

DOVER DOWNLOAD



News from the City of Dover, New Hampshire



October 9, 2026



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:

City Council selects Christopher Parker as Dover's next city manager

The Dover City Council has selected Deputy City Manager Christopher G. Parker as Dover's next city manager, effective Jan. 1, 2027.

Parker will succeed City Manager J. Michael Joyal Jr., who announced in July that he will retire effective Dec. 31 after more than 33 years of service to the city, including the last 21 years as city manager.



Following Joyal's announcement, the City Council opened an internal search process, accepted applications from current city employees, interviewed candidates and reviewed their qualifications. A resolution confirming Parker's appointment and approving an employment agreement is expected to be on the agenda for the City Council's next regular meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 14.

"During the selection process, Chris clearly demonstrated his deep experience, meaningful understanding of all aspects of the operation of the city, and a commitment to do the work

8:30 a.m. to 3:30
p.m.

needed to continue to make Dover a desirable place to live, visit, and work,” Mayor Dennis Shanahan said.

Parker has served the city for nearly three decades. A Dover native and resident, he began his municipal career as a Planning Department intern in 1997 and became a city employee in 1998. He later served in Community Services and returned to the Planning Department full time in 2002. Parker became director of Planning and Community Development in 2007, assistant city manager in 2014 and deputy city manager for development and strategic initiatives in January 2022.

As deputy city manager, Parker’s work has included strategic planning, redevelopment and development, interdepartmental coordination, capital planning, special projects, community initiatives and oversight of the Office of Business Development. He has also been involved in major city efforts including downtown planning, the Capital Improvements Program, the McConnell Center, and the Cochecho waterfront redevelopment project.

“I am incredibly honored to have been selected to serve as Dover’s next city manager,” Parker said. “For nearly three decades, I have had the privilege of building my career with the city of Dover, working alongside dedicated public servants and community members who care deeply about this city. I am grateful for the trust the City Council has placed in me, and I look forward to continuing to serve Dover with a focus on collaboration, communication and the high level of service our residents expect and deserve.”

Joyal will remain city manager through Dec. 31 and has said he will work with the mayor, City Council and staff to help ensure a smooth transition.



City Council to hold public hearing, possible vote on curbside trash collection toter ordinance

The City Council will hold a public hearing and potentially vote to ratify proposed ordinance changes for the city’s conversion to a toter collection system for curbside trash and recycling at its meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14.

The ordinance, endorsed by the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, would take effect on July 1, 2027, the beginning of the city’s 2028 fiscal year, when toter collection begins. According to the draft changes, curbside collection would extend to residential properties with three units or fewer on public streets and approved private streets. Residents in the

collection area would receive two totes: one for trash and one for recycling. The city will also end the use of pay-as-you-throw trash bags with the conversion, and the city will pay for curbside collection through the General Fund.

The City Council held a workshop on [the proposed curbside collection changes](#) on Sept. 2, 2026.

The City Council will also hold a public hearing and possible vote on changes to Chapter 141, Vehicles and Traffic, to clarify specific parking restrictions and conditions, improve clarity and administration of the city's parking program, and add additional sections of public streets to the winter parking restrictions in effect annually from Dec. 1 through April 1.

As noted in the article above, approval of the new city manager's contract will also be on the agenda.

In addition, there are pending resolutions that would authorize:

- Awarding the contract to replace the Sixth Street bridge to Sargent Corporation for \$941,985, with \$150,000 in contingency funds. A related resolution would authorize the city's contracted design consultant, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc., to oversee the bridge replacement for \$29,000.
- An additional scope of work with Verdantas, LLC for work related to the closure of the dredge cell totaling \$207,000. Work includes installing monitoring wells, conducting hydraulic testing, groundwater and leachate sampling, and applying for and reviewing the state permit.
- The city to contract with Verani Realty LLC for Real Estate professional services to sell the property at 30 Willand Dr., Somersworth, which has served as the temporary emergency warming center for Dover, Somersworth, and Rochester.
- The endorsing of the application for a \$424,000 grant from New Hampshire's Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund to help purchase a conservation easement near the Bellamy Reservoir.

[Read the complete agenda.](#)

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in City Hall's Council Chambers. It will be televised on DoverTV (Channel 22 for Xfinity and Channel 9010 for Breezline), [as well as online](#) where it will be available on-demand.

Columbus Day hours for city offices and facilities

City administrative offices, including City Hall, will be closed on Monday, Oct. 12, 2026, for Columbus Day. Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The Public Library and Dover Community Senior Center are also closed on Columbus Day.

The Dover Ice Arena, Indoor Pool, and Fitness Center at the McConnell Center will be open during regular hours on Monday, Oct. 12.

Columbus Day is a parking holiday in Dover. Metered parking is not required on parking holidays for most public parking, except for the Parking Garage and Dover Transportation Lot, which are metered parking at all times.

Trash pickup and curbside recycling [are not affected](#) by the holiday and will follow a regular schedule.



Director of Planning and Community Development Donna Benton, center, at podium, reviews the proposed FY2028-33 Capital Improvements Program with members of the City Council and Planning Board during a workshop on Oct. 7.

FY2028-33 Capital Improvements Program presented to City Council, Planning Board during joint session

Planning Board to hold first public hearing Oct. 13

City Manager J. Michael Joyal Jr.'s proposed fiscal year 2028-2033 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) was presented to the City Council and Planning Board during a joint workshop Wednesday, Oct. 7. The six-year plan outlines \$243,018,282 in proposed capital investments, including \$30,645,418 for FY2028.

