



News About Town

A Message From Our Town Manager

Hello friends and residents of Gray,
I hope your 2023 began with a pleasant start!
There's a lot of exciting work to look forward to this year, and I'm thinking specifically of two major aspects of Town administration - employment opportunities, and budgeting.

In this newsletter, you'll read about positions open for Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk, jobs vital for our Town's continued operation and development. These roles require a high level of responsibility, organization, and integrity; if you think you or a friend or family member have the necessary municipal experience and passion for public service, I encourage you or them to apply at our website: www.graymaine.org

If you are someone who enjoys working with children, you might want to consider applying for the Head of Youth Services position at the Gray Public Library. We are also on the lookout for a custodian, snowplow drivers, transfer station attendants, and firefighter/EMTs.

As we look to fulfill our staffing needs, I am working diligently with Town employees to prepare the Town's FY24 budget. Crafting a budget appropriate for our town is no small task, so please be aware of upcoming Town Council meetings to learn more about the budget process. These meetings will be broadcast on Gray Community Television and available for replay on our website.

I look forward to all we can accomplish together as a community this year!

Thanks,
Nate Rudy



Nate Rudy, Town Manager



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Town of Gray Offering Key Employment Opportunities

The Town of Gray is looking for dedicated, hard-working, and talented employees to join our team! The Town is hiring for a Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk, and Library Head of Youth Services, among other positions.



Come join our team!

The Clerk jobs are positions of high responsibility that involve extensive public interaction and management of the day-to-day operations of the Clerk's Office including, but not limited to, preparation and maintenance of official documents, supervision of department staff, issuance of permits and licenses, administration of elections, and preparation of reports to the Town and various state agencies.

The Head of Youth Services is an excellent opportunity to work with children and develop their reading and listening abilities. Key responsibilities include presenting story times, staffing the information desk, supervising volunteers, creating new and innovative programs for youth of all ages, developing library content, and selecting interesting and relevant titles for the collection. Special projects may include expanding the library's community engagement and outreach activities, and overall collection maintenance.

These three jobs present excellent career opportunities for anyone who wants to join our team. If you think you have the experience and drive necessary to thrive in these positions, please visit graymaine.org/employment to submit an application. You will also find on our website other open employment opportunities, such as snow plow drivers and firefighters. The Town of Gray offers competitive compensation and excellent benefits, and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Upcoming Events

February 2, 16, 23, 27

4:00 p.m.: Gray Town Council Budget Workshops — 24 Main Street and Zoom

Wednesdays + Fridays

10:30 a.m.: Kids Story Time — Gray Public Library

February 7

7 p.m.: Gray Town Council Meeting — 24 Main Street and Zoom

February 9

7 p.m.: Planning Board Meeting — 24 Main Street and Zoom

February 11

11 a.m.: Kids Valentine Party — Gray Public Library

February 16

6:30 p.m.: First Gray Garden Club Meeting — Zoom

February 18

1 p.m.: Family Skate — 20 Main Street



Help CEDC Spotlight Local Businesses!

The Community Economic Development Committee (CEDC) will partner with Mary Sweeney Underwood, also known around town as "The Woman Who Walks," to create social media content related to the local businesses of Gray.

Mary will interview local businesses around town to explore what they do, discuss their plans for the future, and much more. With assistance from volunteers, we will create video clips of the interviews. However, we need assistance with editing and creation of the final content. Are you able to assist? If so, please reach out to CEDC@graymaine.org

Gray Public Library Offers Mystery Books, Gift Raffle

Do you dare choose a book without seeing its cover? Starting in mid-January, the library will be giving patrons the opportunity to go on a blind date - with a book! We'll have books wrapped and ready for check out. Each book will have a short description on the front, but we're challenging our community members to take a chance on a book without knowing the title or author. Participants will be entered in a gift basket raffle.

Questions? Call the library at 207-657-4110 or email graylib@graymaine.org.

New Gray Garden Club Seeks Members

A new grassroots garden club would like to "sprout" this winter-spring for Gray residents! Would you like to learn more about, or already have knowledge about, ANY of the following topics:

Pollinators
Community Gardens
Invasive Plant Removal
Vegetable Gardening
Spring/Fall Clean-up Projects
Raised-bed Gardening
Native Maine Plants
Composting
Permaculture
Dividing Plants
Tree Pruning

and any and all other gardening topics we can think of together.

The first meeting will be on Zoom at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 16.

For more info, visit [Facebook.com/GrayTrailNetwork](https://www.facebook.com/GrayTrailNetwork).

The Zoom link will be posted later this month on the Town's website.

Let us know if you would like to help us coordinate this new group. We look forward to seeing you later this month!



Available Spots Open APRIL 11th

summer 2023

Day Camp

Leaders In Training Camp

Summer Day Camps for students entering K - 6th Grade Fall 2023

LIT Camps for ages 12-15

Day Camp 7:30-5:30

\$1890 Full Summer June 26-August18 Weekly rate \$290

10% discount for 2nd siblings

LIT Camp

6 weeks July 10-August 18 \$1200

3 weeks \$625 (add on weeks \$220)



Helpful hints-

Make sure you have a gngrec.com account and all information is correct and up to date including current grade of child.

