

KENNEBUNK CURRENTS

Town of Kennebunk, 1 Summer Street, Kennebunk, Maine 04043 207-985-2102 www.kennebunkmaine.us

Property Tax Stabilization Program for 65+ Repealed by State Legislature

The Property Tax Stabilization Program has been repealed by the Legislature in response to concerns regarding inequity and reimbursement costs. Any taxpayer whose application was submitted prior to December 1, 2022, and approved, will still receive the “freeze” on their 2023 property tax bill. Since the program has ended, there will be no re-application process. Taxpayers may qualify for the expanded Property Tax Fairness Credit and the Senior Property Tax Deferral programs. Information and applications for both programs can be found on the Maine Revenue Services website. Contact information for these State administered programs is as follows:

Taxpayer Contact Center: 624-9784 or, taxpayerassist@maine.gov
 Income Tax Division: 626-8475 or, income.tax@maine.gov
 Property Tax Division: 624-5600 or, prop.tax@maine.gov

For questions regarding current or pending legislation, or legislative process, please see the contact information below.

LEGISLATIVE CONTACTS:

STATE SENATOR (District 34)
 Re-elected November 2022: Joseph Rafferty (D-York)
 Toll-Free Message Center: 1-800-423-6900
 Website: www.legislature.maine.gov/District-34
 Email: joe.rafferty@legislature.maine.gov

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE STATE LEGISLATURE (District 8)
 Elected November 2022: Daniel Sayre, State Representative (D-Kennebunk)
 Toll-Free Message Center: 1-800-423-2900
 Website https://legislature.maine.gov/housedems/sayre/index.html
 E-mail: daniel.sayre@legislature.maine.gov



Manager's Corner Heather Balsler, Town Manager

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer. After having an adjusted summer schedule, the Select Board will be back to meeting on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. in September. Additionally, monthly Outreach Sessions with Select Board will resume in September starting Saturday, September 16, from 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. on the third floor of Town Hall.

I'm looking forward to seeing the new bricks purchased this past year that will be installed at the Waterhouse Center just in time for HarvestFest on October 14th. Learn about how you can purchase a brick at www.kennebunkmaine.us/brick. Details on HarvestFest will be posted soon at www.kennebunkmaine.us/harvestfest. Come join the fun!

To keep up with all the Town meetings and events check out the Town's calendar at www.kennebunkmaine.us/calendars.



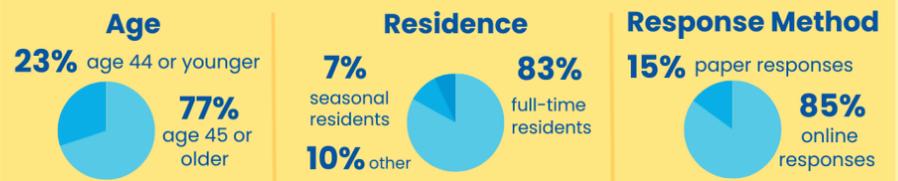
Kennebunk Climate Action Survey Results



The Kennebunk Climate Action Plan Task Force has compiled the survey results following its outreach initiative this spring. The survey revealed that of the 479 respondents, 74% are *very* or *extremely* concerned that climate change will affect the town in coming decades. The survey, aimed at understanding residents' concerns about climate change and their interests in climate-related topics, will help to inform the Task Force on where to focus their efforts regarding climate change.

Members of the Climate Action Plan Task Force will be presenting an overview of its work at the Select Board meeting scheduled for September 26. This will provide an opportunity for community members to ask questions and engage directly with the Task Force. To learn more, please visit www.kennebunkmaine.us/captf.

Survey Demographics



Concerns About Climate

74% were **very** or **extremely** concerned that climate change will affect Kennebunk over the coming decades.

Top 3 Expected Climate-Related Impacts:

- Natural environment**
Over 70% level of concern
- Infrastructure**
Over 70% level of concern
- Economy & jobs**
38% level of concern overall. Higher concern among paper surveys (49%) and income less than \$59k (56%).

Items of High Concern:

- reported by 75% of all respondents
- Flooding**
 - Erosion**
 - Changes to the natural environment**
- < 8% of all respondents and only 3% of younger respondents **did not expect** to see any climate change related impacts.

Learning More

Respondents are **interested in learning more** about:

- Options for recycling electronics
- Safer routes for biking and walking
- Community gardens
- Community solar, adding solar panels, & weatherizing homes

Most attractive **learning methods**:

- Town newsletters
- Websites
- Newspaper



Residents enjoyed food, fun & friends at the recent National Night Out event hosted by KPD.

Parks & Recreation

The Kennebunk Parks & Recreation Department is excited to announce a new digital catalog at <https://issuu.com/kennebunkrecreation/>. Find all of our fall programs, trips and special events in one convenient location at www.kennebunkrec.com.

Kennebunk Resident Registration Opens Tuesday, August 29 at 9:00 a.m.

Non-Resident Registration Opens Wednesday, August 30 at 9:00 a.m.

Questions? Contact the office at 207-604-1335



Staff Updates

New hires:

- Jason Fontaine, new Police Officer starts on 9/5/2023

Open positions:

- Facilities Supervisor, Public Services
- Police Officers, KPD
- After School Counselors, Parks & Rec
- Per Diem Firefighter/EMT, Advanced and Paramedics, KFR



Scan the barcode to view current job postings or visit: www.kennebunkmaine.us/jobs

Kennebunk Free Library Happenings

Family Fun Play: Thursdays (8/31, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 9/28) at 10 a.m. – We bring out the toys for a library play date. These toys are best enjoyed when the whole family plays together! Come play and make new friends at the library! (Children ages 0-5 and their grown-ups)

Ukulele Lessons for Adults: Wednesdays (9/13, 9/20, 9/27, 10/4, 10/11) at 2 p.m. -You are welcome to join us whether you are brand new to the instrument or just need to brush up on the basics. Not ready to buy a uke of your own? You can check out a library ukulele while you're learning.

Chill Gaming – Lego Night: September 14 at 3:30 p.m. – We provide the Legos, you create! (ages 10-18)

Anime Club – Sushi Go: September 21 at 3:30 p.m. – Learn to play this super-fast sushi board game, learn about this popular food's history, and try eating some sushi during our meeting too! (ages 10-18)

Friends of KFL Meeting: Monday, September 11 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Email for link.

Public notice is hereby given to the public pursuant to the Kennebunk Free Library Association by-laws, that the annual meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in person. This meeting is open to the public.

For more information and the rest of our program lineup, or to provide feedback, email us at kfl@kennebunklibrary.org, call us at 985-2173, or visit us at kennebunklibrary.org

Upcoming Events

- Select Board Outreach Session**
Saturday, September 16, 8:30 a.m.-10 a.m. 3rd Floor of Town Hall
- Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day**
Saturday, September 30, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Transfer Station, 36 Sea Rd.
- Harvestfest** - Saturday, October 14, Downtown Kennebunk
- Artisans Marketplace** - Saturdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. through October 7 at the Waterhouse Center
- Farmers Market** - Saturdays 8 a.m.-12:30 p.m. through November at the Garden Street Bowl parking lot

Meetings

- Select Board**
2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Town Hall Room 301
- Planning Board**
Meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Room 301
- Charter Commission**
The Charter Commission meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Town Hall Room 301