Director of Planning and Community Development Donna Benton guided members of both boards through the proposal, which identifies major infrastructure, facility, equipment and other capital needs, along with projected costs, funding sources and schedules.

Although the City Council will vote on adopting the entire six-year plan, only the first year, FY2028, is funded. Projects proposed for subsequent years serve as a planning guide and are reviewed and updated annually. The first-year projects and appropriations will be incorporated into the proposed FY2028 municipal budget, which the city manager will present to the City Council in February.

The CIP includes projects costing at least \$25,000 with a useful life of three years or more. Funding comes from several sources, including the annual operating budget, capital reserves, debt financing and grants. The city evaluates projects based on community needs, alignment with the city's Master Plan, and available financial resources.

During the presentation, Benton explained that scheduling projects involves balancing priorities with financial constraints.

"It is based off priority, but it's also about what we can afford each year," Benton said.

The complete 225-page CIP document, along with the Oct. 7 presentation and previous years' plans, is available on the city's [Capital Improvements Program webpage](#). The

document includes a summary of proposed projects, followed by detailed project descriptions, funding information and financial projections.

Printed copies are also available for public review at the Planning Department and City Clerk's Office at City Hall, and at the Dover Public Library.

Public hearings and upcoming review

The Planning Board will begin its review of the proposed CIP on Tuesday, Oct. 13, when it will hold its first public hearing. The board will evaluate whether the proposed projects are consistent with priorities established in the city's Master Plan.

The Planning Board is scheduled to continue its review on Tuesday, Oct. 27, with Nov. 10 available if it needs additional time. Following its review, the board will make a recommendation to the City Council.

The City Council is expected to take up three CIP resolutions at its Wednesday, Oct. 28 meeting. The resolutions address adoption of the six-year planning document, appropriations for FY2028 non-debt-financed projects, and authorization of appropriations and bonding for FY2028 debt-financed projects.

The Council will refer the resolutions to public hearings, providing additional opportunities for residents to comment. An additional Council workshop may be held Nov. 4, if needed. A final vote on the CIP is anticipated for Wednesday, Dec. 9.

Benton will also discuss the CIP, how projects are prioritized and how residents can participate in the review process on the Tuesday, Oct. 13 episode of the Dover Download podcast, hosted by Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker.

For the complete CIP, supporting documents, information about the review process and the Oct. 7 workshop video, visit <https://www.dover.nh.gov/government/city-operations/planning/special-projects/cip/>.

Mayor announces October office hours

Each month, Mayor Dennis Shanahan holds office hours at City Hall, offering the public an opportunity to stop by and speak directly with the mayor.

The next office-hours session is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 22, at 5:30 p.m.

Office hours are held in the Council Conference Room on the second floor of City Hall and last approximately 90 minutes. Residents are welcome to attend during the scheduled time. City Hall is located at 288 Central Ave.



For more information, contact Mayor Shanahan at 603-534-3750 or d.shanahan@dover.nh.gov.

New book drop location



Library Director Denise LaFrance stands next to the book return boxes in their new location next to the library's new main entrance. They were previously located behind the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in front of the library and McConnell Center.



**City warns of permit fee, wire-transfer
scams**

Planning Board applicants among those targeted

The City of Dover is warning the public, especially Planning Board applicants, about a scam that urges payment of permit fees by wire transfer. The City of Dover will never ask for payment via wire transfer.

The scam, which has been reported in Dover and nearby regions, involves an applicant receiving an official-looking email purporting to be from a planning department. It includes authentic details about the project, such as the address, tax map information, and application number.

In the scam recently reported in Dover, a Planning Board applicant was emailed a fraudulent invoice for their project that appeared to have the signature of Planning Department Director Donna Benton. Upon closer inspection, the invoice came from an email address ending in @usa.com. Other municipalities reported fraudulent emails coming from @usa.com and @mail.com.

Emails regarding permits and requests for payments in Dover will always come from a @dover.nh.gov email address.

The public should be cautious of any email that demands payment via wire transfer.

The public is encouraged to contact the Dover Planning Department at 603-516-6008 if they receive an email about a permit fee and are unsure of its legitimacy.

City of Dover to hold Household Hazardous Waste Day Oct. 17

The City of Dover, along with the towns of Rollinsford, Lee and Madbury, will hold a Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at the City's Community Services facility, 271 Mast Road.

