

Kennebunk welcomes new Parks and Recreation Director

The Town of Kennebunk welcomes Bill Reichl as the new Director of Parks and Recreation. Bill joins Kennebunk with over 20 years' experience with the Town of Scarborough where he worked as a Grounds/Parks Maintenance Worker and Foreman, Recreation Manager and most recently in the combined role of Parks & Recreation Manager. Bill earned his Bachelor's Degree in Public Management from The University of Maine, Orono.



Bill is looking forward to getting to know the community and shared, "I have already gotten to meet some fantastic groups and residents that are passionate about recreation and how they can help with program offerings. Kennebunk has a long standing commitment to athletics, and you can tell by all of the sports programming being offered through the recreation department. I want to expand to more programming opportunities for the arts, music, science and other nontraditional recreational activities." Please join us in welcoming Bill!

NEW Tax Stabilization Program for Seniors

The state has enacted a new property tax stabilization program aimed at helping keep senior citizens in their homes. The law went into effect on August 8, 2022 and applies to property tax years beginning April 1, 2023. The program provides property tax stabilization for permanent Maine residents aged 65 or older who have owned a homestead (primary residence) in Maine for at least ten years and have or are eligible for the Homestead Exemption.



Applications and information are available in the Assessor's office or online at www.kennebunkmaine.us/exemptions. Applications are due by December 1, 2022 and must be filed annually. If applying in person or by mail, please be sure to have your driver's license or State ID (a copy if by mail) and any supporting documentation showing that you have owned a homestead in Maine for a minimum of ten years (not necessarily consecutive).

Nomination Papers for Charter Commission

Nomination Papers for six elected positions on the Charter Commission are available at the Town Clerk's Office. Candidates will appear on the November 8th ballot. The deadline to return nomination papers is September 29th. Please call the Town Clerk's Office at 604-1326 for more information.

November 8, 2022 Gubernatorial/State & Town Referendum Election

Our next election will be held on November 8th and will include Gubernatorial Candidates, Local Candidates (Charter Commission) and State & Town Referendum questions. The election will be held in the Edward C. Winston Town Hall Auditorium from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our voter guide will be available in October, and Early Absentee Voting is scheduled to begin the week of October 10th. You can request absentee ballots either online, by calling 604-1326, or in person at the Town Clerk's Office.

A message from the Kennebunk River Harbormaster



As summer starts to fade and the transition into fall begins, it's a good time for some summer reflection and boating etiquette reminders. At the peak of summer in July, the rough count of boats in slips or on moorings with motors was around 450 not including canoes, sup-boards, kayaks, etc.

Below is a summary of events thus far this season:

- As of today, no moorings have parted or boats become adrift.
- Three recreational moorings have been transferred to waitlist participants and two recreational moorings have been retired to ease navigation.
- Our transient mooring (T-1) has had three occupants thus far this season.
- While cruising the river, I interrupted "divers" at Government Wharf and Gooch's bridge, warned them that they were in violation of local ordinances and that this activity is extremely dangerous.
- I've also taken numerous phone, text, and email complaints from property owners along the upper Kennebunk River as well as along the banks of Gooch's Creek about reckless powerboaters/jet skiers who were exceeding the speed limits, endangering others in/on the water as well as creating wakes that possibly erode shoreline property.
- From the details in those complaints, I was able to locate the operator and occupants of three small powerboats. I warned them that they were in violation of the local ordinance and educated them on the river ordinance language about wakes, safety, and the speed limit of 5 knots only (5.7 MPH) on the entire river.
- At last month's River Committee meeting it was decided to implement a two-pronged approach to address the increase of powerboat operators violating speed-related ordinances:
 - Additional 5 mph speed limit buoys will be placed in these areas.
 - Additional patrolling on the water will be conducted in these same areas.

These steps have been partially implemented for the remainder of this season and will be fully incorporated by next summer. I will continue to monitor the impact of these actions.

