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February 2022

Volume III Issue II

Let's Stay Connected!

The Town of Dedham strives to keep residents and visitors informed of Town projects, local government processes, meetings, and community events and is focusing on timely, sustainable, and consistent communications in 2022 and for years to come.

We currently use a variety of communication platforms and tools that enable us to share important information and encourage engagement with local departments and staff. We regularly review the effectiveness of these tools to help us continue to improve and reach as many people as possible.

We encourage you to sign-up to receive updates and notifications using the tools below:



Email Notifications

Visit www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe to sign up today!



Social Media

Follow @DedhamThrives for Town-wide updates and notifications on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram



Find us on Nextdoor!

Dedham residents can sign up to join Nextdoor for free and follow the Town of Dedham for news and updates



CodeRed

Sign up for [CodeRED notifications](#) to receive emergency alerts



Dedham TV

The Town of Dedham maintains a strong collaborative relationship with Dedham TV who broadcasts public meetings, community events, educational specials, and more!



Local Media

The Town of Dedham is pleased to work closely with local news outlets like the Dedham Times and Patch to share updates and important news in print and online.

TOWN CALENDAR

Public Meetings & Community Events

Agendas and Event materials are linked, where available

February 1st - February 5th

2/1/22: [Open Space and Recreation Committee](#)

2/2/22: [Active Transportation Working Group](#)
[Design Review Advisory Board](#)
[School Committee](#)

2/3/22: [Select Board](#)

[Library Trustees](#)
[Conservation Commission](#)

February 6th - February 12th

2/9/22: [Planning Board at 6pm via Zoom](#)

2/10/22: [MBTA Fare Changes - Public Meeting at 6pm via Zoom](#)

February 13th - February 19th

2/15/22: [Master Plan 2030 at 7pm via Zoom](#)

2/16/22: [ZBA at 7pm via Zoom](#)
[School Committee at 7pm at Avery](#)
[Sustainability at 7pm via Zoom](#)

2/17/22: [Parking Appeals Hearings, 9AM to Noon at Town Hall](#)
[Conservation Commission Site Walk](#)

2/17/22 (continued):

[MBTA Fare Changes - Public Meeting at 6pm via Zoom](#)

[Select Board at 6:30pm via Zoom](#)

[Conservation Commission at 7pm via Zoom](#)

2/19/22: [Cardboard Recycling Day from 9AM to Noon at DPW Dumpster](#)

February 20th - February 26th

2/21/22: Presidents' Day - Town Offices Closed

February 27th - February 28th

No meetings or events scheduled at this time



Please visit the Town website and subscribe for email updates about future meetings and events: www.dedham-ma.gov/subscribe

LIBRARY

Dedham Public Library Turns 150!

Happy 150th Birthday!

The first Dedham Public Library opened its doors on February 20, 1872. At that time, the Library was housed on the second floor of a building located on the corner of Court and Norfolk Street and held only 2,000 items.

The Library will be celebrating its 150th birthday throughout the year and will be offering exciting ways for the public to join us. In February, every person that opens a new Library card will be entered to win raffle prizes. For individuals that already have Library cards, you can join our February reading challenge and be entered to win other fun prizes!

Keep an eye out for other ways you can participate in celebrating the Library's birthday (hint: one involves a time capsule...)!

Visit dedhamlibrary.com for more information.

Click on photo below to enlarge



Caption: Photograph of the building situated on the corner of Court and Norfolk Streets which housed the first Dedham Public Library. The photograph was taken in 1892, approximately four years after the current Main Library was built.



Birthday Party!

Join us as we celebrate the Library's 150th birthday! Stop by either building, grab some goodies, and take a peek at historical photos and documents related to the founding of the Library.

When: Tuesday, February 22
Where: Main Library and Endicott Branch

Birthday Reading Challenge and Library Card Drive

Celebrate the Library's 150th Birthday by opening a Dedham Library account! Open a new account and be entered to win raffle prizes.

Individuals that already have accounts can join our reading challenge! Read the most minutes in your age group during the month of February and win a prize!

Visit <https://dedhamma.beanstack.org> to join the challenge and log your minutes.



ENGINEERING

Engineering Department Updates

The Engineering Department is on Twitter!



Please find and follow the Engineering Department on Twitter at **@tod_engineering**. The Engineering Department will be utilizing this Twitter account to post information related to our stormwater system and what we all can do as a Town to improve the water quality of waterways and natural resources.

On-going Projects:

Elm Street & Rustcraft Rd Sidewalk Improvements Project:

The project is currently in a winter shutdown until March/April 2022, weather permitting. Over the past several months, MassDOT's contractor has installed various stormwater upgrades and Eversource has completed all utility relocations and upgrades associated with this project. The sidewalks will be constructed as part of the upcoming construction season. Estimated completion date remains set for end of 2022. For those interested in plans and/or additional information about this project, please www.dedham.ma.gov/departments/engineering/projects/elm-street-rustcraft-road-roadway-reconstruction.

The Town will also be using this webpage to place information regarding the project as it progresses. If you have any specific questions regarding the project please contact either of the following MassDOT RE Field Office Personnel:

- Donny Dailey, MassDOT Government Affairs, Donny.dailey2@dot.state.ma.us
- Laura Montiel, Resident Engineer, Laura.montiel@dot.state.ma.us

2021 Infiltration Sewer Rehabilitation Project:

As part of the 2021 Sewer On-Call Services Contract, National Water Main Cleaning Co. has started rehabilitating the Town's public sewer mains and manholes that were identified in past wet weather sewer inspections as having infiltration.

