

DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



January 24, 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:**

DOVER CITY COUNCIL

ON THE AGENDA

Coming up at the next City Council meeting

City Council to consider plan to rehabilitate Garrison Hill water storage tank

The City Council will consider authorizing a \$2.9 million contract with the Sargent Corporation for the rehabilitation of the Garrison Hill water storage tank at its Wednesday, Jan. 29 meeting. If approved, the work will begin later this year.

The project includes draining the 1968 tank to allow a full inspection and treating and sealing any cracks. Sections of plumbing will be replaced, and a mixing system will be installed to ensure consistency of water quality. New SCADA components will be added to allow for real-time level monitoring. To prepare for the rehabilitation, the city installed the Smith Well Road water tank, allowing the Garrison Hill tank to be taken offline. The Council will also consider a related \$264,000 contract with Underwood Engineering for

Tuesday,
Thursday,
Saturday:
8:30 a.m. to
3:30 p.m.

construction oversight of the water tank project. The city had previously contracted with Underwood Engineers to design the tank improvements.

There are two other related resolutions that reprogram unexpended Capital Improvement Program appropriations and unexpended bond proceeds to the Garrison Hill storage tank project. The Council held public hearings on those resolutions at its Jan. 15 meeting.

Also on the agenda is a resolution that would authorize the firm Eckhardt & Johnson to design and build a new heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) unit for the Community Services garage at 271 Mast Road for \$833,000. The current system is failing and needs to be replaced.

The Ethics Commission has submitted a recommendation report that will be brought up by the Council during its Council Correspondence agenda item. The report follows an ethics complaint filed by Dover resident Caitlin Wilkie against City Councilor Fergus Cullen. The [Ethics Commission](#) held a hearing on the complaint at its Jan. 2 meeting, with further deliberation at its Jan. 15 meeting.

[Click here](#) for the complete agenda.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers. It will be televised on Channel 22 and online at <https://dovernh.viebit.com>, where it will also be available for on-demand viewing.

No Library curbside service next week

Library reopens in McConnell Center on Feb. 3

The Dover Public Library will suspend its curbside service next week to allow the packing and transit of books to the McConnell Center where it will reopen on Monday, Feb. 3. The last day for curbside pickup is tomorrow, Saturday, Jan. 25.

Any books collected for holds or interlibrary loans will be available starting Monday, Feb. 3 when the library reopens in the McConnell Center.

When the Library reopens in the McConnell Center, Adult services will be located in the cafeteria, and Children's services will be in Room 305. Library events are already being held in Room 306.



Book returns remain open but do not return 'Library of Things' items

Dover Library's book drops remain open during its temporary closure; however, staff requests patrons not to return any 'Library of Things' items through the book drops, as they can be damaged. Keep them until the Library reopens in the McConnell Center.

Main library closed for a year

The 1905 Carnegie Library was closed for renovations earlier this month. The \$7 million renovation project will enhance the library by adding accessible entrances and

programming space, including additional meeting rooms. The historic front façade of the building will remain unchanged, as will its detailed woodworking throughout. The new addition on the parking lot side of the library will create two entrances: One for the Children's section on the ground floor and another for the main library section on the first floor.

The renovation project is the subject of this week's Dover Download podcast, available at <https://bit.ly/4gnMkt3>.

Learn more about the renovation project at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/library/about-us/renovation/>.

For more information, email the library at libraryquestions@dover.nh.gov.

Payne Street to close temporarily next week for utility work

Payne Street (formerly River Street) will be closed to all traffic starting at 7 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 28 for utility work.

The closure is expected to last through Wednesday, Jan. 29, but may be extended a day or two more to complete the work.

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

Correction

Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) identified an error in our Community Benefit Reporting for the months of September and October 2024. The error caused significant impacts to calculated savings for mid-sized commercial customers (GV). The error was identified and corrected as of the November 2024 report. Actual savings realized by Dover Community Power through November 2024 amount to \$1,138,000. CPCNH has taken corrective action internally to improve the quality control function in generating and publishing reports.