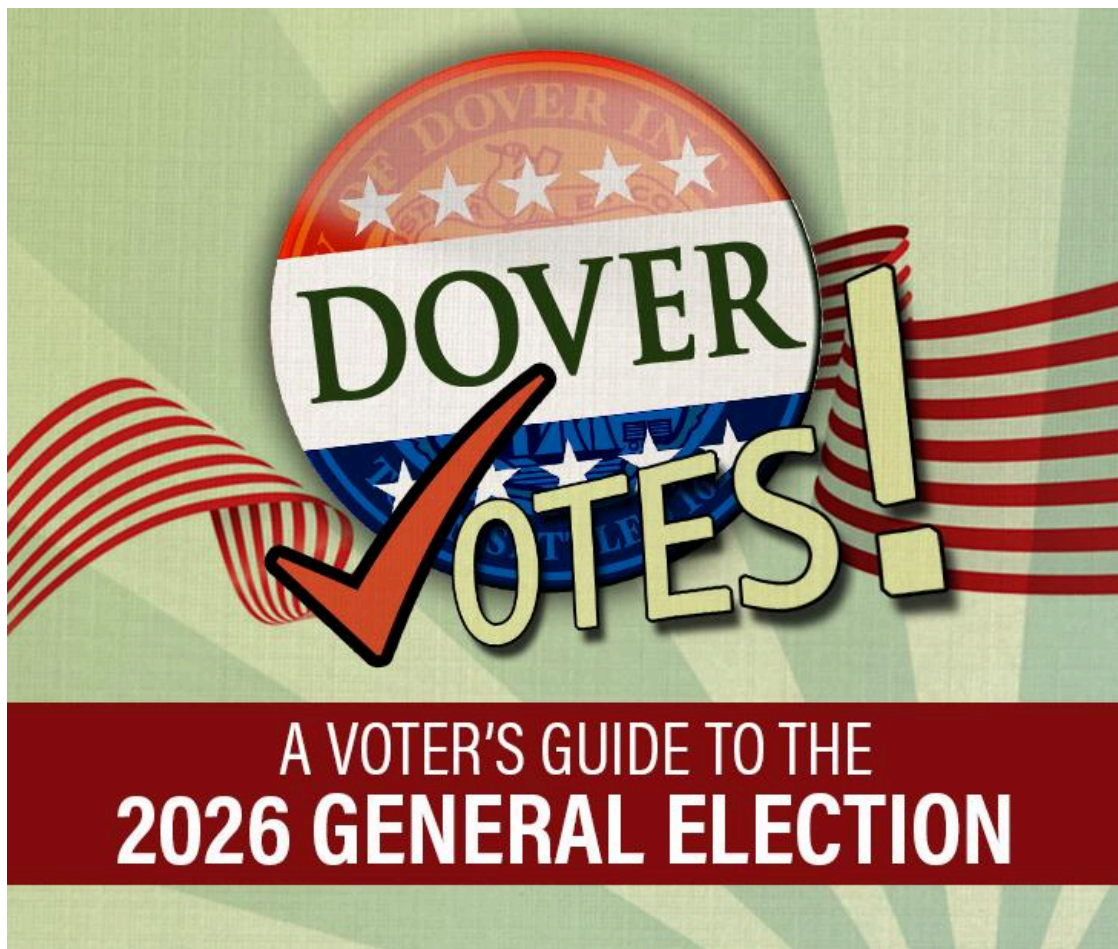
The goal of Hazardous Waste Collection Day is to allow for the proper disposal of household hazardous materials. Residents of the four communities can bring household hazardous waste to Community Services for safe disposal.

The following household waste will be accepted: fertilizer with acids; bathroom cleaners; brush cleaner; pesticides; car waxes/polish; disinfectants; corrosives; fungicides; creosote; furniture polish paint/stain/finish; insect spray; driveway sealers/tar; metal polish (lead and oil-based); lighter fluid; flea powder; mothballs; rust preventatives; pest strips/traps; gasoline; oven cleaners; solvents; pesticides; radiator flush; photo chemicals; thinner/turpentine; poisons; roofing tar; rug cleaner; wood preservatives; pool chemicals; and wood strippers. Empty containers are not hazardous. Please dispose of them in your regular trash.

Explosives, asbestos, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, propane tanks, latex paint, waste oil and antifreeze will not be accepted.

Hazardous Waste Collection Day is for residents only. Proof of residency is required. There is no cost to dispose of waste at the event.

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



Supervisors of the Checklist to hold voter registration event at Library on Oct. 17

The city's Supervisors of the Checklist will host a voter registration event on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Dover Public Library's Community Room, 73 Locust St.

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

Residents may also register at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall during regular hours, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

Sample ballots posted to 2026 election page

Sample ballots for each of Dover's six political wards are now posted to the city's [2026 General Election webpage](#).

Absentee ballots now available

Absentee ballots are now available for the Nov. 6, 2026 general election. Per [state law](#), any person who will be absent on the day of any state election because of a religious observance, physical disability, or employment obligation (including care of children and infirm adults) may vote via absentee ballot.

How to obtain an absentee ballot

A voter must complete an [Absentee Ballot Application](#), which declares the applicant a duly qualified voter of the city and the reason the voter is entitled to vote by absentee ballot. Applications are also available at the City Clerk's Office. Deliver the completed [Absentee Ballot Application](#) to the City Clerk's Office. It can be hand-delivered, mailed or faxed (603-516-6666). The Clerk's office is located on the ground floor of City Hall, 288 Central Ave., Dover, NH, 03020. It's hours are Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Deadline to return absentee ballots

The deadline for returning absentee ballots to be counted in the general election:

- **In person** — 5 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2, 2026, at the City Clerk's Office.
- **By mail** — 5 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026.

Absentee ballot status

After you have applied for an absentee ballot, you can use the Secretary of State's [Voter Information Lookup](#) to find out if your clerk has received your request, when the absentee ballot was sent to you, and when your clerk received your completed absentee ballot.



Trick-or-Treat in Dover is Oct. 30

Trick-or-Treat in Dover is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 30, 2026, from 5 to 8 p.m., the day before Halloween, as is the tradition in Dover.

For more information, contact the Recreation Department at 603-516-6401.

Upcoming Meetings:

**Conservation Commission,
Oct. 13, 5:30 p.m.**

The Conservation Commission will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday,

Volunteers sought for Community Trail cleanup tomorrow morning

The Community Trail Advisory Committee is hosting a trail cleanup at the Fisher Street

Oct. 13, 2026, beginning at 5:30 p.m., in the Council Conference Room, City Hall.

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

Planning Board, Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

The Planning Board will hold a regular meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2026, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

City Council, Oct. 14, 6 p.m.

The City Council will hold a nonpublic session on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026, beginning at 6 p.m., in the City Manager's Office at City Hall.

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

City Council, Oct. 14, 7 p.m.

