



Egremont News

Issue 95

July, 2017

Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a bi-monthly basis by the Selectmen's Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. If you wish to receive this newsletter via email please contact town hall.

Change of Guard:

We would like to thank the following for their service to Town:

Charlie Flynn - former Selectman and School Committee member; Mark Holmes - former Planning Board member; Bill Turner - long time Fire Chief; Ben Barrett - Conservation Commission, Ted Rubsamen - Conservation Commission.

We welcome these new town officials to office and thank them for their willingness to serve the town:

- George McGurn - Selectman
- Ed Regendahl - Planning Board member
- Joseph Schneider - Fire Chief
- David Seligman - Conservation Commission
- Ron Ronan - Conservation Commission
- Mary McGurn - Technology Committee

South Egremont School:

Unfortunately the bidding on the foundation stabilization work at the South Egremont School House was not successful. Though a bid was received that was under the budget and would have the work completed during summer school vacation, the contractor did not hold the appropriate Massachusetts certification to do the work.

The Board has agreed to not operate a program at the school house for the coming school year in hopes of getting this work completed.

The School District has agreed to either begin the process of presenting the legal closure of the school house to the five town voters or to include a program in the school house for 2018-2019. If the voters in two towns vote against closing the school house, the district has to include a program in the school house for 2018-2019.

Watch for more information on this as a vote to close or not will likely take place this fall.

Volunteers-the Key to Good governance:

Egremonters who volunteer to be members of town boards, committees and councils are not only assuring and monitoring service delivery but they are creating new opportunities for Egremont. They are key to why Egremont has a reputation for open and transparent government. And we are practiced. Volunteerism is a multi-generational Egremont tradition.

If the federal budget cuts as currently proposed are implemented this October, the trickle down effects on the Commonwealth and Egremont will be severe. We will need to call even more on our tradition of volunteerism. We will need to expand our pool of volunteers so our standing boards, committees and councils are kept strong and, if unforeseen issues arise, have volunteers ready to serve in new ways. Egremont has benefitted significantly from its tradition of volunteerism and now, by sustaining and growing it, we will be more prepared to handle what inevitably lies ahead.

Our Fire Department is a stellar example of Egremont volunteerism. Volunteers organized to focus on health, environment, infrastructure, legacy and safety are other examples of how citizen participation in our local governance leads to the high level of security and trust we enjoy as Egremont residents.

Our pool of talent is wide and deep. It extends from families who have lived here for generations, the newer arrived families and retirees and the second homeowners. We are a community of remarkable talent. Attend a Council on Aging program to bear witness to this.

Please contact Mary Brazie and/or Julliette Haas for further information on how, through volunteerism, you can become an active participant in Egremont's governance. To appreciate the breadth of volunteer opportunities, find a list and minutes from recent meetings of town boards, committees and councils on the Egremont Town Website, egremont-ma.gov, under the heading Meetings, Notices and Announcements.

Broadband:

As reported by Peter Larkin of the MassBroadband Institute - "MBI has been in negotiations with Charter given the change in towns included in what was previously a 6 town bid being reduced to 4 towns. This change in the towns households served was very dramatic. The loss of Monterey (839 household/premises) and Becket (1750 household/ premises) represented a loss of 40% of the critical mass of the Project Management Structure anticipated by Charter to efficiently manage and operate the network. That being said we are close to completing the agreement between MBI and Charter next week Please know Charter Communications is currently doing ride-outs and pre-design work and we expect Charter to make much progress in building the broadband/cable network in this calendar year."

On July 10 at 7:30pm the Board will conduct a Grant of Location hearing to act on the application of Fiber Connect to begin the process of laying out fiber for Broadband service in Egremont.

Goodwill Truck:

New hours effective July 15: 11am to 2pm. Please if the truck is not there do not leave your stuff in the parking lot.

ECO-TIP

Buy less plastic. Farmers Markets have liquid hand soaps packaged in glass, such as Asia Luna's. They also have pretty bar soaps that eliminate the need for plastic dispensers.

Treasurer/Tax Collector:

FISCAL YEAR 2018 TAX BILLS

Fiscal Year 2018 Preliminary Real Estate & Personal Property Tax Bills are being mailed no

later than June 30, 2017.

In order to avoid interest and penalties, payments are due in the tax collector's office no later than August 1st, 2017. There is no grace period.

On Line Banking - UNIPAY on line banking is a great tool for payments of real estate/personal property, excise tax & water bills. Visit the Town of Egremont web site www.egremont-ma.gov and click on "pay your bills on line". Follow the instructions from that point. You will be able to use ACH or a credit card. There are fees assessed for this service.

Bank Bill Pay - When making payments through your bank bill pay, please remember to use your current tax bill number and check to be sure the remittance address is correct.

Remittance Address: Tax Collector, Town of Egremont, P.O. Box 368, So. Egremont, MA 01258

Questions concerning your tax assessment MUST be directed to the Board of Assessors. 413-528-0182 ext. 14

Egremont Free Library:

Summer is here! Below is a list of museum passes available to Egremont Free Library patrons. Please see the museum pass policy below. We've added Mass MoCA in addition to all of the wonderful museum and area attractions. Enjoy!

2017 Library Passes Museums & Area Attractions **Museums**

1. **Norman Rockwell:** Pass allows admission for up to 2 individuals for \$10 per person . Children 5 and under are free.
2. **Berkshire Museum:** Pass allows free admission for up to 2 adults and 2 children under the age of 18. Children 3 and under are always free.
3. **The Clark Museum:** Pass includes free admission for 1 adult.
4. **Mass MoCA:** Admits up to two adults for free. Children 13 and under are free.