Upcoming Meetings:

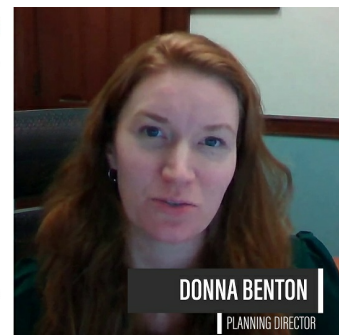
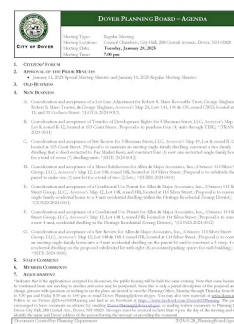
Planning Board, Master Plan Subcommittee, Jan. 27, 6 p.m.

The Planning Board Master Plan Subcommittee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., in the First Floor Conference Room, City Hall.

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

Transportation Advisory Commission, Jan. 27, 6 p.m.

The Transportation Advisory Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025,



On the Agenda: Planning Board, 1/28/2025

In this video, Director of Planning and Community Development Donna Benton reviews what's on the agenda at the next Planning Board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025. The video can be viewed by clicking the

beginning at 6 p.m., at the Police Department, 46 Chestnut Street, Community Room.

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

Graffiti Management Committee, Jan. 27, 6 p.m.

The Graffiti Management Committee will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

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

Utilities Commission, Jan. 27, 6 p.m.

The Utilities Commission will hold a regular meeting on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, beginning at 6 p.m., at 271 Mast Road, Dover.

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

Dover Housing Authority, Jan. 28, 12 p.m.

The Dover Housing Authority will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, beginning at 12 p.m., at 62 Whittier Street, Dover.

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

Planning Board, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.

The Planning Board will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

City Council, Jan. 29, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers at City Hall.

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

image above or <https://dovernh.viebit.com/watch?hash=CsCfvqEKLf7GNQ8I>.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting will be broadcast live on Channel 22 and streamed live online.

Want to keep up on other projects and planning and community development initiatives in the City of Dover? Subscribe to the Planning Department's newsletter, the Dover Planning Review. To sign up, visit bit.ly/doverdownload and select Dover Planning Review.

Angle Street water main, stormwater drain replacement begins this month

The City of Dover will replace the water main and stormwater drain on Angle Street later this month. The project is slated to start on Monday, Jan. 27 and continue through mid-March.

Angle Street will be closed to through traffic during project work hours, Monday-Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Angle Street residents may experience delays getting their vehicles in and out of the driveway during this time. Crews will give residents advance warning when their driveway will be blocked for utility work.

Parking on the street will be prohibited at all times until the project is finished – including nights and weekends. Other parking restrictions may be posted nearby if necessary.

At the beginning of the project, there will be a water shutoff affecting Angle and Academy street residents so workers can install a shutoff valve on the water main. This will allow crews to install the new main without affecting water service. Once the new main is installed, there will be brief water shutoffs to connect properties to it. City staff will provide at least 24-hour notice before the shutoffs occur.

The Angle Street closure is not anticipated to directly impact dropping off or picking up students at Saint Mary's Academy.

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

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

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:

- Arts Commission
- Heritage Commission
- McConnell Center Advisory Committee
- Planning Board
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee
- Utilities Commission
- Zoning Board of Adjustment

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.

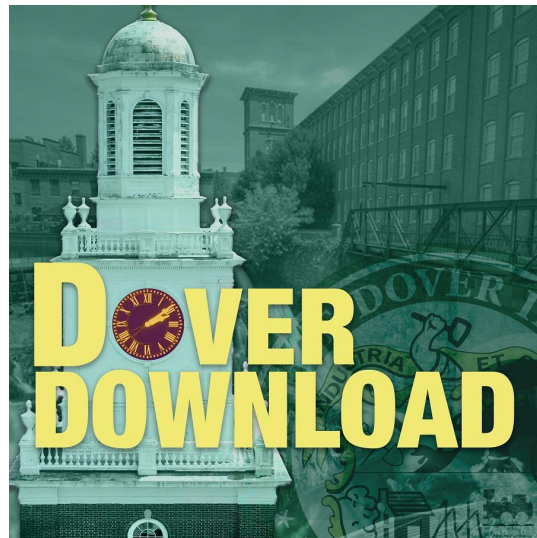
Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

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

- [REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS - Consulting Services-Bellamy River Fish Passage Restoration Bridge Replacement](#)

Current bid documents can be accessed on the Finance Department's [bid page](#). 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.