The City Council will hold a regular meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2026, beginning at 7 p.m., in Council Chambers, City Hall.

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

Board of Supervisors of Checklist, Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Board of Supervisors of the Checklist will hold a regular meeting on Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Community Room at Dover Public Library.

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

[View a complete list of upcoming 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

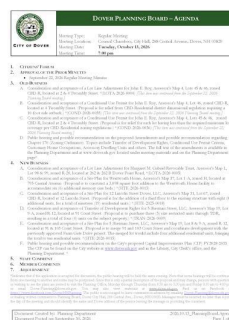
trailhead tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 10, from 9 to 10 a.m.



This month, volunteers will focus on the paved section from Fisher Street to Rutland Street, with an emphasis on the locust trees. Locust trees have sharp thorns, so volunteers should bring heavy gloves, long sleeves and pants, eye protection, sturdy shoes, and, if possible, their own loppers. Volunteers will focus on trimming branches that are within arm's reach of the trail.

[View the Facebook event page](#).

Join the Community Trail Advisory Committee (CTAC) to help maintain the [Community Trail](#) and plan for the future expansion. The committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month at City Hall at 5:30 p.m.



On the Agenda: Planning Board, 10/13/2026

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, Oct. 13, 2026. The video can be viewed by clicking the image above or [here](#).

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall. The meeting will be broadcast live on DoverTV 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.

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:

- Downtown Dover TIF
- Open Lands Committee
- Racial Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Recreation Advisory Board

[View the complete list of city boards and committees.](#)

To apply, [complete an application](#), and return it to the City Clerk's Office, or [email it to](#) City Clerk Jerrica Vansylyvong-Bizier. 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.

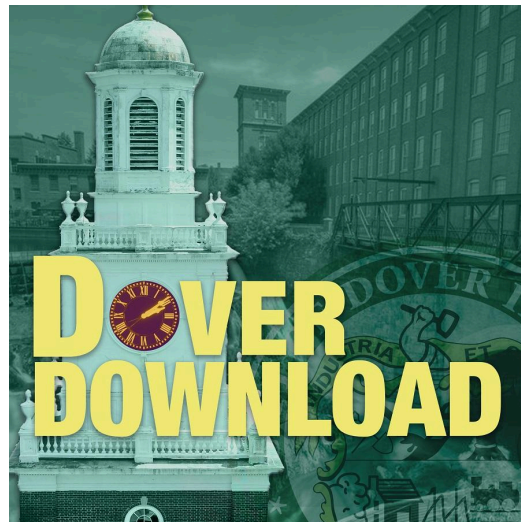
Current bid opportunities with the City of Dover

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

- [On Call Contractors](#)
- [Maintenance of Various Stormwater Control Measures](#)
- [Fire & Rescue Operations Management System](#)

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.



September in Review: Boards, Committees and Commissions

In the [latest](#) episode of the Dover Download podcast, Deputy City Manager Christopher Parker chats with Director of Media Services Mike Gillis about September's board, committee and commission meetings.

[Listen](#) wherever you get your podcasts.

Outstanding in Their Field



A colorful collection of scarecrows has taken up residence in downtown Dover, courtesy of Dover Doers. The seasonal display, complete with pumpkins, hay bales and cornstalks, can be found in the alley in front of Replenish, and behind the building that is home to Jewelry Creations, HIP, Eight Legged Octopus and Coldwell Banker–Peggy Carter. Visitors are invited to stop by, admire the scarecrows and vote for their favorites online through the [Dover Doers Facebook group](#). Founded in 2023, Dover Doers is a volunteer organization that partners with the City of Dover to beautify downtown through seasonal plantings, gardens and other community projects, including the flower-filled planters on the Central Avenue bridge.

Rural section of Community Trail open after culvert work

The Dover Community Trail is now open through the former Liberty Mutual property. The trail was closed last month by the new property owner, Brady Sullivan, to repair a failed culvert that crossed the trail.

The new culvert is a 48-inch high-density polyethylene plastic pipe, designed to improve hydraulic capacity, reduce erosion, restore the trail surface, and protect the city's existing sewer crossing, according to the project documents submitted to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board. The Community Trail runs through the property's conservation area.

For information about the Community Trail, contact the Planning Department at 603-516-6008.



Rollins Road, Highland Avenue water main work begins

The City of Dover will replace an aging and undersized water main on Rollins Road and Highland Avenue beginning this month. The City of Dover's water system supplies water for a section of Rollinsford through a franchise agreement.

The new water main will be installed on Rollins Road from the Oak Street intersection to Highland Avenue, and on Highland Avenue. New public water service lines will also be replaced. The City of Dover has contracted with MacKinnon and Sons to perform the work for \$425,000.

Excavation work on Rollins Road begins on Tuesday, Oct. 13. The project is estimated to take about 35 work days, conditions permitting. Trenches will be paved for the winter with final pavement slated for 2027.

Rollins Road will be reduced to one lane of alternating traffic during work hours, Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., when workers are present. Flaggers will also be at the Oak Street intersection when work occurs there early in the project. Motorists should anticipate delays through the area.

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

Oak Street closure remains in effect

Oak Street will remain closed to through traffic from Central Avenue to Broadway to facilitate water utility work on Central Avenue.

The closure will be in effect during construction hours, Monday-Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The intersection will reopen during the evenings, weekends, and any day when work does not occur. Detours will be in effect on Monday, Oct. 12, Columbus Day.

Oak Street will be closed to local traffic only at the Broadway/Rollins Road intersection. Motorists traveling to and from Oak Street to Central Avenue will be detoured via Broadway and Pierce Street.