As a reminder to all: be safe on the water, wear your life jackets, and remember that many people visit our town just so they can enjoy their time on the river. It's a cherished natural resource that is shared by all. Thank you, Jamie Houtz, *Kennebunk River Harbormaster*

Kennebunk Free Library happenings

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month at KFL! Did you know that employees of Kennebunk and Arundel businesses are eligible to get Kennebunk Free Library cards at no charge? Just stop by the library with a photo ID and proof of employment (pay stub, work ID, or business card), and get signed up! A KFL library card gives you access to our print and digital collections, Kanopy video streaming platform, and interlibrary loan!



September 18-26 Banned Books Week - Stop by to learn more about intellectual freedom and your right to read.

Tuesday, September 20 at 6:00 p.m. "Involuntary Americans: Scottish Prisoners in Early Colonial Maine" Carol Gardner will give a talk discussing the more than 400 prisoners of war who were brought to Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts against their wills in 1650-1651. Dr. Gardner is the author of a narrative history, *The Involuntary American: A Scottish Prisoner's Journey to the New World*.

Tuesday, September 27, at 4:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Annual Meeting via Zoom - Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month, with the exception of July and December, and they are open to the public.

Monday, September 12, at 5:30 p.m. Friends of KFL Meeting - The Friends host book sales and other fundraising events to support KFL. The next book sale is on October 15 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Email us at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org for Zoom links, to sign up for a card, and more! Phone: 985-2173

FY23 Tax due dates: October 14, 2022 and April 14, 2023



Tips to help us process your payment:

- Please include a telephone number with your payment.
- Mail your payment to the Town of Kennebunk, 1 Summer St, Kennebunk ME 04043.
- Deposit your payment in the lockbox located in the main lobby of the town hall.
- Visit us in person on the second floor of the town hall.
- Credit card payments accepted at <https://epayment.informe.org/payportonline/welcome> (A 2.5% surcharge fee applies.)
- If you sold your property, contact your closing agent to discuss the bill you received.
- If you escrow your taxes, share your bill with your mortgage company.

Kennebunk Police National Night Out was a success!

A sincere thanks to all who joined us on Tuesday, August 2nd, at the Waterhouse Center for the Kennebunk Police National Night Out event. Hundreds turned out after a two year hiatus to be together again. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community aimed at strengthening neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships.



The crowd enjoyed live music, games, safety displays, face painting, a scavenger hunt, amazing raffles from generous local businesses and the opportunity to meet our local Police, EMS, Fire Department & community partners. Our local businesses also donated hot dogs, popsicles, lemonade and more. And last but not least, the DUNK TANK was a splash! We look forward to next year's event. Funds raised support the Special Olympics Maine athletes.

2022 Citizens Police Academy is underway!

This 12 week course started in August and will continue until Thursday, October 27. Classes will be held once a week and are about two hours long at the police department.



This is a great opportunity for members of the community and law enforcement to interact in a positive and proactive setting. The program is designed to introduce the criminal justice system, explain the police officer's role and discuss our community.

Town Staff Updates

As the summer comes to an end, we want to thank all of our seasonal staff including Firefighter/EMT's, Plant Waterers, Laborers, Summer Camp Counselors, Community Service Officers, and all others who helped serve our community this season.

Kennebunk Police Department wishes to thank VISTA/Goodwill Americorps intern Ann Vigeant for her yearlong work with Officer Candice Simeoni on efforts surrounding our older population and community engagement. We sincerely thank Ann for her contributions to KPD.

Please join us in welcoming our new staff:

- Parks & Recreation Director, William Reichl
- Mechanic, Jonathan Furbish
- Tabettha Barden, PT to FT in Community Development Division
- Jason Champlin, Reserve Officer to FT Officer/School Resource Officer
- New Reserve Officer, Tim Spahr

Kennebunk Parks & Recreation Programs

FarmABLE (A Farm-Based Experiential Learning Program for Youth)
Ages 8 - 12
Thursdays 9/15-10/20
Cost: \$110/participant



KAK Soccer (Kennebunk, Arundel, & Kennebunkport)
Grades: PreK - 6 Weekly Practices & Saturday Games
9/10 - 10/29
Cost: Varies



Adult Tap Dance 1
Ages 18+
Saturdays 9/10-10/15
Cost: \$55/participant



Adult Tap Dance 2
Ages 18+
Mondays 9/12-10/11
Cost: \$55/participant

Register for programs online at www.kennebunkrec.com or in the office.