A New Chapter: Dover Library's 2025 Transformation

In the latest episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Dover Public Library Director Denise LaFrance and City Facilities Project Manager Eric Sanderson about the library's renovation and temporary relocation project. Listen wherever you get your podcasts or at <https://bit.ly/4gnMkt3>.

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:

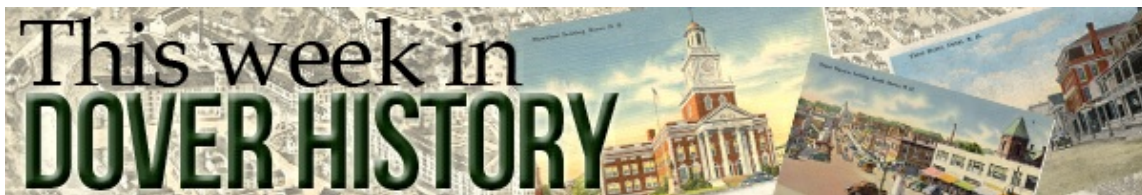
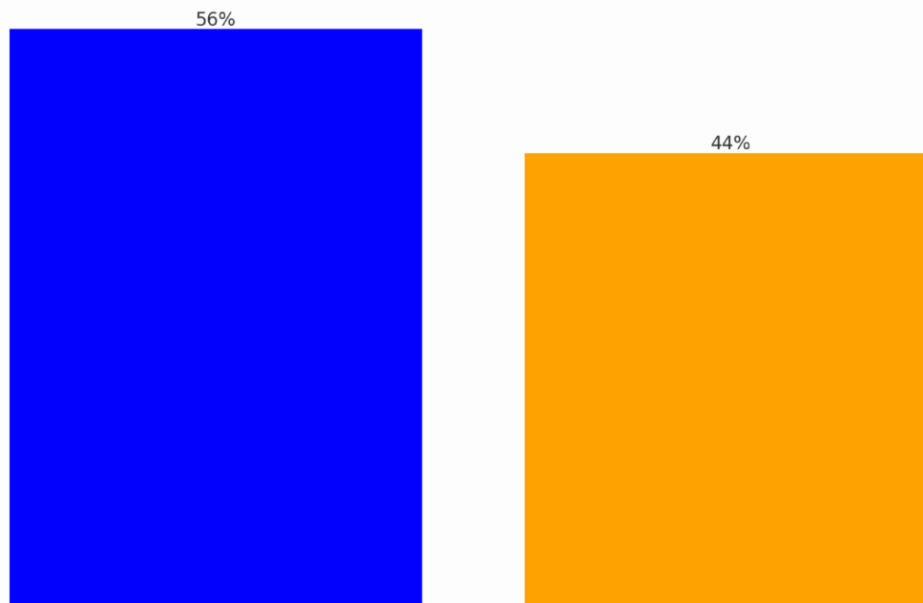
"How familiar are you with the City of Dover's budget process?"

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

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.

Here are the results from last week's poll, which asked, **"Have you attended a local art show or exhibition in Dover?"**

Poll Results: Have you ever attended a local art show or exhibition in Dover?



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](#).

Jan. 28, 1761 — A group of Quakers from Dover, represented by Joseph Austin, Thomas Tuttle, and Samuel Austin, submitted a petition to the colonial Assembly. Acting on behalf of their community and under the directive of their monthly meeting held in Cochecho (modern-day Dover) in December 1760, they appealed to the Assembly to be exempted from a tax used to fund military enlistments. The Quakers, as pacifists, objected to being financially burdened by military-related expenses, a stance consistent with their religious

principles. In response, the Assembly scheduled a hearing and instructed the Quakers to notify the town's selectmen and the commanding officer of the local militia regiment. The selectmen and the officer were given an opportunity to argue why the exemption should not be granted. Notably, the Quakers were required to bear the cost of serving these notices themselves.