Area Attractions

1. **Hancock Shaker Village:** Pass allows free admission for 2 adults and 2 children

Museum Pass Policies

1. First Come, First Served... Patron must come to the library and if the museum pass is here, they may borrow it for 48 hours. Please ***No calling ahead*** to reserve.

2. Patron must return museum pass in blue envelope provided within 48 hours of borrowing pass. They should put pass in envelope and place in the Book Drop Box outside library door.
3. Only one pass may be borrowed at a time.
4. FYI, Norman Rockwell changed their museum pass policy this year. The pass allows two people in at \$10 per person (admission is usually \$18 for adults; \$17 for seniors)
5. The Clark changed their pass to admitting ONE person for free.

Panning Board

At Town Meeting Egremont passed the Temporary Moratorium on Retail Sales of Marijuana. Before drafting a proposed bylaw amendment for marijuana sales, the Planning Board is awaiting further direction from the Commonwealth.

We held a public hearing and approved a Special Permit for a use change to consumer services for 377 Builders on 66 Main Street.

The Board updated a Special Permit for SBA Communications for the cell towers on Catamount, reviewing and approving the periodically required structural and EMF analyses.

Mark Holmes’ term expired and he has left the Planning Board. We will miss him, and we thank him for his many years of service to the Town.

Mark has been replaced on the board by election of a new member, Ed Regendahl.

The Planning Board has been reorganized for this year:

Chair	Don Pulfer
Vice Chair	Helen Krancer
Treasurer	Ed Regendahl
Clerk	Lucinda Vermeulen
BRPC Rep	Greg Cherin

We are working on a questionnaire to find out what the town’s citizens think is most important. We encourage all to respond and we welcome all concerns and suggestions at our meetings.

ECO-TIP

Buy less plastic. Use metal or glass water bottles. Fill them at your tap.

Conservation Commission:

This year has been one of change for the Conservation Commission with several comings and goings.

Earlier in the spring Ted Rubsamen tendered his resignation. With an extensive engineering background Ted offered valuable information regarding the Mt. Washington Road bridge project, as well as others. More recently we were fortunate to welcome David Seligman as a Commission member. About joining the Commission David says “We moved to Egremont last year from Wisconsin where I was active for more than 20 years with conservation organizations including the River Alliance, Clean Wisconsin, River Keepers, and Trout Unlimited. I am excited to be able to continue my civic engagement in support of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act by serving on the Egremont ConComm.” And just recently we welcomed Ron Ronan, a resident for 24 years, who formerly spent a year representing Egremont for the SBSB and says he’s looking to once again give back to our community.

On a parting note we are losing our long time secretary, Ben Barrett, who is stepping down at the end of June.

Ben says about his 12 years on the Commission “Twelve years? Naaahhhh....can’t be. Well, wrong again. My 5-year plan turned into 12 years in a blink of an eye. And now it’s time to step aside, and make room.

My interest in the Conservation Commission was inspired by my mother who had been on the Great Barrington Commission back in the 1970s. While I knew precious little about the Wetland Protection Act 12 years ago, I knew in my heart that it can only be a good thing if my mother had been a member. So I bellied up to the bar, with the idea that if *everyone* stepped up for a “tour of duty”, then we would always have fresh blood coming in, and nobody would carry the torch too long.

So now my tour of duty is over, for now. But being on the commission has been a real joy. The satisfaction of making a difference leaves one with a feeling of fulfillment that money cannot buy. I learned so much from having been involved with the Commission. I worked with countless numbers of residents, many of whom I would never had the pleasure to meet had I not been involved. I worked with a significant number of engineering firms, all of whom were terrific. They have a particularly difficult row to hoe, and I have an elevated respect for their integrity and knowledge base.

More important than an extensive background in the Wetlands Protection Act is the desire to learn about it, and just how vital a role the wetlands play in our environment. I would endorse and encourage anyone with the passion to make a difference for the town and by extension the planet to step up. It's a gratifying thing.

With big thanks to Chairman Bill Tynan, and present day members Alina Hsu, David Seligman and Ron Ronan. And special thanks to former resident Dave Johnson for his years of service as chairman, as well as alumni members Ted Rubsamen, Penny Pitts, Jack Muskrat, Sam Gossage, Ari Zorn, Buzz McGraw and Ted Vining. Thank you all for your years of service. “

And, as you might guess, we now are looking for another interested person to join our ranks. And, of interest, we are finally gravitating back to having all members of the ConCom from Egremont. You may not know but to be a ConCom member you need not be a resident of that town. That has been true with our Commission. Ben lives in Great Barrington and Alina currently resides in Sheffield, though she's building a house in North Egremont.

Important Considerations about using RoundUp! (Glyphosate)

What we know (a little) and what we don't (a lot) and lots of foods (especially soybeans). The FDA monitors our food for the presence of 424 pesticides; but as of 2013, glyphosate is not on this list.

The Conservation Commission doesn't generally deal with herbicide use, except to ensure that planned use of herbicides in or near wetlands is in accordance with DEP and EPA specifications.

The most recent EPA fact sheet on glyphosate dates back to 1993, the last review & registration date. In 2006, the EPA began another review of glyphosate, which is still ongoing with no end in sight (i.e., it is not on the EPA schedule through the end of 2017).

