
TOWN OF GREENBUSH NEWSLETTER

December 2023
Volume 140



PO BOX 230/132 Military Rd

Greenbush Maine, 04418

Phone: 826-2050 FAX: 826-2190

Hours: Monday - Wednesday 7:30-4:30

Thursday 11:00-6:30

Friday CLOSED

Town of Greenbush
PO Box 230
Greenbush, ME 04418



CHANGING OF THE GUARDS



On December 2, 2023 the Town of Greenbush Fire Department celebrated the retirement of Fire Chief, Donald Burr after 30 years of service (16 of those years as Fire Chief). The celebration continued with the swearing in of the new Fire Chief - James E. McCrum. There were also department promotions including; Assistant Fire Chief- James Smith, Captain – Cody Smith, and Lieutenant – David Wood. Danica Brown was promoted from Junior Firefighter to Firefighter. Aidon Moores joined the department as a Junior Firefighter.

A Special Honor: The Maine Forest Service honored the Family of the late Edward Haverlock. Edward, proudly served as Town of Greenbush Fire Warden for 33 years (1989-2023). The family received a plaque, signed by Governor Janet T. Mills, commemorating Edward's years of service.

IS YOUR HOUSE NUMBER VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD? IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!!

**WANTED
POSTED & VISIBLE**

**YOUR HOUSE NUMBER
HELP US FIND YOU SO WE CAN HELP YOU.**

MAKE SURE YOUR HOUSE MARKER SIGN IS POSTED
CLEARLY VISIBLE FROM BOTH DIRECTIONS ON THE ROAD
BE SURE TO KEEP ALL TREES AND GRASS TRIMMED AROUND THE SIGN
MAKE SURE THE SIGN IS REFLECTIVE

EVERY SECOND COUNTS IN AN EMERGENCY ... CAN RESPONDERS FIND YOUR HOME?

Regularly, Emergency Responders are driving past homes, unable to see the address. Often addresses are only on one side of a mail box, utilizing small numbers, or not posted at all.

Help us find you in your time of emergency!

House numbers should be reflective, at least 3 inches in size, and on both sides of your mailbox. If you do not have a mail box, reflective signs can be purchased for a reasonable cost at most home improvement centers or online. Also, make sure to clear snow away from these signs, or brush in the summer time. Help us help you.

Burn Permits

We've had many inquiries about burn permits. Currently, the department is appointing and training new Fire Wardens. If you need a burn permit you can obtain one online.

Go to: www.maine.gov/burnpermits, click on "Get started here" at bottom of page, then follow prompts.

It is free and convenient; and the fire department will be notified if a permit has been issued. ***There are new rules this year about the allowable size of cooking and warming fires. Double check the rules before burning, and **if in doubt get a permit.**



Snow Season Reminders

WINTER PARKING

Reminder: Do not park along any roadway. The plow drivers need clear access to the roads for proper snow removal. ****The town right-of-way is 33 ft from the center of the road. With winter upon us, please have all vehicles and personal property pushed back and out of the town right-of-way for plowing.**** Thank you 😊

PLOWING OR BLOWING SNOW INTO THE ROADS

Please do not blow or plow snow into the roadway. First, **it is against the law** and secondly, you could cause someone to have an accident.

2024 DOG LICENCE

Dog licenses are available for the 2024-licensing year. Fees are **\$11** for unaltered dogs (male or female) and **\$6** for spayed or neutered dogs. You are required to license your dogs by **December 31st each year.** Don't be late; there is a \$25 late fee. Bring your pets' updated rabies certificate.



VEHICLE REGISTRATION UPDATES:

If you are registering a new vehicle or a complicated registration, please come in **ONE HOUR PRIOR TO CLOSING.** **Any new residents must bring their prior registration upon renewal.**

Tips to registering and re-registering smoothly:

1. **New registrations:** Bring blue title application, bill of sale with proof that sales tax was paid, mileage, and insurance card with effective date of the day you are registering or before.
2. **Bill of sale needs to include the following:** Date of transaction, VIN number, year, make, model, mileage, seller information, with seller address, printed name legible, signature, buyer's name, signature, the amount that you are paying.
3. **Transferring a registration:** Bring prior registration you are transferring, blue title application, bill of sale, mileage, and proof of insurance.
4. **Re-registration:** Mileage, insurance card with effective date of the day you are registering or prior day.