Jan. 28, 1825 — The New Hampshire Turnpike, from Portsmouth to Concord and passing through Dover, was surrendered by the proprietors to the State for the purpose of establishing a free highway.

Jan. 26, 1907 — Known as the Great Blaze, Mill #1 of the Cocheco Manufacturing Company was nearly destroyed by fire on this day. The alarm was given at 6:33 Saturday morning for a fire that broke out in the middle of the fourth story of the building. Some of the operatives in the fourth and fifth stories were cut off by smoke from the stairways, and there was only one fire escape on the back side of the mill. They became panic-stricken. Two jumped from the fourth-story window and were seriously injured—a dozen men slid down a rope that had been made fast inside a window, burning and horribly lacerating their hands by the friction, and some found their way to the fire escape. All those injured were sent to the Wentworth Hospital as quickly as possible. Streams of water were played from the engines on Washington Street, but the pressure of the water service was very poor, and very little water reached the flames. The Portsmouth Fire Company, The Cocheco Company, and the Williams Belt Factory gave assistance. The automatic sprinklers in all the stories save the fourth worked perfectly, and this, with the fire doors, no doubt, was the means that prevented the spread of the flames in the lower part of the mill. After the fire had been burning for nearly an hour, four men were discovered with their heads outside of a window in the fifth story on the back side, calling for rescue. The firemen at once put up ladders that lacked 20 feet of reach to the window. An extension ladder was added, and still, there was a lack of 10 feet. Lieutenant Bradley of House 1 volunteered to lift a pole and lash it to the top of the ladder. The other end was lashed to the window sill by the men. Bradley stood at the top of the ladder, receiving the men as they slid down the pole. He did a most daring and heroic piece of work in rescuing them. No. 1 mill was erected by the Cocheco Manufacturing Company in 1877 for \$640,000. Five hundred hands were employed. The machinery cost upwards of a million dollars. The machinery on the three upper floors was ruined while that on the first and second was damaged only by water. This fire showed the need for additional fire apparatus. Soon after, 2,000 feet of hose and a fire net were purchased, with other appliances, to ensure greater safety for the firemen and to facilitate the discharge of their duties. In his last inaugural, Mayor White said the exhibition of bravery by the firemen that day stamped them as real heroes and won for them the lasting gratitude of our citizens.

January 1910 — Under a new New Hampshire law, effective Jan. 1, 1910, the auto registration fee was raised to \$10, and the speed limit in Dover raised from 8 to 10 mph and in rural areas from 20 to 25 mph. Later that same month, many complaints about horses raced on Sixth Street were raised. The mayor declared to end the sport. A speedway, wide enough for four or five horses, was to be prepared on Silver Street, starting at Arch Street. But local horsemen, not satisfied with the speedway, convinced the mayor to create a new speedway through Torr's Woods on Durham Road, starting near the location of the current high school.



This Week at the Library

Monday, Jan. 27, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Preschool Storytime

McConnell Center, Room 306

Join us for a Preschool Storytime for kids aged 3-5. We will read books, sing songs and participate in some fun activities in celebration of winter animals and snow.

Monday, Jan. 27, 6 to 8 p.m.

Teen Dungeons & Dragons

McConnell Center, Room 306

Do you love the idea of exploring fantastical worlds? Do you have a love of collaborative gameplay and an active imagination? Then Dungeons and Dragons is for you! Join Dungeon Master Michael for this beginner series, where you will create your own character, play a one-shot story campaign, and learn the basics of D&D 5th Edition. This program is for teens entering grades 6-12 only, and all supplies will be provided.

Monday, Jan. 27, 7 to 8 p.m.