However, we have had a number of discussions with concerned citizens, and have done some research among ourselves – so we wanted to share our findings with you:

Phosphorus toxicity

Last year there was a report that glyphosate was implicated in phosphorus toxicity in Lake Erie.

Glyphosate is not as inert as originally thought, and is a significant source of phosphorus in the soil. Ecologists have long been aware of the problems of phosphorus – that it why it has been banned as an ingredient in detergents for decades. Scientists believed that phosphorus in the soil entered water resources mainly by erosion, and thus we can protect the water if we control erosion. However, the American Geophysical Union has said that it is now clear that phosphorus can move through the soil. This appears to happen more in acidic soils rich in calcium and iron, which are typical for Egremont, so we are concerned. Might this affect Prospect Lake and other Egremont water resources? Meanwhile, DEP has confirmed that glyphosate use in and around wetlands is fine with them, as long as it is used according to specifications.

Weed Resistance

Between 1993 and 2016, the use of glyphosate increased dramatically, mostly via the use of Roundup on “Roundup-Ready” GMO crops. As a result of this widespread use, many weeds have become resistant to glyphosate. Monsanto's response to this has been to combine glyphosate with other, more expensive and potentially more toxic, herbicides. As weeds increase and broaden their resistance, the cycle is repeated.

Human Health

In 2015 the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded that glyphosate is a probable human carcinogen, based on studies of mostly agricultural exposures, in the US, Canada and Sweden.

In December 2016, EPA reviewed evidence concerning the potential of glyphosate as a human carcinogen, and concluded that it was likely not – though there was some dissent on the review panel, and some participants thought the evidence merited a conclusion of “suggestive evidence of carcinogenicity.” And recently, Mother Jones magazine reported that the World Health Organization's review did not take into account some evidence tending to exonerate glyphosate. So far, there's no clear conclusion about whether glyphosate is a human carcinogen, and the various parties to the debate are often not objective, so it's hard for us lay people to feel that any particular conclusion is valid.

In addition, there are reports of possible endocrine effects, effects on our gut bacteria (microbiome), and liver and kidney damage. And glyphosate residues or metabolites have been found in

groundwater, air, and lots of foods (especially soybeans). The FDA monitors our food for the presence of 424 pesticides; but as of 2013, glyphosate is not on this list.

Unknowns

Complicating matters still further, the “inert” ingredients in glyphosate products may alter the behavior of glyphosate in the environment and in our bodies, or may be toxic in themselves, and manufacturers do not even specify what these inert ingredients are, because they are proprietary information.

As far as the Conservation Commission is concerned, what’s approved is approved, so we have no grounds for objecting to the use of glyphosate in accordance with directions and/or regulations. We will continue to monitor reports of effects of glyphosate on water resources, and we’re sure that DEP is keeping track of this research as well.

As concerned citizens, we find the recent reports troubling, and will certainly re-evaluate our own choices of whether and when to use products containing glyphosate. This is personal territory, and it comes down to caution vs optimism in the face of uncertainty. (A.H.)

Finally, a reminder that the best way to contact the ConCom is by email at concom@egremont-ma.gov. Emails sent to this address are automatically forwarded to all Commission members, ensuring a prompt response and providing coverage should any particular member be unavailable. (Typically emails are answered within a day.) It also ensures that the Commission has a clear understanding of the inquiry.

Water Department:

The annual Consumer Confidence Report has been certified and published. You may obtain a copy at Town Hall, or check the Town’s website (http://www.egremont-ma.gov/2016_ccr.pdf) for the report.

Please let the Department know if you are going to be filling your pool! The recorder at the water plant shows an increase but we cannot tell if it is a leak or pool use or irrigation. A quick call will help us with our reporting to DEP. Thank you!

Did you know that a dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day! A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons a day. These leaks waste your water and your money.

Toilet Leaks are hard to detect. They are usually caused by a bad main valve, flapper valve seat, a bad flush valve, an improperly positioned float arm, or a defective overflow tube. Test your toilets by dropping a few drops of food coloring into the tank. **DO NOT FLUSH!** Wait for 15 to 20 minutes. If color appears in the bowl, then you have a leak and repairs need to be made.

Faucet Leaks are easy to find. If it drips, or worse, continues running after you shut it off, it needs to be fixed. If the dripping water is warm, it is costing you extra money! Water dripping or running from the shower head when the shower is turned firmly off, it is usually caused by bad washers or seats which need replacing. Also, check for leaks from the tub faucet when the shower is turned on. This leak will defeat the purpose of a low-flow shower head because the water you save with the low-flow device is lost from the tub faucet.

If you have any questions about water supply or billing, the Water Department Clerk is available at Town Hall Monday - Friday from 7 to 3; telephone 528-0182 ext 17.

ECO-TIP

Buy less plastic. Refuse plastic straws at restaurants. Order stainless ones on line (eBay, etc.), and carry them in your purse or car.

Board of Assessors:

The applications for Statutory Exemptions (Senior, Surviving Spouse, Veteran, Blind) will be sent out soon. If you have any questions about the forms, please contact our office. These forms must be completed and returned to our office by October 1.

The applications for tax abatement due to the use of property as forest, agricultural/horticultural, or recreational land will be sent out later in July. Property must consist of at least 5 contiguous acres of land under the same ownership and be used as Chapter Land; that is, lands classified and taxed according to Chapter 61 [Forest Land], Chapter 61A [Agricultural/Horticultural Land], and Chapter 61B [Recreational Land].

