facilities

Curbside trash and recycling pickup delayed one day the week of Dec. 25

City administrative offices, including **City Hall**, will be closed on Monday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Dec. 26.

The **Public Library** will be closed on Saturday, Dec. 23; Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24; and Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25.

The **Dover Ice Arena** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25.

The **McConnell Center Recreation facilities** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25.

The **Dover Community Senior Center** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24; and Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25.

The **Dover Indoor Pool** will be closed on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25.

Dover Community Power now showing up on bills

Dover electricity customers enrolled in the Dover Community Power program will now see Dover Community Power as their electricity supplier beginning on their December Eversource bill.

The December bill will be the first to show Dover Community Power as the power supplier since the program's launch on Oct. 27, 2023. Most customers on Eversource's default supply service were automatically enrolled in the Dover Community Power program. Customers who were not automatically enrolled purchase electricity from third-party suppliers, utilize net metering, and commercial and industrial customers who use a significant amount of electricity. The program is voluntary, and customers eligible for Dover Community Power can opt in or out.

The default Dover Community Power product is the Granite Basic, which includes at least 23.4% renewable content. Customers may opt for higher renewable content, including 33%, 50% and 100%. Find more information at <https://www.communitypowernh.gov/dover>.

New rates expected next week

The Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire will finalize its electricity rates for Feb. 1, 2024, to July 31, 2024, next week on Thursday, Dec. 28. City of Dover's Resilience Manager Jackson Kaspari, a member of CPCNH's board of directors, said he expects a significant rate reduction for Dover Community Power customers and that the Granite Basic rate during this period is anticipated to be the lowest default rate offered in New Hampshire. More information will be available once the CPCNH finalizes the rate.



Dover to inaugurate newly elected City Council and School Board Jan. 2

The newly elected Dover City Council and School Board will be inaugurated on Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2024 during a 7 p.m. ceremony in the City Hall auditorium. Don Briand will serve as master of ceremonies for the event, which is open to the public.

Prior to the ceremony, the incoming City Council will meet at 6 p.m. in the City Manager's office to elect a deputy mayor, make committee appointments, adopt procedural rules for the upcoming term, and take the official oath of office.

The incoming School Board will also meet at 6 p.m. in the City Hall Council Conference Room to elect a chair, vice-chair and secretary, as well as vote on School Board bylaws.

Those elected to serve on the 2024-2025 Dover City Council are:

- At Large – Lindsey Williams
- At Large – Linnea Nemeth
- Ward 1 – April Richer
- Ward 2 – Robert Warach
- Ward 3 – Anthony "Tony" Retrosi
- Ward 4 – Debra Hackett
- Ward 5 – Dennis Shanahan
- Ward 6 – Fergus Cullen

Elected to the 2024-2025 Dover School Board are:

- At Large – Robin Trefethen
- Ward 1 – Maggie Fogarty
- Ward 2 – Elizabeth Goldman
- Ward 3 – Carolyn Mebert
- Ward 4 – Micaela Demeter
- Ward 5 – Craig Flynn
- Ward 6 – Michelle Clancy

The inauguration ceremony will include the elected officials taking the oath of office. It represents the formal start of the new term for the City Council and School Board.

Don't Trash Dover to hold Litter Collection Walk on Saturday

Join Don't Trash Dover on Saturday, Dec. 23, for a one-hour Litter Collection Walk, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Participants will meet at the front entrance of Woodman Park Elementary School. The group departs at 9:30 a.m. sharp and returns to the same location at 10:30 a.m. sharp with litter collected for a group photo.

The Litter Collection Walk is open to all and is a great way to get some exercise and meet new people, while helping out the community.

Don't Trash Dover provides the bags and has litter grabbers and safety vests available to loan, if needed. Those with their own litter grabbers



are encouraged to bring them. Gloves are recommended.

For more information, including a decision to postpone the event due to the weather, visit <https://facebook.com/events/s/litter-collection-walk-decembe/478408721164582/>.



Strafford County Warming Center open tonight, Dec. 22

The Strafford County Warming Center, located at 30 Willand Drive in Somersworth, will open tonight, Friday, Dec. 22 at 5 p.m. The Warming Center will remain open until 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 23.

Transportation to the Warming Center will leave the Dover Transportation Center, 33 Chestnut St., and from the Rochester Fellowship Kitchen, 34 S. Main St., Rochester, at 6:30 p.m. tonight. Meals will be provided, as well as warm bedding, access to care supplies, and connection to resources such as Infinity Peer Support, SOS Outreach, rehabilitation centers, and more.