News from the Tax Assessors Office

Are you eligible for a partial real estate tax exemption?

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION: If you have owned a homestead property in Maine for at least 12 months (as of April 1st) and occupied that property on April 1st as your permanent residence, you may be eligible.

VETERAN EXEMPTION: If you served during a Federally Recognized war period, were honorably discharged, and have reached the age of 62 or have been certified by the VA as 100% disabled, you may be eligible. A copy of your discharge papers (DD 214) is required when you apply.

BLIND EXEMPTION: If you have been diagnosed as blind by a licensed doctor, you may be eligible. A letter from the doctor stating that you are legally blind is required when you apply.

Please contact the town office for applications for any of these exemptions. Applications must be received at the town office on or before April 1st in order to qualify for the upcoming tax bill.

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NEWS FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICE – December 2023

The Code Enforcement Officer is in the office Monday's from 7:30-4:30

Permits are required for anything being built, whether it's a chicken coup, or a house/cabin/shed, etc... You need a permit with a sketch, and dimensions.

- **Septic Permit** – is the first step you need to take when building. Septic Permits are \$265.00. New sites require routine site plan for septic systems cost varies \$100.00 plus.
- **Plumbing Permit** - Internal plumbing fees are \$10.00 per fixture, with a minimum fee of \$40.00.
- **Building Permit** - Minimum \$20.00, .20 cents a square foot for unconditioned space (not heated or cooled) .30 cents a square foot for conditioned space.
- **Electrical Permit** is \$25.00.

*****Any building, plumbing or septic system installed without a permit is subject to a violation and double fees will be charged for the activity.**

- **The State of Maine has an Automobile Graveyard statute** - it is as follows: No more than 2 unregistered / uninspected vehicles allowed in your yard. As I drive through the town I am concerned that some of the residents don't care what their property looks like. Unfortunately for them there is a State Junkyard statute that addresses this very issue. I am hoping that people will clean up their yards without having my department get involved. I can assure you that it is cheaper to clean it up now than for me to get the Town Attorney involved. I'm sure your neighbors would also appreciate your efforts.
- **Campers/RV's** - There are a fair number of Recreational Vehicles/Campers in town. We have found that the occupants are not being compliant with the State of Maine Code and therefore we will not be signing any Electrical hookups provided by Versant for campers/RV's. We have also had numerous calls from the Department of Health & Human Services regarding this matter. If it is known that these campers are occupied more than the 180-day period the occupants will be served a violation. Many people use these seasonally and legally take care of the waste/waste water by dumping at a licensed facility. These campers cannot be occupied for more than 180-days a year and must show proof, with a receipt of the facility that disposed of their waste/ waste water, to the Local Plumber Inspector.

I am always willing to work with people when I see progress being made. I have also been known to follow through with legal action, if the situation warrants. Thank you in advance for your efforts in helping to clean up your yard and making Greenbush a proud community for all.

RESPECTFULLY – MIKE FALVEY, CEO/LPI 12/21/2023

CURBSIDE PICKUP

Curbside pickup is scheduled on Friday's. The rubbish service requests that you have your household trash put out by 7 AM to ensure pick up. If you need to put trash out Thursday evening, PLEASE make sure you have animal-proof containers to avoid having critters, whether wild or domestic, strewing trash around the neighborhood. The rubbish service workers are not responsible for cleaning up any scattered trash.

CURBSIDE SPECIAL REMINDER

***No Human Waste and/or Liquid Human Waste is to be disposed of in your household trash! If found, the Rubbish Disposal Company has the right to refuse your trash pick-up due to it being a health hazard for their employees. (Disposable Baby diapers/adult incontinent products are accepted)

SAVE THE VOTING DATES



The following is a list of Election Dates...

- March 5, 2024 = Presidential Primary
- June 6, 2024 = Annual Town Meeting
- June 11, 2024 = State Primary
- November 5, 2024 = Presidential Election



HAVE A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON

&

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

THIS NEWSLETTER CAN ALSO BE FOUND ON OUR TOWN WEBSITE AT:

TOWNOFGREENBUSHMAINE.ORG

IF YOU PREFER TO VIEW OUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE, REACH OUT TO TOWN OFFICE AND WE CAN REMOVE YOUR NAME OFF THE MAILING LIST



The Town Office accepts MasterCard, Visa, American Express, and Discover Cards
A 2.5% charge with be added to all transactions with a minimum fee of \$1.00.