If you have property in Forest Land make sure you have a current Certificate for Chapter 61/61A Forest lands from the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Please request a **Change of Address Form** when you want to officially change your address. These forms can be found at the Assessors’ Office and on the Town’s website. Thank you for your attention to this.

The charge for **Abutters Lists** that are prepared by the Assessors Office is \$1.00 per parcel reported.

The Assessor page on the town website has links to state forms and tax information. You can also access the geographical information system to see tax maps.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Assessors’ office at 528-0182, Ext. 14. Our Town Hall office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 or email us at assessors@egremont-ma.gov.

ECO-TIP

Recycle clean and dry plastic film (e.g., bread wrappers, Ziploc bags without the hard-plastic zipper, grocery bags) in the bottle-deposit room of Price Chopper. Dirty bags will ruin the whole batch. (Not recyclable: Prepackaged salad mix and frozen food bags.)

Egremont-Mount Washington Council on Aging:

Your COA continued to offer exciting programs for April, May, and June. In April, our speaker was photographer Doane Perry from West Stockbridge. He brought with him many of his photographers and shared tips with us on how to use our iPhones for picture taking.

Our May meeting featured Bob Climo from the GB Bagel Company. Bob shared his recipe for gazpacho which we all got to sample. He also showed us how to make his delicious shrimp salad. We are anxious to have Bob return for a future meeting to demonstrate more of his yummy recipes.

June was our final gathering for the season and was the annual picnic lunch at French Park. The weather somewhat cooperated with us. We had a great turnout and many of us took the one mile Challenge Walk around the park, followed by a bag lunch. Liz Keen from Indian Line farm answered many gardening questions. She also brought a variety of plants – vegetable, herb, and flowering for attendees to take home.

As always, we are appreciative of the Egremont Village Inn for hosting our events and to GB Bagel Company to providing lunches.

COA will again sponsor Liz Jaffe who will offer combined iPod and iPhone classes. These classes will be held July 11, 14, 18, and 21 from 10: a.m. – 11:30 at the Town Hall. The cost is \$20.00 for all 4 classes. Call Will at the Town Hall (528-0182) to reserve your spot. Only a maximum of eight people will be accepted.

Don’t forget “Be Seen, Be Safe” as you enjoy the outdoors during the summer months. You can get your reflective vest from the Town Hall.

We have been able to secure funding for a part time Outreach Coordinator for our COA. This is a 10 month position, starting Sept. for 28 hours per month. Job specifics and qualifications will be posted shortly on the Town’s website and in local media outlets. We are excited about this next step in our program and look forward to it enabling us to better serve our Senior Citizens here in Egremont.

And here’s a quick reminder: our first get together for the next season will be our Annual Tea Party honoring our 90 year and older seniors on Oct. 4 at the Egremont Village Inn. More information about this and other exciting events will be announced soon.

Fire Department:

Date /Location	Time /Type	Call #
4/15/2017	12:30 PM	50
Standby Sheffield Station	Mutual Aid	
4/15/2017	1:30 PM	51
Brush fire New Marlboro	Mutual Aid	
4/16/2017	11:30 AM	52
Blunt Rd.	Medical	
5/2/2017	2:00 PM	53
Hillsdale Rd	Medical	
5/6/2017	12:51 AM	54
Blunt Rd	Tree/Wires Down	
5/10/2017	9:26 AM	55
Blunt Rd.	Medical	
5/10/2017	9:10 PM	56
East St. Mt. Washington	alarm/False	
5/12/2017	6:18 PM	57
Hillsdale Rd	Service call	
5/13/2017	11:26 AM	58
Hillsdale Rd.	Fire/Dryer	
5/14/2017	8:12 AM	59
Main St.	Alarm/burnt food	

5/15/2017	12:26 PM	60
Baldwin Hill N/S	Medical	
5/19/2017	9:13 PM	61
Mt. Washington Rd.	Medical	
5/20/2017	4:23 PM	62
East St. Mt. Washington	Alarm/Canceled	
5/21/2017	5:39 PM	63
Prospect Lake Rd.	Medical	
5/22/2017	3:51 PM	64
Pinecrest Hill	Medical	
5/23/2017	4:46 PM	65
Baldwin Hill E/W	Medical	
5/27/2017	9:33 AM	66
Jug End Rd.	Medical	
5/28/2017	8:44 AM	67
Mt. Washington Rd.	Search	
5/29/2017	1:17 AM	68
Creamery Rd.	Alarm/False	
5/29/2017	5:29 PM	69
Baldwin Hill E/W	Medical	
6/2/2017	3:54 PM	70
Jug End Rd.	MVA/PI	
6/3/2017	8:34 PM	71
Jug End Rd.	Alarm/fire	
6/7/2017	3:27 AM	72
Hillsdale Rd	Medical	
6/7/2017	9:01 AM	73
Prospect Lake Rd.	Medical	
6/9/2017	3:00 PM	74
Cross Rd. Mt. Washington	Medical	
6/11/2017	9:13 AM	75
Jug End Rd.	Alarm/smoke	
6/11/2017	10:31 AM	76
McGee Rd.	Search	
6/11/2017	7:17	77
Guilder Pond Mt. Washington	Search	
6/14/2017	10:55 PM	78
Phillips Rd.	Medical	
6/15/2017	3:54 AM	79
Shun Toll Rd.	Alarm/False	
6/19/2017	2:08 PM	80
Egremont Plain Rd.	Alarm/False	
6/19/2017	4:24 PM	81
8 Mountain Rd. Mt. Washington	Alarm/False	

At the June 19th Selectmen's meeting Joseph Schneider was sworn in as the Egremont Fire Chief. Joe follows Chief William Turner who held the position of Fire Chief in this town for 35 years and served in other positions for an additional decade

plus. His selfless dedication and leadership skills are appreciated by all who served under him and all who know him. We will not be losing his vast assets as he has agreed to serve as a Deputy Chief. Thank you Chief.