Registrations open at 8:00AM and fill up fast!

Day Camp Locations in both Gray and New Gloucester

Leaders in Training (LIT) Camp in Gray

FMI email nlevier@graymaine or call Nellie 657-6762





The logo for GNG Rec Programs features the letters "GNG" in large, bold, blue and red font, with "REC PROGRAMS" in a smaller, black font below it. To the right of the text is a green circular icon containing white stylized figures of people.

GNG RECREATION INVITES YOU TO

FAMILY SKATE

IN PENNELL PARK

February 18th
1:00-3:00 PM

Skating
Snowshoes
Smores

Free Skate Rentals
Nordic Walking Demonstration

For more info, please contact us at 657-2323, backup date is February 25th



HOW CLIMATE RESILIENT IS GRAY?

Come to a gathering on:

March 1, 2023
6:00 pm – 8:00pm

Location:

First Congregational
Church Parish Hall
5 Brown Street

Soup & bread provided



Maine Won't Wait has created a zero-match funding pool for community resilience projects in towns like ours worth up to 50k per annum.

This event is a conversation about resilience in Gray and the region.



THE GOALS OF THIS EVENT ARE TO:

- Gather input from town residents and staff on designing for climate action.
- Share information about the enrollment process including adopting a municipal resolution, completing self assessments, prioritizing climate mitigation and adaptation projects for Gray.
- Generate more questions for inquiry and action.



MAINE WON'T WAIT

Maine Won't Wait, a four-year plan generated by the State's first ever Climate Council has identified several near-term targets to address climate change and avoid some of the costs. The Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future is implementing a program to meet them now. The Community Resilience Partnership is that program. The Community Resilience Partnership is that program.



INFORMATION & INPUT

RSVP by email to kchappell@graymaine.org, by Feb 30th or follow this QR code to a survey! Visit www.graymaine.org for more info.



HOSTED BY THE
RESILIENCY COMMITTEE
WITH SUPPORT FROM:



+





Gray is Looking for Committee Members

Serve your town by volunteering for these committees!

- **Blueberry Festival Committee**: Celebrates and promotes local businesses, community and school organizations, and the Pennell Complex.
- **Community Economic Development Committee**: Promotes community and cultural connections in Gray and supports established businesses.
- **Community Television Advisory Committee**: Makes recommendations regarding broadcast options for Gray, and recommends improvements to public, educational, and governmental programming.
- **Dry Mills School House Committee**: Preserves the rich history of the Dry Mills School House.
- **Open Space Committee**: Makes recommendations to the Town Council to help secure access to land/corridors through acquisitions, easements, land swaps, and other forms of agreements.
- **Planning Board**: Reviews and approves subdivision plans, site plans, conditional uses, and Shoreland Zoning applications in accordance with State Statutes and Town Ordinances.
- **Resiliency Committee**: Promotes climate action planning and influences the path our community will take toward climate resilience, energy efficiency, waste management and renewable energy.
- **Zoning Board of Appeals Committee**: Hears and decides administrative appeals where it is alleged there is an error in any order, requirement, decision, or determination by the Code Enforcement Officer.
- **MSAD15 School Board**: Shapes the functioning of the Gray-New Gloucester school system.
- **Recreation Committee**: advise and recommend to the Town Council on recreational and public parks matters, such as: programs, policies, development, planning, or leisure time activities.



Mary volunteers on the Recreation Committee, and leads a walking group she started.

"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."

- Sue Premo, Volunteer Coordinator, Green Bay, WI

To apply to any of these committees, go to graymaine.org/volunteer.



The Town of Gray is Hiring!

We hire great people from a variety of backgrounds to do the town's important work. If you are looking for a career opportunity, check out our [Employment page](#) to see if there's an opening that's right for you! We are currently hiring for Town Clerk, Fire-fighters, and Snow Plow Divers, just to name a few.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

- The Town Clerk's office is **temporarily operating on a modified schedule** due to staffing limitations. The hours below temporarily replace any other published hours.
 - Monday - Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. / 2:00-4:00 p.m.
 - Thursday: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. / 3:00 - 6:30 p.m.
 - Friday: 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- The Town Office has changed its Thursday hours to now open to the public at 11 a.m. instead of 8:30 a.m. This new opening time is intended to accommodate records management, professional development, and various staff administrative tasks that require uninterrupted time and attention.
- Save the date on Saturday, August 12, 2023, for the 7th Annual Gray Wild Blueberry Festival. The Gray Wild Blueberry Festival Committee will have 2023 booth/vendor applications ready in mid-February. For more information, contact blueberryfestival@graymaine.org or visit the festival's [Facebook page](#).
- Please remember that people using the Town of Gray Transfer Station need to purchase a 2023 Transfer Station permit. The permit is required for use of the facility, and may be obtained at the Town Offices, or the Transfer Station with proof of residency. The cost is \$5 for the calendar year.

If you have an idea for a newsletter submission, please fill out this [form](#).

Questions can be directed to:
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