The Oak Street entrances to 679 Central Ave. (Dollar Tree), and 701 Central Ave. (Wentworth-Douglass Express Care, Kennebunk Savings) remain open for local Oak Street traffic access from the Broadway/Rollins Road intersection. These properties can also be accessed from their Central Avenue driveways.

Reservoir Street is closed at Central Avenue. Access to Reservoir Street will be from Mount Vernon Street.

The work is part of the [Central Avenue Urban Core Water Improvements](#) to replace a critical water transmission line on Central Avenue from Broadway to Abbey Sawyer Memorial Drive, and on Abbey Sawyer Memorial Drive to the water tank. The contractor for the project is S.U.R. Construction, Inc., of Rochester.

Daily lane closures on Spaulding Turnpike southbound continue through Nov. 16

Daily lane closures are in effect on the southbound Spaulding Turnpike in Dover as work continues to demolish the General Sullivan Bridge.

Weather permitting, lane closures will be in effect from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. between mile markers 4.2 and 3.6. The closures are expected to continue through approximately Monday, Nov. 16. The lane closures will allow crews to remove the center span of the General Sullivan Bridge.

The work is part of the ongoing demolition of the General Sullivan Bridge between Dover and Newington. Reed & Reed Inc. of Woolwich, Maine, is the general contractor for the \$28.4 million project, which is scheduled for completion in summer 2027.

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.

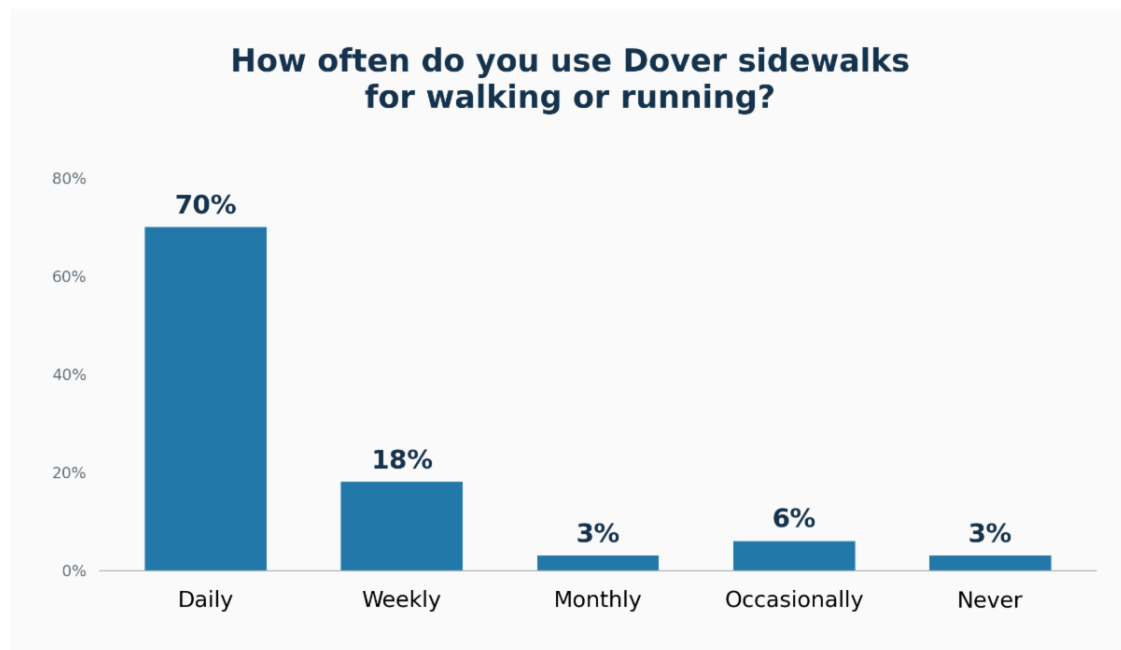
This week's question:

"Do you feel Dover offers enough activities for older adults?"

[Let us know.](#)

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:





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.

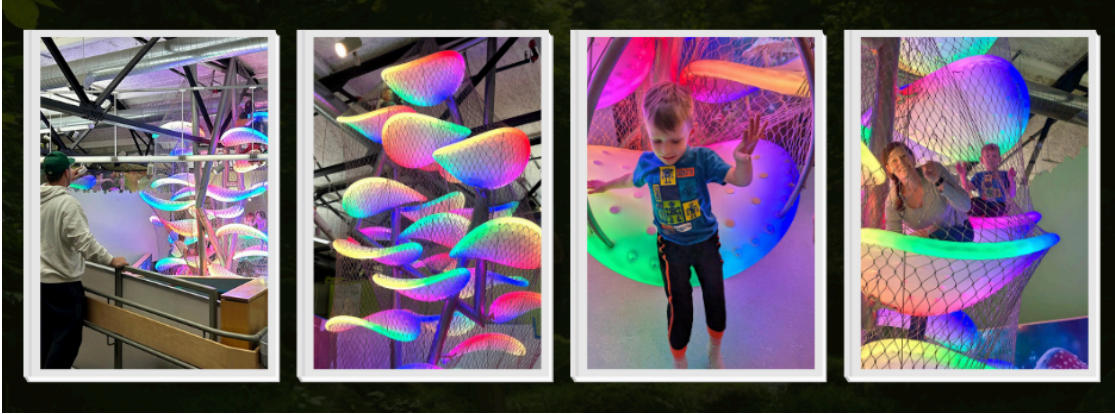
Oct. 14, 1651 — Dover faced a 10-pound fine for failing to send a representative to two consecutive sessions of the Massachusetts General Court. At the time, Dover was governed by the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and participation in its legislative assembly was an obligation of the town. Dover received a reprieve, however: At the town's request, the court postponed collection until the next Election Court, giving Dover an opportunity to explain its absence before the penalty was enforced.