Since joining the department as a kid Chief Schneider has participated in advanced training in all aspects of Fire/Rescue/EMS. His efforts make Joe a very well trained and credentialed Chief. In May our membership voted unanimously to elect Joe as Chief.



Anyone needing to reach Chief Schneider can call or email him.

Phone: 413-717-7622

Email: efd50joe@gmail.com

Emergency Management:

Natural and man-made disasters can strike at any time. Massachusetts is susceptible to many natural hazards including floods, hurricanes and tropical storms, winter weather and blizzards, tornadoes, thunderstorms, lightning, severe weather, and others. In addition, man-made disasters can also occur including hazardous materials incidents, nuclear power plant incidents, power outages, transportation accidents, water supply problems, terrorism and others. Being aware of the different types of incidents that can occur is a critical part of being prepared for emergencies.

You may learn more about each of these hazards through the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency website, <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/be-prepared/be-informed/> where you can learn about the potential emergencies that can happen and the appropriate ways to respond to them. When you know what to do, you can plan with your household and prepare in advance to be ready before the emergency. In addition to preparedness tips before the storm, the website also provides tips on how to stay safe during and after the emergencies.

In addition to being informed of the types of disasters that could occur, staying informed leading up to and during an emergency is also critical. While many events have little to no notice, hurricanes, blizzards and other weather events do have some advance notice. Be aware of severe weather watches and warnings and understand what they mean. These watches and warnings can be obtained from media sources, the National Weather Service, and All Hazards National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radios. By being alerted of these severe weather warnings, you can take necessary protective actions to keep you and your family safe.

During emergencies information may be available from a number of sources. It is important to sign up for and be prepared to get information in several ways since not all methods are used for all emergencies, and power outages and other effects of the disaster may cause disruptions in how you get information. Some of the primary ways to get information during an emergency include:

Local notification systems such as our Blackboard Connect Alert System. This system uses listed telephone numbers only, so the Town requires registration of cell phones or email addresses. To register or change your contact information, please email or call and we will be happy to assist..

Local notifications from public safety may include vehicles using public address speakers or door to door notifications. Other methods may include: Commercial media (TV and radio); MEMA's Massachusetts Alerts smartphone app; MEMA's Twitter or Facebook accounts; MEMA's website:

<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/> or our local community government website

www.egremont-ma.gov; The Emergency Alert System (EAS) via radio and television; Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA); All Hazards National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio.

Call 2-1-1 for Non-Emergency Assistance . 2-1-1 is the Commonwealth's primary telephone call center during times of emergency and is able to provide information on emergency resources such as shelter locations.

Egremont's Emergency Management Team prepares and plans throughout the year for all-hazard response. Communication equipment is constantly reviewed and updated. During times of severe weather outbreaks, Amateur Radio volunteers monitor the weather across Berkshire County and are in direct communication with National Weather Service offices in Albany NY and Taunton MA.

If you would like more information on how to prepare, please visit the Town's website preparedness page www.egremont-ma.gov/emmerinfo.html or call Town Hall at (413) 528-0182 ext 17.

Egremont Historical Commission:

August 25th is the Town's "birthday". Incorporated on August 25, 1775, we have celebrated on the last weekend of August with cake and Town History Tours for several years now. This year to celebrate, we are joining with other boards to honor some of the people of our town who have given so much of their time and talents. The Town is invited to a Pot Luck Dinner on Saturday, August 26th at the Meeting House.

We will get together to celebrate those people in our community who have done so much to enhance the quality of our civic life. Details to follow.

For those who have been concerned about South Village and our apparent inability to attract business, put your fears to rest. This winter, two properties at the West end of the Village have changed hands. Built in the 1880's as the administration building for Dalzell Axle Works, the Spirit Shoppe will be refurbished and painted in an historic palette worked out with this commission. Jeffrey Cohen, the new owner, was inspired by color combinations used during the Victorian era, and similar to those used by the Dalzell's family, so this summer we will welcome our first "painted lady" to Main Street.

And the large red barn that anchors the entrance to Town where Rte 41 enters into Rte 23 has a new owner who follows in the arts tradition that has been a hallmark of Egremont throughout the 20th century. With artists

such as the Hurlberts and June Parker in our past, the continued presence of two new art studios in South Egremont (a second one has opened across from the Village school in the old Post Office building) will help to strengthen the town's deep artistic roots.

The Historical Commission was proud to sponsor the Jack Sobon talk at the Kellogg Conservancy on father's day week end. This event showcased one of Egremont's larger historic locations, and we look forward to expanding this relationship.

We have also received a wonderful gift from Lisa Hennessey - a set of records used in the North Egremont School to teach rhythm and music. It is a delightful addition to our school materials. This winter, while the South School is under construction, the Archives will present materials from our holdings that show the many sides of the community's relationship with education then, now, and going forward.

ECO-TIP

Use a fan. It can make you feel 3° F to 8° F cooler and uses less energy than AC.

Sustainability Coordinator:

The end of the fiscal year brings news of great strides on the environmental front in Egremont.