Virtual: Encounters with Killers

Dr. Katherine Ramsland recounts her most memorable interactions with serial killers over the course of her life, describing how it shaped her career in forensic psychology. A Pied Piper, two Coed Killers, a Candy Man's handyman, and BTK, among others, have left their marks on her research and writing, both fiction and nonfiction. *Registration required to receive link to livestream.*

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 10 to 10:30 a.m.
Family Storytime

McConnell Center in Room 306

Children of all ages with caregivers are invited to attend this program that includes stories, fingerplays, songs, and puppets.

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

All Abilities Music Club

Great Bay Services, Dover

Join us for a lively sing-along to your favorite tunes.

Wednesday, Jan. 29, 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Get Lit! Book Club

Roost, 50 Pointe Place, Dover

Join the Dover Public Library's adult book club to discuss *The Immortalists* by Chloe Benjamin. Copies of the book will be available to borrow at the main circulation desk of the library. All are welcome!

Thursday, Jan. 23, 7 to 8 p.m.

**Virtual Author Hour: Bestselling
Author Grady Hendrix**

Bestselling author Grady Hendrix will discuss his new horror novel, *Witchcraft for Wayward Girls*, in this installment of "Author Hour in Massachusetts." Sign up here to receive a link to the live stream:

<https://ow.ly/q3q050UKG9f>



Public input sessions to focus on Community Development Block Grant Program

The City of Dover will host five listening sessions starting Jan. 23 to gather community input for its Community Development Block Grant program.

The sessions aim to identify critical community needs and opportunities that will guide future CDBG funding decisions. Input will help develop the city's next Consolidated Plan and Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice.

The sessions will be held:

- Jan. 28: 6:30-8 p.m., Garrison Elementary School cafeteria, 50 Garrison Road
- Jan. 30: 6:30-8 p.m., Francis G. Hopkins Elementary School cafeteria, 78 Horne St.
- Feb. 4: 7:30-9:30 a.m., City Hall, First Floor Conference Room, 288 Central Ave.
- Feb. 6: 6-8 p.m., City Hall, Council Conference Room, 288 Central Ave.

Community members unable to attend can provide feedback through a brief online survey at polco.us/s4pcpy.

The CDBG program distributes annual funding to organizations and projects that address community-identified needs.

For more information about Dover's CDBG program, visit dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/community-development/.

Dover Senior Center plans trip to Block Island June 17-18, 2025

The Dover Senior Center is organizing an overnight trip to Block Island June 17-18, 2025. Considered to be one of the last great places on earth, Block Island remains a haven to the charms of New England and island life. The trip includes:

- Deluxe Yankee Line motor coach transportation to/from Narragansett, RI
- Roundtrip traditional ferry service from Galilee to Block Island
- 1½ hour guided tour of Block Island with a local guide
- Overnight accommodations at the historic National Hotel
- All necessary taxes, gratuities and baggage handling
- Complete dinner at the hotel
- Hot Buffet Breakfast at the hotel

The cost is \$475 per person double occupancy for members (\$485 not-yet-members). A \$50 per person deposit is due with reservation, with the balance due on or before May 1, 2025.

To sign up or request more information, contact the Dover Community Senior Center at 603-516-6420 or l.jarvis@dover.nh.gov.



January 2025

RADON ACTION MONTH



One in three homes tested in New Hampshire have **high levels of radon**, a gas that can cause lung cancer.

Test your home today!



Department of
**HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES**

It's Radon Action Month! Radon is an invisible gas that can build up in your home and cause serious health impacts, including lung cancer. The good news is that testing is easy! Order your FREE test kit today: <https://states.aelabs.com/#/nh>



Do you know how to recognize warning signs of

suicide?

The Dover Mental Health Alliance and Dover High School are partnering with NAMI New Hampshire to offer free "Gatekeeper" suicide prevention training in February and May.

DMHA works with authorized NAMI NH Connect trainers to deliver the three-hour curriculum to school groups, organizations, businesses, and community members 18 and older throughout Strafford County. The program offers an integrated community approach to reduce suicide among youth ages 10-24 and adults.

Participants learn to identify warning signs and connect individuals with appropriate resources.