Oct. 15, 1693 — New Hampshire's General Assembly required every town in the province to provide a schoolmaster or face a 10-pound penalty. The law made one exception: Dover was excused from the requirement for the duration of the ongoing war with French and Native American forces.

Oct. 16, 1840 — Moses Hodgdon, 66, a lawyer whose career also included public service and banking, died on this day. Hodgdon had practiced law in Dover since 1801 and was among the longest-serving members of the Strafford County Bar. He had represented Dover in the state Legislature and, at his death, was president of both Strafford Bank and the Savings Bank for the County of Strafford. He also wrote "The Complete Justice of the Peace," a legal manual published in Dover in 1806.

Oct. 13, 1855 — The Piscataqua Ferry Co. was organized with \$2,000 in capital to carry passengers between Dover Point and Newington. The venture came during a year of disruption for travel across the river: Ice had destroyed part of the Piscataqua Bridge in February, and the crossing was never rebuilt. Although the bridge crossed farther upstream, its loss renewed the importance of ferries in connecting communities on opposite sides of the Piscataqua. The new company provided a passenger crossing at Dover Point, continuing a transportation service with deep roots in the region.

Oct. 11, 1999 — The Dover School Board recognized Vocational Director Ken Latchaw for helping bring DoverNet, a shared city and school computer network, to completion after seven years of work. The effort began in 1992, when Latchaw commissioned a task force with a goal of placing three computers in every classroom and connecting students to research resources. The \$2 million project networked every classroom, provided internet access in all libraries, installed file servers, introduced a technology curriculum and added software for recording student grades. It also upgraded 105 computers. Latchaw secured \$340,668 in federal grants to help offset the cost. Accepting the board's recognition, Latchaw emphasized the contributions of others, including Assistant City Manager J. Michael Joyal Jr. Components of the DoverNet system remain in use today.



Light-Up climbable sculpture opens at Children's Museum of New Hampshire

The Children's Museum of New Hampshire (CMNH) has opened its newest exhibit, a 30-foot-tall, light-up Climber, to the public on Oct. 2, 2026, following a special member preview on Oct. 1. The Climber, created specifically for CMNH by the Luckey Climber company, which has designed more than 200 custom-built structures worldwide, is a visually striking, large-scale, climbable sculpture that blends art, architecture, and play.

The Climber extends from the main floor of the museum to the rafters. Visitors who ascend to the top will enjoy a full view of the museum. Safety remains a top priority: the molded plastic platforms each support up to 250 pounds, and the entire structure is enclosed in thousands of feet of vinyl-coated cable netting. Due to its thoughtful design, children are never able to fall more than 18 inches while exploring.

Museum admission includes access to the Climber as well as all other exhibits and activities.

Museum Hours: Wednesday–Sunday, 9 a.m.–Noon or 1–4 p.m.; Tuesday, 9 a.m.–Noon; Closed Monday.

Admission: \$16 for visitors over 12 months; \$14 for seniors ages 65+; Free for members and for children 12 months and younger. Admission discounts are available.

For more information, visit the museum [website](#).

City urges water conservation amid ongoing drought conditions

The City of Dover urges residents and businesses to voluntarily reduce water consumption due to the ongoing [regional drought conditions](#). These voluntary measures will remain in place until drought conditions improve.

While many communities across the region implemented mandatory water restrictions, the city anticipates voluntary water use reductions will be sufficient, said Community Services Director John Storer, who oversees the city's water system.

Current aquifer levels were discussed at the City Council's workshop on the city's water utility system on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2026. The Dover Utilities Commission discussed groundwater levels and drought conditions at its [meeting](#) on Monday, Sept. 21.

The region has experienced drought conditions since July 8, 2025, when the U.S. Drought Monitor classified the region to be abnormally dry. Conditions worsened to moderate

drought levels on Aug. 12, 2025, followed by severe drought conditions starting on Sept. 16, 2026. Severe drought conditions persisted through June 30, 2026, when conditions were upgraded to moderate drought conditions, where it has remained.

Ways to conserve water

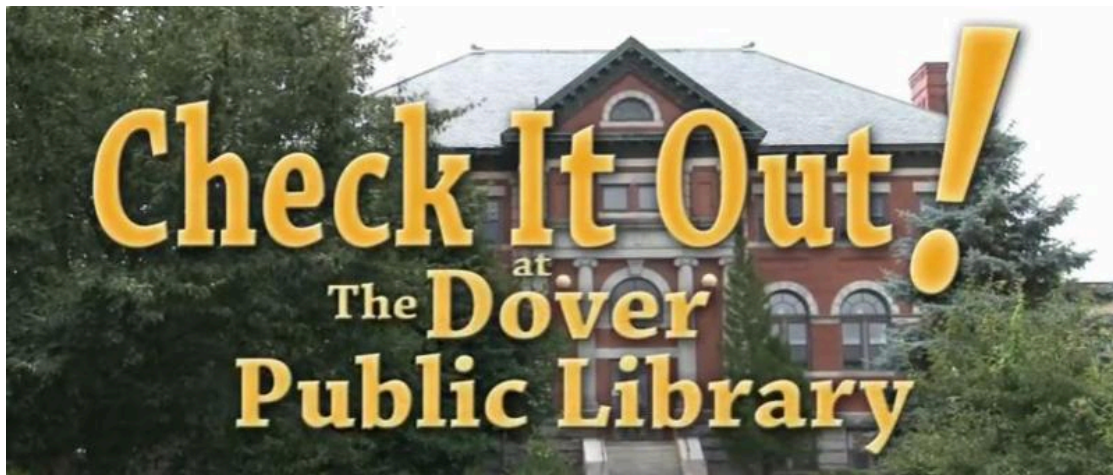
The public can conserve water in many ways:

- 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 day, especially 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.