Get activation text alerts

Get text alert notifications when the Warming Center is activated by texting "Willand" to 855-935-4402. To contact the Warming Center, call 603-742-2709, or visit their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/warmingcenterofsc>.

Meals, donations and volunteers needed

Karlee's Home Team seeks meals and other donations to provide for those who stay at the center. [Click here](#) to sign up to bring a meal. [Click here](#) to see the current list of needed items. They also seek volunteers to help. Email Karleeshometeam2023@gmail.com for more information.

Upcoming Meetings:

Planning Technical

**Review, Jan. 4,
10:30 a.m.**

The Planning Board's Planning Technical Review Committee will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, January 4, 2024, beginning at 10:30 a.m., in the Council Conference Room at City Hall.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

Library Board of Trustees, Jan. 4, 4 p.m.

The Library Board of Trustees will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, January 4, 2024, beginning at 4 p.m., at the Dover Public Library, 73 Locust Street.

To view the meeting agenda, [click here](#).

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



Missed the meeting? Catch it again online

Don't forget: If you missed the live City Council, School Board or Planning Board meetings on Channels 22 and 95, you can catch them again, online and on demand.

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

Dover Download 'Question of the Week'

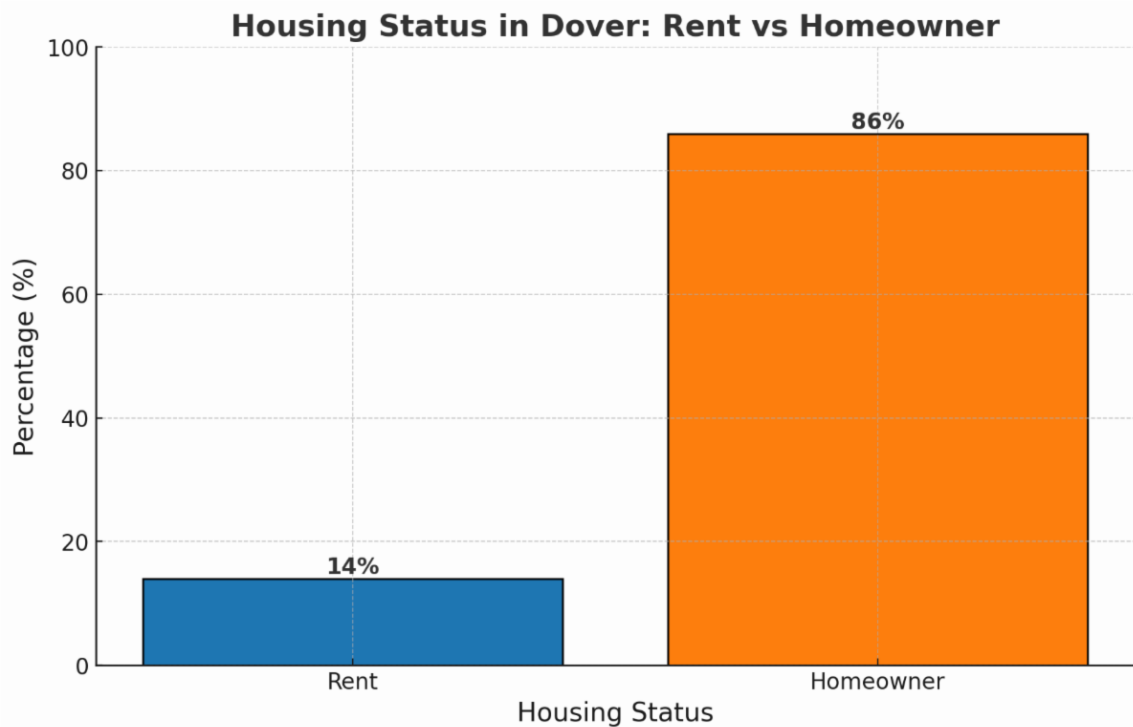
We want to hear from you! In each edition of Dover Download, we're looking for your response to our question of the week. A new poll will appear each week in Dover Download, along with the previous week's results. Participating is easy – just click on the link below to cast your vote.

This week's question: **How often do you dine out or shop in Dover?**

Let us know here: <https://polco.us/m9s6wm>.

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.

Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, "If you live in Dover, do you rent or do you own a home?"



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 [located here](#).