Our municipal electricity usage decreased by 10%, saving the town \$5,600 in annual electricity costs. This savings was accomplished thanks to energy conservation and weatherization measures installed and paid for by the grant the town received for becoming a Green Community. In addition, the town now has four photovoltaic solar arrays serving four of our municipal buildings. In some months, two of our town buildings receive electric bills with a "0" balance.

On the trash front, for the first time in 6 years, our annual trash tonnage has dipped below the 400 mark. We've gone from a high of producing 481 tons of trash in FY2012 to a new low of 380 tons this fiscal year. That's a 100-ton reduction! How have we achieved this milestone? In large part, we can credit the town's amazingly helpful and knowledgeable Transfer Station Operator Bill Wood, on the front line of our successful trash

collection program. Also, as you know, we offer recycling and reuse programs in town that go beyond the recycling of bottles, cans, and paper. From community composting to dropping off (and picking up) items in our Swap Shop, to donating your textiles, household items, and computer equipment to Goodwill (their truck is in front of Town Hall one Saturday a month), to announcing items of value on the town's Google group for reuse, we've been able to demonstrate how one small but mighty town in Western Massachusetts can achieve great things when they put their minds to it. Thank you all for your participation.

Oh, and by the way ... that 100-ton reduction in trash? The town saved \$8,600 in trash disposal fees. Just proves how it makes sense to be green!

Green Committee:

Egremont: We need your help. While we have made great strides in recycling and trash reduction (please see Sustainability Coordinator article), we have a small problem with unwanted material going into the bottles-and-cans dumpster at the Transfer Station.

Recycling is filled with long lists of dos, don'ts, yeses, and nos. These lists sometimes confuse more than help, leaving the average home recycler a bit overwhelmed. When this happens, people sometimes put any old thing in their recycling box, hoping it will be recycled. This is referred to in the trade as "Wishful Recycling," when a person hopes the item will be recycled, even though it is not on the list of accepted material.

Unwanted material contaminates the load going to our processor, the Springfield Material Recycling Facility (MRF), which makes them very cross with us. It wreaks havoc at their plant, causing costly interruptions and shut-downs to the recycling line. It also causes prices to fall because the finished bail is not as pure as it should be.

So, this is the part where we ask for your help: Please, please toss only the items that are on the approved list into the bottles-and-cans dumpster. Go to www.springfieldmrf.org to find that list. You can also ask Bill, our amazingly helpful Transfer Station operator, or read the signs.

The following is a list of Public Enemies #1, #2, #3, #4, etc. in the recycling world: **No light bulbs, window glass, dishes, drinking glasses, Pyrex, ceramics, broken glass. No paint cans. No clothing or textiles. No plastic bags. No plastic cups, lids, or**

straws. No containers over 2.5 gallons, motor oil jugs, or chemical containers. No Styrofoam containers or flower pots.

If you hire a private contractor to bring your trash and recyclables to our Transfer Station, please know that you are responsible for correctly separating your trash. They are not doing it for you.

Thanks, everybody.

Police Department:

Over the last several months, your Police Department has been diligently working to keep the Town of Egremont and its citizens safe. We have had many citizens voice their opinions regarding specific areas of concern, and are doing our absolute best to address these issues.

One area of concern that's frequently mentioned is vehicles speeding on our roadways.

We have also heard several concerns over aggressive drivers. We are attempting to address these issues by utilizing the newly purchased "speed board", that you may have noticed strategically placed in various locations around Town. Not only does the "speed board" act as a deterrent, but it provides us with valuable data regarding the actual vehicle speeds on the roadways that people have shown concern about. We are then able to extract the data and identify specific times during the day that our Officers can be posted for radar duty. By doing so, we are able to maximize the effectiveness of our efforts to slow traffic down, and hold drivers accountable for infractions that are observed. This campaign has shown great promise, and we have noticed a drastic drop in the complaints we've received. Please accept our thanks to all the concerned citizens that take the time to make us aware of areas in Town that may need a little extra attention.



(New speed radar signs purchased with grant funds are being installed at key locations.)

Throughout the School year, Chief Tyler Race continued to assist our school children and parents alike with safely crossing Main Street. This will hopefully continue, as Chief Race often comments that seeing the children, parents and teachers is always one of the highlights to his day. Chief Race also participated in "high five Friday" throughout the school year. This is a program designed to foster positive interaction between students and the Police, by simply saying hello to the children and giving them a "high five" as they enter their school in the morning. Several other Police Departments participated in the program, which seemed to be received well. Chief Race was also able to speak with many of Egremont's senior citizens during which he gave a presentation on the dangers of identity theft and the many scams that are being utilized to solicit vital information such as: social security numbers, dates of birth, account numbers and password information. Please remember to guard your information closely, and if there is ever a time where you feel uncomfortable with a situation on the telephone or computer, simply end the conversation and contact EPD.

As many of us are aware, the heroin epidemic continues to ravage many of our friends, family member and neighbors. Even Egremont is not immune to these problems. Our Officers continue to see heroin and drug related violations in their daily duties. Our Officers work extremely hard to show compassion to anyone that is in need of treatment, and continue to offer services to individuals when appropriate. Despite our efforts, it is very apparent that this battle is far from over, and we will continue to pursue any and all resources to help do our part in battling this drug that has touched so many lives.

All of the Egremont Police Officers have completed their annual in-service training which included CPR/first aid, legal updates, Alzheimer's and dementia, and youth interactions to name a few. All Egremont Officers have also recently completed a rigorous firearms training course held in Sheffield, during which they displayed their proficiency with a variety of weapons platforms. This training is vital in helping to prepare, maintain and improve Officer's skills in the event that a life threatening emergency should present itself.