Find additional resources at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's [WaterSense online resource](#).

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

The city's public 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. Customers will need their account number from their water bill. For assistance, contact the Water and Sewer Billing Office at 603-516-6028.



Game Night returns this month

Starting this month, the Dover Public Library will be bringing back two favorite gaming groups to the library: Chess Group and Game Night.

Chess Group restarts on Thursday, Oct. 15. The group invites all ages to drop in between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m. to play a game or two and meet other folks interested in all things chess. The group will meet the first and third Thursdays of every month in the Trustees Room of the library. Players are asked to bring a chess set if they have one.

Board game enthusiasts in the community are invited to the library on Wednesday, Oct. 21, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. to play a fun selection of card and board games. The group will meet the third Wednesday of every month in the Cochecho Community Room. Games will be provided, but players are welcome to bring their own to share as well. This event is primarily geared towards ages 12 & up, but families and all ages are welcome to join in the fun.

You do not need a library card to come play! These programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit the library's [website](#) or call (603) 516-6050. Library hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

This Week at the Library

Sunday, Oct. 11, 1 to 4 p.m.
Free Halloween Costume Event:
Presented by S.C.A.R.E. NH
Community Room

S.C.A.R.E. NH will be joining us for a special event. Stop by and pick up a free Halloween costume for your child! No swap necessary, just come shop! The organization will also be accepting donations at this event.

While supplies last

Monday, Oct. 12, Library Closed
Columbus Day Holiday

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Baby Storytime
Community Room

For babies 0-24 months and their caregivers. Join for songs, movement, rhymes, and stories.

Tuesday, Oct. 13, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Free drop-in Acupuncture session
for relaxation

Meeting Room 2 (Leach Room)

Free, monthly "stress relief" ear acupuncture clinic for any community members who have stress in their work/home life, just want to relax or want to experience acupuncture (All ages). No appointment is needed. First come, first served. Ends promptly at 7:30 pm.

Please arrive by 7:10 pm.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 10 to 10:30 a.m.
Family Storytime
Community Room

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

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
All Abilities Club: Movie Ghostbusters
Community Room

Thursday, Oct. 15, 10 to 10:45 a.m.
Arts and Crafts Storytime
Program Room (Mullen)

Arts and Crafts Storytime is for children ages 3-5 who are ready to attend storytime independently, without a caregiver. Each session will focus on a different theme. Books, songs, rhymes, and an art activity will all be part of the fun. *Registration required.*

Thursday, Oct. 15, 6 to 8 pm
Chess Group
Trustees Room

All ages are invited to drop in to play a game or two and meet other folks interested in all things chess. Please bring a chess set if you have one!

Friday, Oct. 16, 10 to 11 a.m.
Breakfast Book Club
Panera Bread, 841 Central Ave.

A book group with a twist! We will not all be reading the same book. Participants will have a chance to share opinions and ideas about what they are currently reading. This is a great way to get suggestions for your TBR (To Be Read) list and to connect with other book lovers.

A list of all books discussed will be emailed to the group after the event.

Registration required.

Saturday, Oct. 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Voter Registration Event with Dover
City Clerk's Office
Community Room

The city's Supervisors of the Checklist will be at the library to register new voters, record address changes, and make necessary corrections to the voter checklist.

Saturday, Oct. 17, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Crafternoon for Kids: Wooden
Spoon Witches and Friends

Join us for this special movie showing of Ghostbusters. Snacks will be provided.

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2 to 3 p.m.
Matter of Fact: Non-Fiction Book Club
Trustees Room

This book group is dedicated to non-fiction, exploring history, science, essays, and biography. This month's book is *Genghis Khan and the Making of the Modern World* by Jack Weatherford. Pick up a copy at the front desk.

Program Room (Mullen)

Kids ages 5 and up are invited to join us in the children's program room to make a paper plate pirate to celebrate "Talk Like a Pirate Day". Kindergartners and first-graders may need help from a caregiver to complete this project.

Registration required.



Rotary Club of Dover Holds Membership Info Meeting on Oct. 28

Community members interested in making a difference locally and worldwide are invited to attend a breakfast meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 28 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. at 121 Broadway in Rotary's first floor conference room.

Rotarians will provide information on the Rotary Club of Dover, NH's service above self projects and community activities helping to improve the lives of families in need, support student achievements and improve Dover's parks and recreation centers.

Rotary also offers opportunities to make new friends, network locally and discover a world of people engaged in amazing, life changing endeavors.

The event is free of charge, catered by Fat Dog Kitchen. For more information, please contact Steve Pappajohn, Membership Chair at s.pappajohn@dover.nh.gov.

Rotary MEMBERSHIP Dover, NH INFO MEETING!

Doing Good In **Dover**...and The World!

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 28, 2026
8:30-10:00 AM
BREAKFAST & INFO!



Attend and learn how YOU can make a difference within our community and beyond!



Catered by
Fat Dog Kitchen

**EVENT IS HOSTED
AT OUR ROTARY
CLUB MEETING
SPACE**

**121 BROADWAY
DOVER, NH**



WHAT DOES BEING IN ROTARY MEAN?

- Participation in Community Events
- Making New Friends & Networking
- Service Above Self...& So Much More!