Training dates:

- Thursday, Feb. 6, 5-8 p.m., Dover High School library
- Thursday, May 8, 5-8 p.m., Dover High School library

"Our region is fortunate to have these organizations working together to provide mental health and suicide prevention education," said DMHA Co-founder Suzanne Weete. "It takes all members of a community to be engaged to end stigma and prevent suicide. These training opportunities are an invitation for community members to be part of the solution."

Trainers include community members, parents, first responders, teachers, administrators, prevention coordinators and case managers. The training is designed for anyone wanting to learn about suicide risk factors and warning signs. Coaches, teachers, faith leaders, business people, first responders, parents and young adults are encouraged to participate.

Register at dovermentalhealthalliance.org/events. Classes require a minimum of 10 participants and are open to all communities.

To schedule group training on suicide prevention or mental health challenges, contact Suzanne Weete at suzanneweete@communitypartnersnh.org.

For more information, visit the Dover Mental Health Alliance at dovermentalhealthalliance.org and NAMI NH Connect at theconnectprogram.org/about-us.

Dover Chamber accepting nominations for 2025 Annual Awards through Monday

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce (GDCC) is now accepting nominations for its Annual Awards in the following categories: Citizen of the Year, David K. Bamford Educator of the Year, Business of the Year, and Nonprofit of the Year. The GDCC also awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a local area student pursuing higher education.

The awards allow Chamber member businesses to celebrate excellence in their companies and recognize individuals and non-profits who have made a lasting impact in the Greater Dover community. All awards will be presented at the Dover Chamber's Annual Awards Gala, scheduled for Thursday, March 13, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Red Barn at Outlook Farm in South Berwick, Maine. The 2025 Annual Awards Gala is underwritten by Newburyport Bank.

The GDCC encourages businesses and residents to reflect on individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to the community and consider nominating them for one of the Chamber awards. To submit a nomination, visit www.dovernh.org/awards. All nominations are due by Jan. 27 at 5 p.m. The deadline for student scholarship applications is March 10.

The Annual Awards Gala serves as a marketing and sponsorship opportunity for local businesses. For information about potential sponsorship in connection with the Annual Awards Dinner, email Jed Allen at jed@dovernh.org.

The Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit association of businesses, professionals, individuals, and organizations working together to advance the economic well-being of its members and the community. For details on Dover Chamber membership and other programs, or for a schedule of activities, call (603) 742-2218 or visit www.dovernh.org.

Sign up for winter parking ban alerts

The City of Dover utilizes winter parking bans as needed through the winter season to clear the streets of snow. The public may sign up for phone, text and/or email to receive parking ban alerts.

Parking bans can occur during a storm or afterward for cleanup. When a parking ban is in effect, all vehicles must be off public ways and specific parking lots to avoid being ticketed and towed.

To receive text or phone alerts, visit <https://bit.ly/dovercodered> or text "DoverNH" to 99411 from your phone. Follow the instructions to create a managed account to modify notification settings.

To receive email alerts, visit <https://bit.ly/doverdownload> and add "Parking Ban Alerts" to your email subscriptions.

The City of Dover also utilizes its website, social media accounts, Channel 22, and press releases to local news media to notify residents about parking bans. The current ban status is always posted at <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/police/parking-bureau/parking-bans.html>. The public can call 603-516-PARK (7275) to check the parking ban status anytime.

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**
- **Water Exercise Instructor II, Part-Time**
- **Swim Instructor, Part-Time**
- **Lifeguard I, Part-Time**
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic**
- **Diesel Mechanic**
- **Engineering Intern**
- **Arena Maintenance / Ice Resurfacers**
- **Laborer - Public Works Streets & Storm Water**
- **Truck Driver - Streets**
- **Custodian - McConnell Center, Part-Time**
- **Assistant City Planner-Housing & Community Development**

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:

- **Dean of Student Services**
- **Unified High School Volleyball Coach**
- **Boys Varsity Tennis Head Coach**
- **Girls Varsity Tennis Head Coach**
- **Title I Interventionist**
- **Substitute Teachers**
- **Paraprofessionals**
- **Noon Aide**
- **Title I Social Worker**

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

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



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