Finally, we would once again like to thank all of you for the unwavering support that you have shown us on a daily basis. Working in this wonderful Town is truly a pleasure. Your Police Department will continue to work hard each and every day to keep Egremont one of the safest communities in Massachusetts, and in return

we simply ask “if you see something, SAY SOMETHING!”

National Grid:

WALTHAM, MASS. – From lighting homes to energizing major factories, the region’s electric transmission system powers our economy and virtually all aspects of daily life.

National Grid owns and operates approximately 3,000 miles of electric transmission lines in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Vermont, and works hard to maintain the reliability of this system that serves National Grid’s 1.7 million New England electric customers, plus more than 60 other interconnected electric utilities and power producers.

Over the next several weeks, National Grid will conduct helicopter patrols of its entire New England transmission network to identify any potential problems so they can be addressed by National Grid transmission line crews before they impact service for customers. These aerial patrols, conducted semi-annually, complement ground-level inspections by quickly and efficiently covering large swaths of the transmission system, especially across rugged and isolated terrain.

“Customers depend on the transmission system 24/7 to connect them to the power they need, so we take great care to keep the system operating safely and reliably, said Fred Raymond, National Grid vice president, Electric Project Management and Complex Construction. “The helicopter patrols are an important component of our overall inspection and maintenance program because they give us a birds-eye view of the system.”

Two types of helicopter inspections are conducted. Infrared inspections detect any excess heat emanating from electrical connectors and components that may indicate wear, corrosion, or fatigue.

Visual inspections are also performed by experienced personnel using high-power gyroscopic binoculars to pinpoint any signs of wear on power lines and lightning protection devices; damaged or leaning transmission structures; loose or broken guy wires; broken, chipped or cracked insulator equipment; and trees leaning toward the lines or into the transmission corridors.

The inspectors also look for signs of waste disposal or unauthorized construction on transmission corridors. These could alter the clearance between the ground and the power lines and might lead to human contact with the lines that could result in severe injuries, or vegetation interference that could lead to power outages. Inspectors will also look for signs of ground erosion, which may cause the transmission structures to become unstable.

National Grid notifies all appropriate local, state and federal agencies such as the Department of Homeland Security, and state and local police that the patrols will be taking place. Flight schedules and routes may be changed on short notice due to regional weather conditions.

For more information, please visit our website: www.nationalgridus.com, or our Connecting website. You can also follow us on Twitter, watch us on YouTube, Friend us on Facebook, and find our photos on Instagram.

ECO-TIP

Do not flush “wet wipes,” even when labeled “flushable.” See Berkshire Edge: <http://theberkshireedge.com/surprise-flushable-wipes-not-so-flushable-after-all/>.

First Congregational Church of South Egremont:

Berkshire Paint and Sip Party to benefit the First Congregational Church of South Egremont at the Church, Sunday, August 13 from 2-4 p.m. All materials are provided. Snacks and drinks also provided (no alcoholic drinks allowed). Cost is \$35. To reserve a seat and for more information, go to berkshirepaintandsip.com to register. Come, invite a friend, socialize and enjoy painting for the afternoon.

Meeting schedule:

Meeting regularly. Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official.
Archives Room - First Saturday 9-noon
or by appointment
Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon & by appointment
Council on Aging - Third Tuesday of each month at 12noon. Other times as needed.

Board of Health - Monday–Thursday 7am to 12noon. Meetings - Thursdays as posted 10am
 Board of Selectmen - Meetings every other Monday evenings 7pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.
 Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm.
 Other times and inspections by appointment
 Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth Thursdays 7:00pm
 Finance Committee - January through April. Other times as needed.
 Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm & Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474
 Planning Board - Please check web page for meeting dates.
 School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm Mt. Everett High School Library
 Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm
 Town Clerk - Mon-Thurs 1pm to 3pm or by appointment
 Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm, Saturday 8am to 3pm, Sunday 12noon to 4pm
 Water Department - Office Clerk weekdays 7am-3pm
 Meetings second Thursday 3:00pm at Town Hall
 Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed
To reach a board member or to leave a message please call the Town Hall 528-0182.

Business listings:

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall. Support local businesses:

Prospect Lake Park and Campground - camping, swimming
 413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com
www.prospectlakepark.com
 Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B
 1 Prospect Lake Road
 413-528-2882
www.innsweetwater.com

John Andrews' Restaurant - Restaurant
 413-528-3469

Swiss Hutte Country Inn and Restaurant-Restaurant & Lodging
 413-528-6200
www.swisshutte.com

Robin's Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.
 Robin Walther
 116 Egremont Plain Road
 413-528-2537
robinschaircaning@gmail.com

Red Barn Antiques - Antique lighting & fine metal polishing
 413-528-3230

41 Main Antiques Gallery - Vintage and modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, architectural and decorative objects.
 413-528-0112
www.41mainantiques.com

Blue Rider Stables - Therapeutic Horseback Riding Lessons, summer programs
www.bluerider.org
 413-528-5299

Green River Arabians & Pintos - Horse Boarding, lessons, judging, farm programs
 413-528-2367 arabpinto13@yahoo.com

Indian Line Farm - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) & Farmers Markets
 413-528-8301
www.indianlinefarm.com

Ivory Pond Farm - Llamas, Yarn and Woolens. Dancing Crane Rug Hooking Studio. Hooked rugs, lessons and supplies.
 Tom & Liz Marino
 413-528-9465
www.lizmarinorughooking.com
Llamama@wildblue.net