To RSVP or For More Info:

Please Contact:

Steve Pappajohn, Membership Chair

s.pappajohn@dover.nh.gov

Picture yourself...with us!

Sunday hours at the Recycling Center begin Nov. 1

The City of Dover Recycling Center will be open additional hours on Sundays, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from Sunday, Nov. 1 through Sunday, Dec. 6.

The Recycling Center's regular hours are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

For more information about the Recycling Center, call 603-516-6450.

Fall leaf collection begins Nov. 2

The City of Dover 2026 fall leaf collection will begin Monday, Nov. 2 and continue for six weeks, Monday through Friday, through Dec. 11.

Bagged leaves will be picked up by Waste Management on the same scheduled day as curbside trash and recycling. Please note that pickup is delayed by one day on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Friday, Nov. 27, due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Leaves must be placed curbside in biodegradable paper leaf bags. No brush will be accepted. Paper bags can be purchased at local hardware or home improvement stores.

Grass clippings, leaves, brush and yard waste are also accepted at the Recycling Center during regular operating hours, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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



**REPORT A CRIME
ANONYMOUSLY.**



CALL 603-749-6000



**SUBMIT AN E-TIP AT
DOVERCRIMELINE.ORG**

Report crimes anonymously to Dover CrimeLine

Dover CrimeLine is a community partnership between residents and the Dover Police Department that allows people to anonymously share information about criminal activity.

Anyone with information about a crime can call Dover CrimeLine at 603-749-6000 or submit an E-Tip through www.dovernhcrimeline.org. Tipsters remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest or indictment.

Dover CrimeLine was established in 1991 to enhance public safety and reduce crime in the city. Since then, thousands of tips have contributed to arrests and investigations, with more than \$34,000 in rewards authorized.

Tipsters are reminded that Dover CrimeLine is not an emergency service. If a crime is in progress or has just occurred, call 911 or the Dover Police Department's nonemergency line at 603-742-4646.

For more information or to learn how to volunteer with the CrimeLine board, visit www.dovernhcrimeline.org.

Red Cross declares emergency blood shortage

The American Red Cross is declaring an emergency blood shortage as the blood supply fell nearly 25% in June. Blood donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay.



The shortage comes during the height of trauma season, when hospitals frequently see increased demand for blood due to serious injuries and other medical emergencies, according to the Red Cross.

A steep decline in blood donations since the end of May has created a growing gap between supply and patient need. Currently, Red Cross distributions to hospitals are nearly 3,500 units higher per week than expected. The shortage is especially serious for types O positive and B negative blood. Blood donors are urgently needed to give now to help ensure patients receive lifesaving medical care without delay.

Every day, thousands of patients rely on lifesaving blood donations. The need for blood is constant.

Schedule a blood donation appointment through the [Red Cross Blood Donor App](#), visiting RedCrossBlood.org, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). [Learn more about](#) the donation process.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Dover

- Friday, Oct. 9, 1 to 6 p.m., [St. Johns United Methodist Church](#), 28 Cataract Ave.
 - Monday, Oct. 12, 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., [Bill Dube Ford/Toyota](#), 40 Dover Point Road
 - Thursday, Oct. 15, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., [Dover Baptist Church](#), 151 Washington St.
 - Thursday, Oct. 22, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., [Dover Honda](#), 1 Dover Point Road
 - Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., [Wentworth-Douglass Hospital](#), 789 Central Ave.
 - Tuesday, Oct. 27, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., [Dover Moose Hall](#), 45 Chestnut St.
-

Stay connected with DoverTV

DoverTV has a new online home for live streaming and on-demand video, making it easier to watch municipal meetings, school programming and other local content from anywhere.

Visit bit.ly/doverTV to watch DoverTV channels live and browse available programs, meetings, series and playlists on demand. A link to DoverTV live streaming and on-demand video is also available from the homepage of the City of Dover website at www.dover.nh.gov.

DoverTV also continues to air on local cable:

- On Xfinity, the Government Channel is Channel 22 and the Education Channel is Channel 26.
- On Breezeline, the Government Channel is Channel 9010 and the Education Channel is Channel 9011.

Looking for an older meeting or program? Previously archived DoverTV content remains available at dovernh.viebit.com. That archive will transition to the new DoverTV on-demand service in the coming months.

Whether you watch live, catch up on a recent meeting or search the archives, DoverTV keeps you informed and connected to your community.

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:

- **Media Services Technician, Part-Time**
- **Diesel Mechanic**
- **Account Clerk II - Water & Sewer Billing**
- **Police Officer**
- **Swim Instructor, Part-Time**
- **Lifeguard I, Part-Time**
- **Heavy Equipment Mechanic**
- **Truck Driver-Laborer**
- **Heavy Equipment Operator 1-Utilities**
- **Arena Attendant, SPT**
- **Water Exercise Instructor II, Part-Time**
- **Custodian - McConnell Center, Part-Time**
- **Custodian, Part-Time**
- **Laborer - Facilities, Grounds & Cemeteries**

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:

- **Dover Middle School Boys Lacrosse Coach**
- **Middle School JV Boys Basketball Coach**
- **Middle School Varsity Boys Basketball Coach**
- **ESOL Newcomer Interventionist - One Year Only**
- **Noon Supervisors**
- **Physical Education/Wellness Teacher - Long Term Substitute**
- **Gymnastics Coach**
- **Paraprofessionals-Special Education**
- **Substitute Teachers**
- **Substitute Nurses**
- **Elementary School Classroom Teacher**
- **Girls Middle School Volleyball Coach**

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



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

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