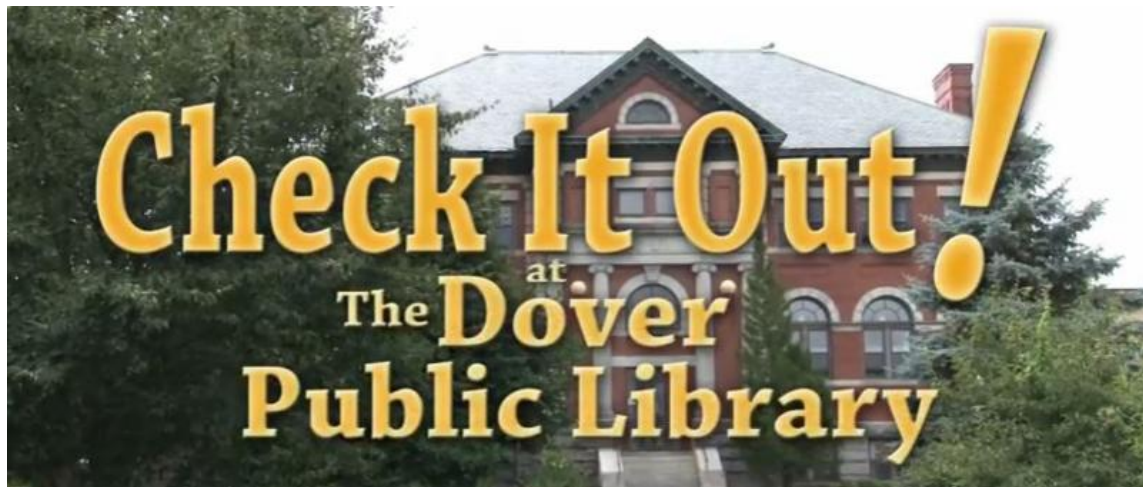
Dec. 25, 1692 — A doeful and tremendous noise was heard in the air near Capt. Gerrish's garrison. The noise continued for a half hour and remained a mystery.

Dec. 26, 1812 — John Wheeler notified the proprietors of the Dover Cotton Factory to meet at Mrs. Lydia Tibbetts' dwelling house on the 19th of January, 1813, at 5 p.m. for the purpose of organizing under their act of incorporation. The "Dover Cotton Factory," which was incorporated that year for \$50,000, was the first attempt at manufacturing on an extensive scale in the town.

Dec. 27, 1847 — A row of wooden stores north of the American House, on Franklin Square, caught fire on a very cold night. The loss was about \$6,000.

Dec. 29, 1853 — A severe winter storm left between two and three feet of snow, greatly impeding travel and causing a citywide suspension of business.

Dec. 27, 1996 — This week, in 1996, some were predicting that Dover would be the next "Antique Alley" as several antique shops had opened up in the city. The new stores included Peddler's Wagon, Traders of the Lost Art, Ubiquitous Antiques, Flashbacks, Once Upon A Time, and Timeless Appeal. Reasons given for why Dover was attracting antique shops included its central location, making it accessible for antique shoppers from Maine and Massachusetts; its rich history as the oldest, permanent European settlement in New Hampshire; and a resurgence of interest in shopping downtown. Store owners said antique shops tend to thrive when several are grouped together, as it draws more serious antiquers willing to travel farther if there is a critical mass of shops to browse. They felt optimistic about the future, with one saying, "Dover is on the move" and another stating,



This Week at the Library

Sunday, Dec. 24 and Monday, Dec. 25
Library closed for Christmas Holiday

Tuesday, Dec. 26, 6 to 8 p.m.
Dungeons & Dragons: Adult Group
Drop in and play Dungeons & Dragons with Game Master Dave. This 18 and older group is for new and veteran role-playing gamers to join us in the library for adventure, strategy, and imagination. The group will meet every Tuesday night; come when you can. No experience or materials are required.

Weds., Dec. 27, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
All Abilities Club:
Wednesday Morning Movie
Come watch Elf (rated PG)! After accidentally falling into Santa Claus' gift sack, a human baby is raised at the North Pole, growing up to believe he is an elf. Due to his large size, the "elf" causes chaos in Santa's workshop, forcing Kris Kringle to send him on a mission to find his human roots.

Thursday, Dec. 28, 5 to 8 p.m.
Magic the Gathering
Join every Thursday to play Magic the Gathering. Collect cards, build decks, and duel other players. All ages and skill levels welcome. No materials required.