Turner Farms Maple Syrup - Phillips Road, open 7am to 7pm 7 days a week.
 413-528-5710

Elfi Six Shiatsu/Acutonics®, Bodywork
413-644-9979
www.CosmicResonance.com

Zorn Family Chiropractic-Chiropractor
44 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-9654
healingspiritdc@yahoo.com

Zorn Core Fitness -
Personal, Couples & Group Training
Cardio Room - \$25 per month Free 1 month cardio
for Egremont residents
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-1594
www.zorncorefitness.com
zornari@gmail.com

Yoga at Zorn Core Fitness, with Karin Beebe
Ashtanga Yoga & Gentle/Hatha Yoga
46 Main Street, South Egremont
413-528-0828
kbyoga@gmail.com

Old Egremont Country Store - groceries, beer, wine,
liquor, newspapers, lottery, & much more
413-528-4796

Blueberry Lane Home Design - Interior decorating
413-528-9633

Closet Collection - clothing & household
consignment shop
413-528-6236

Berkshire Veneer Company - wholesale/retail
wood veneer sales
413-644-9696

Steve Agar - driving services
Ride to the airport, train, etc
413-717-1607

Lord St. Pierre - General Contractor
Home renovations, maintenance and monitoring
413-522-3671
llstpierre@yahoo.com

“Jack of All Trades”-Handyman Services

Jack Buckley
413-528-1982
413-446-1982

James Olmsted - Outdoor Services & Caretaking Field
Mowing
413-528-0102
pager 413-261-2150

Glenn Gallagher: Home repairs, property maintenance,
carpentry
475-434-0686

Jenna Brazie - gardening/weeding
413-727-8727

Bonnie Wells: general housekeeping, maintenance to
construction clean-up, ironing, polishing, organizing,
window washing with free screen cleaning.
413-854-7417 bonbonz75@yahoo.com

Catamount Ski Area - Skiing & ropes course
413-528-1262
www.catamountski.com

Peter Goldberg, Realtor
Residential, Commercial, Land
Stone House Realty
35 Railroad Street, Great Barrington
413-281-6384m 413-528-4211o

Anita Schilling - Real Estate Listing & Sales
William Pitt Sotheby's
413-528-4192 or 413-626-1920
anitaschilling@gmail.com

Kenver Ltd - Winter Sports Equipment, Apparel &
Accessories
39 Main Street
413-528-2330 www.kenverltd.com

Maple Leaf Art Gallery - Joan Mentzinger
154 Hillsdale Road, Route 23

Cyber Knight - Matthew Wall
PC repairs - Networking - Internet
413-528-5415
Matthew.wall@yahoo.com

Dellea.biz Computer Services - Arthur Dellea
<http://www.dellea.biz>
413-528-1141

Berkshire Wildlife Solutions - Resolving conflicts with nature. Eric F. Ives
Mass Problem Animal Control Agent
Consultation/Inspection, Capture, removal and exclusionary work.
413-528-9813 413-250-5094

Brookside Quiltworks - Catherine Kane - fabric shop and quilt gallery. 2 Sheffield Road, Egremont
413-528-0445 www.brooksidequiltworks.com

Maple Shade Enterprises: Quilts and Sewing, much more
Sue Delmolino Ives
413-644-0229 susandelmolino@yahoo.com

Stitched by JessaLu - Jessica Meyer
Handmade bags for your "Stuff"!
www.stitchedbyjesselu.com

Berkshire Sewn - Mary Gifford
berkshiresewn@gmail.com
413-528-3040

Gregory Cherin photography, South Egremont 1-917-991-0553 info@gregorycherin.com
www.gregorycherin.com

Berkshire South Regional Community Center
15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington MA
413-528-2810 www.berkshiresouth.org
Non-profit community organization serving 17 towns throughout the Southern Berkshires.
Providing a variety of educational, recreational and cultural programs for all ages - from early childhood to senior citizens - and partners with several local organizations.

Gogel & Gogel - Law Firm
Business law & litigation
40 Main Street
413-528-2698
www.gogel-gogel.com

House To House Hauling & Recycling
413-528-0943
Trash hauling services and roll-off containers services.

Jana Laiz: Local Author www.crowfliespress.com
413-528-0943 www.janalaiz.com

Aston Magna Music Festival
Saturday evenings at the new Saint James Place in Great Barrington, mid-June to mid-July.
www.astonmagna.org
Susan Obel, Executive Director



*A Word From The Wise
By Stanley Farnum*

*Young man I'll have a word with you if you will
wait.
I'll speak of the lovely girl whose heart you caused
to pain.
You saw me not there in the shadows,
But I could see her tears like summer rain,

Go now lad and hold her close, it's not too late, be
fast.
With the eye of age I see her heart, forever yours,
Came near to shatter from words in anger cast.

So spend love richly while you may
And leave your heart unchained to find her,
For all the wonder in a day is lost without her.

Don't wait too long to learn to love,
Don't wait to live in memory,
For fate has seeming magic powers
That set time to run so fast a race
We never catch the thief before
He steals our purse of hours.

One day you will be old and sad like me,
For I let her go too long you see.*

Town of Egremont
Box 368
South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-0182
www.egremont-ma.gov
tegrement@egremont-ma.gov

*Printed, on recycled paper, by the Selectmen's Office
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*"The Town of Egremont is an equal opportunity provider
and employer."*