Upcoming Events

Select Board Outreach Session

Saturday, September 17, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Town Hall

Artisans Marketplace

Saturdays, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. from May 28 through October 1 at the Waterhouse Center

Farmers' Market

Saturdays, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. from May 7 to November 19 at Garden Street Municipal Lot

Food Scrap Diversion Workshop

Thursday, September 22, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. West Kennebunk Fire Station
Come learn what your community is doing to increase composting and battle climate change. Registration required. To register email: kcarter@kennebunkmaine.us by September 15.

Community Composting Workshop

Monday, October 3, 6 p.m. at Kennebunk Free Library and via Zoom

Household Hazardous Waste Day

Saturday, October 8, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Kennebunk Public Services Dept. 36 Sea Road
Visit www.kennebunkmaine.us/hazmatday for details.

HarvestFest

Saturday, October 15, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Waterhouse Center - more details coming soon!

Meetings

Select Board

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. on the 3rd floor of Town Hall.*

Planning Board

Meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.*

*Visit www.kennebunkmaine.us/calendars for determination of in-person or remote meeting.

COME WORK WITH US!

WE'RE HIRING

Current Job Openings:

- Maintenance Worker/Truck Driver, full-time, Public Services
- Per Diem Firefighter/Medics, variable part-time
- Police Officers, full-time and reserve
- Afterschool Just for Kids Club Room Coordinator, variable part-time-Rec
- Town Manager, full-time

Visit our website for all current openings: <https://www.kennebunkmaine.us/Jobs>



Kennebunk Fire Rescue recently made a special visit to Kennebunk Free Library where they engaged with young community members during story time.

Need help with heating costs?

You may be eligible for heating assistance (HEAP) to help with your winter heating bills if your household income is considered to be low or very low under federal guidelines. Contact York County Community Action at (207) 324-5762 to schedule a phone interview to apply.



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

The Kennector provides an affordable transportation option for older people and adults with vision impairments or other disabilities. Email thekennector@kennebunkmaine.us for more information or to become a driver. Paper applications are also available in the General Assistance office.

Kitchen Composting

Residents can bring kitchen compost to the Transfer Station at 36 Sea Road. See the attendant on duty to empty five-gallon buckets of kitchen compost into one of the 36-gallon totes provided by Agri-Cycle. The cost to dispose is \$1.00 per bucket. Processed compost can be purchased for \$2.00 per five-gallon bucket.

Town seeks a Christmas Tree

The town is looking for a donation of a fir tree approximately 30' - 40' high, full all the way around, and easily accessible. We have a team ready to come and take a look. Contact ljohnson@kennebunkmaine.us or 207-604-1341.



CAN IT GO IN THE AGRI-CYCLE TOTES?

YES

- fruit and vegetable scraps
- meat and fish waste
- dairy products (cheese, butter, milk, etc.)
- bread, pasta, rice, grains
- eggshells
- coffee grounds and filters
- soiled tea bags
- jellies and sauces
- fats, oils, greases
- packaged food: damaged or outdated food products (solid, liquid, frozen) still in their packaging, including those made of metal, plastic, or cardboard. These include yogurt, milk, juice, canned vegetables, cereals and other perishables*

*Packaging must have significant food volume in it. Any packaging with only an organic residue remaining should be washed and recycled if possible.

NO

- yard waste (leaves, grass clippings, etc.)
- diapers
- chemicals
- cat litter, pet waste
- personal hygiene products
- facial tissues
- medicines
- rubber bands
- latex gloves
- glass
- metals, plastics or cardboards that do not contain food products