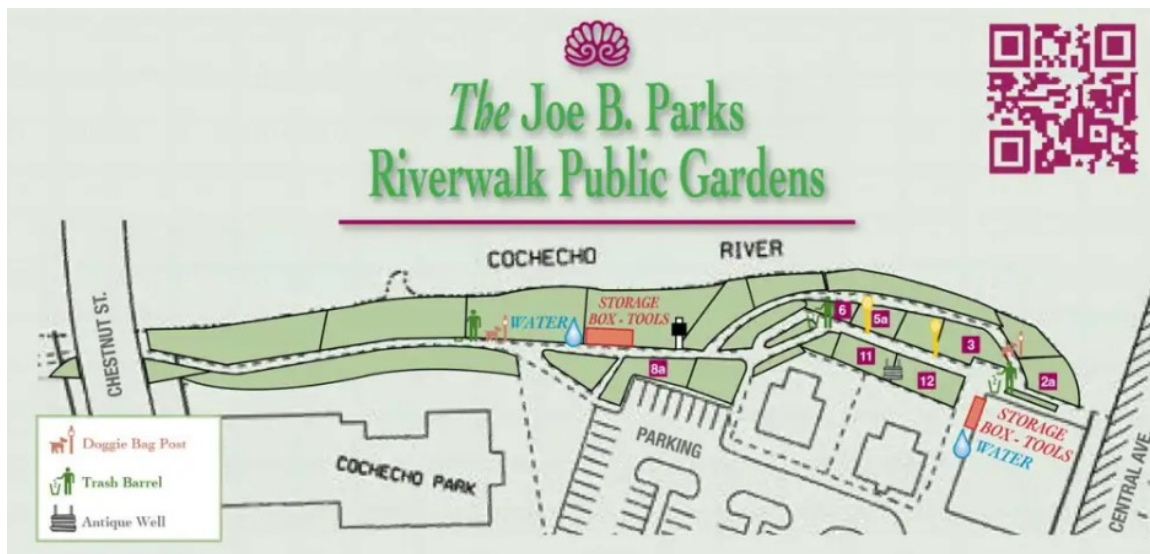
Thursday, Dec. 28, 6 to 7:30 p.m.
**BeTWEEN The Pages - All Holidays/
New Year Reads!**
Kids ages 9-12 years old are invited to join in talking about ANY book (graphic novels count too) that have ANY Holiday themes. We will have a New Year's Day craft and pizza. Come in and get ideas for new books to read in 2024!
Registration required.

Friday, Dec. 29, 10 to 11:30 a.m.
**Crafter Morning for Kids: Cardboard
and Duct Tape Extravaganza**
Kids ages 4 and up and their caregivers are invited to a cardboard and duct tape extravaganza! Bring your creative imagination! We will have cardboard and duct tape available for your creations, while supplies last.

Friday, Dec. 29, 3 to 4 p.m.
Fun Friday
Tweens and teens in grades 5-12 are welcome to join us afterschool on Fridays for hot chocolate, snacks, and gaming!

Sunday, Dec. 31 and Monday, Jan. 1
Library closed for New Year





Give the gift of nature: Adopt a tree in Dover's Joe B. Parks Riverwalk Public Gardens

The Joe B. Parks Riverwalk Public Gardens offers an Adopt a Tree program, providing the opportunity to help rebuild the garden's tree canopy. The program makes for a meaningful last-minute holiday gift.

The downtown riverside garden aims to address its decaying ash trees, which have fallen victim to the emerald ash borer beetle. By adopting a tree, individuals, families, and organizations can participate in a fundraising effort to plant new species along the garden's winding paths.

Options include crabapples, elms, tupelos, river birches, red maples, and ginkgoes, carefully selected for their beauty and resilience. In all, eight trees remain available for adoption. An art installation is also slated for one garden area, pending sufficient funding.

Adopters will receive a certificate with the location and photos of their sponsored tree. Their names will also appear on the garden's donor display board.

According to garden organizers, the Adopt a Tree initiative provides a meaningful way to contribute to the scenic downtown park this holiday season. Prices start at \$250 per tree.

To adopt a tree or learn more, visit www.joeparksgarden.org and click on the Adopt a Tree link. Questions can also be directed to contact@joeparksgarden.org.



Don't miss your chance to win \$10,000 cash. Tickets are on sale now for the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce's 22nd Annual Sweepstakes. Tickets are \$50 each, and only 300 tickets will be sold. The drawing will be held Feb. 13 at Filotimo Casino at Dover Bowl. You do not need to be present to win. To purchase your lucky ticket, visit dovernh.org/sweeps.

Election workers needed for January's Presidential Primary Election

The City Clerk's Office is seeking election workers in all six wards to help staff Dover's polling places during the upcoming Presidential Primary Election on Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2024.

Election workers are paid positions, and the City Clerk's office provides necessary training. The only requirements are that election workers must be at least 18 years old and a Dover resident. Election workers assist with various duties on election day, including aiding voters, maintaining order, opening and closing the polls, and processing the vote counts.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 603-516-6018 or email City Clerk Jerrica Vansylvong-Bizier at j.bizier@dover.nh.gov.

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

of NEW HAMPSHIRE

Buy a membership this
December and get One
Guest Option FREE!

HOLIDAY MEMBERSHIP

Members play for
free ALL YEAR!



Sale

Free Workshop & Water Testing for Dover Private Well Users



The Seacoast Private Well Initiative
invites residential private well users in Dover to register for:

Dover Private Well Workshop

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 @ 6:00PM

Dover City Hall Auditorium
288 Central Ave, Dover

Dover residents invited to free workshop on private well water safety

The Seacoast Private Well Initiative invites residential private well users in Dover to a free workshop and water testing event. Aimed at educating homeowners on the health risks associated with common well water contaminants, this event is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the Dover City Hall Auditorium, located at 288 Central Ave.

Participants will learn about contaminants that may affect their well water, such as radon, arsenic, lead, and PFAS, and the importance of regular water testing. The workshop will cover the types of contaminants to test for, reasons for testing, and the process of collecting water samples. In addition, attendees will receive guidance on selecting the appropriate water treatment solutions if contaminants are found.

The event is part of an ongoing effort to ensure the safety and health of the community's drinking water. Experts will be on hand to explain the testing process, and private well attendees will leave with a test kit and instructions for returning filled bottles for analysis.

Please register for the workshop by sending an email to confirm attendance to Amy Hudnor, Private Well Coordinator for the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, at welltest@des.nh.gov.

The Seacoast Private Well Initiative, supported by NHDES, the New Hampshire Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, and the Seacoast Commission on Drinking Water, encourages all private well users in Dover to take advantage of this opportunity.

For further information, please contact Amy Hudnor at (603) 271-5986 or via the [provided email address](#).

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 the:

- Energy Commission
- Pool Advisory Committee
- Committee for Racial Equity and Inclusion
- Recreation Advisory Board
- Arena Commission
- Open Lands Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Committee to Address Community Housing Needs

The complete list of boards and committees can be found at www.dover.nh.gov/government/boards-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.

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:

- **Police Officer**
- **Firefighter/EMT**
- **Public Safety Dispatcher**
- **Enterprise Systems IT Administrator**
- **Custodian - City Hall**
- **Custodian - McConnell Center**
- **Environmental Projects Manager**
- **Wastewater Pump Station Operator**

- **Truck Driver, Streets**
- **Truck Driver, Utilities**
- **Laborer**
- **Utility Laborer**
- **Arena Attendant**
- **Water Treatment Operator**
- **Camera Operator**
- **Planning Division Supervisor**
- **Prevention Programmer**
- **Maintenance Mechanic, Streets**
- **Lifeguard I**
- **Swim Instructor I**
- **Foreman, Wastewater Treatment Facility and Sewer Pump Stations**
- **WWTF/WWPS Chief Operator**

For more information about these positions or employment opportunities with the City of Dover, [click here](#).

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:

- **Student Specific Nurse**
- **ELL Tutors**
- **Long Term Substitute Math Teacher**
- **Literacy Intervention Specialist**
- **Special Education Teacher - Autism Support**
- **Noon Aide/Recess Monitor**
- **Preschool Aide**
- **Head Coach Girls Lacrosse**
- **Special Education Teacher Case Manager**
- **Cleaner for 2nd shift for C&W Services**
- **Paraprofessional**
- **Speech and Language Assistant**
- **Coach Girls JV Lacrosse**
- **Substitute Teacher**

For more information about these positions, [click here](#).

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



City of Dover | 288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH 03820

[Unsubscribe webmaster@dover.nh.gov](mailto:webmaster@dover.nh.gov)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by news@dover.nh.gov powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