The project is estimated to remove **approximately 62,000 Gallon Per Day (GPD)** of infiltration exclusively through trenchless technologies. For our public sewer mains, the project will involve the installation of about **4,600 linear feet** of cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) and about 15 linear feet of short liners. For our public sewer manholes, the project will involve the exterior grouting and interior cementitious lining of about 650 vertical feet of manholes.

The work for this project is spread out throughout the entire Town and was completed on-time before December 31, 2021. We are working with the contractor to finalize punch-list items and make final payments.

We will have the total project cost available by the next newsletter. For more information on infiltration, **please visit our project website.**

2022 Shared Streets & Spaces Grant Program:

This grant is administered by MassDOT and provides funding to municipalities to quickly implement improvements to infrastructure such as sidewalks, curbs, and streets in support of public health and safe mobility. The Engineering Department submitted an application for \$225,000 to assist in funding the proposed Greenlodge Street Corridor Improvements Project. Funding for design was approved by Town Meeting in May 2021. The design proposes the construction of a new sidewalk on the easterly side of Greenlodge Street (opposite the Greenlodge Elementary School) extending from Sprague Street to Colwell Drive (South). The project will provide safer access for children attending school and for residents to negotiate their neighborhood. The project will also help create a consistent width roadway to mitigate speeding and reconfigure the geometry certain intersection to lessen crosswalk distances across Greenlodge Street. The cost estimate for this project is **\$700,000 of which we hope to offset with the assistance of this grant.** The award notifications for applicants is anticipated by mid-April. This capital improvement project is currently being considered for funding as part of our FY2023 budget.

EVENTS

Dedham Police and Parks & Rec. Dept. Co-Host Event for Students

Spaces still available!

**Dedham Middle School
February Break
Launch Trampoline Park**

Sponsored by: Dedham Police Department & Parks & Recreation
 Where: Launch Trampoline Park, Norwood
 When: Wednesday February 23, 2022
 10:00am - 1:00pm
 \$10 per participant

Jump into your February Vacations with the Dedham Police & Parks & Recreation Departments for a trip to Launch Trampoline Park located in Norwood. Open to all Dedham Middle School students, this event will include 2 hours of jumping, 2 games of laser tag, pizza, beverages & T-shirt. Register for a spot today by scanning QR code or through the Dedham Parks & Recreation website at www.dedham-ma.gov.
 Parent/Guardians are responsible for drop off/pick up.




CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS!

Join the Dedham Parks & Recreation and the Dedham Police Department on Wednesday February 23, for a February Break outing Launch Trampoline Park in Norwood from 10:00am-1:00pm.

Register Today!



POLICE

Dedham Police Dept. Updates



2022 Compliance Checks

The Dedham Police Department, as agents of the Dedham Select Board (local licensing board), is announcing they will be conducting compliance checks in 2022.

Purpose: Ensure that liquor license holders within the Town of Dedham are complying with the regulations put forth by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) and the Town of Dedham when it comes to underage drinking.

Plan: As part of these compliance checks, the Dedham Police may have underage operatives without any valid identification attempt to purchase alcohol. Alternatively, underage operatives may present a valid Driver's License which reflects that the operative is under 21 years of age, to be sure that liquor license holders are actually checking the license and understand what they are looking for.

Note: The ABCC suggests that police departments planning on conducting compliance checks post a public notice with the local media. **This will serve as the notice for the year 2022.**

In Case You Missed It

On Monday, January 31, 2022, Sgt. Jason Sullivan and our great friend Carol Read from Needham Public Health provided FREE training at the Dedham Town Hall for Intervention Procedures for Dedham liquor licensees. Through this partnership, our community and local partners continue to work together with local businesses to provide for the safe service of alcohol.



A Message from the Animal Control Officer

Coyote Breeding Season



(Photo courtesy of Mass.gov)

While the breeding season for most animals occurs in the spring or summer, coyote breeding typically **peaks in late February and early March**. This means that during this time, coyotes will begin a new pattern of movement and we may see (and hear) more of a coyote presence throughout our community. And while this is normal in nearly all communities throughout Massachusetts, it's onset serves as a good time to review a little bit about our coyote 'neighbors' to avoid conflicts with them.

Tips to Avoid Conflicts with Coyotes

- Do not feed them (or any other wildlife for that matter).
- Remove bird feeders from your yards. When seeds fall to the ground, they attract small animals, on which coyotes' prey.
- Do not feed pets outside, as even scraps or morsels left behind may serve as attractants to wildlife.
- Keep garbage can lids tightly secured and take your trash out on the morning of trash pickup, and not the night beforehand.
- If you see a coyote, do not run from it. Much like when seeing a loose dog, be aware of it, yet calmly walk away, and inside if possible.
- Do not let your pets run free and/or unattended. (With the town's leash law, this shouldn't be happening with dogs anyway!)
- If you are out walking your dog, especially after sunset and at night, it is best to refrain from using retractable leashes. If you are too far from your dog, a coyote may only see the dog, and not the human that is attached to the dog, given the reach of the retractable leash.
- If walking after sunset, be extra aware of your surroundings – maybe even keep a flashlight with you, as a deterrent.

When to Call Animal Control

While you do not need to report all coyote sightings to Animal Control, it is good to report any encounters with those who appear aggressive, fearless, sick, or whom despite the removal of all attractants, continue to frequent your property.

[Visit our website to learn more about coyote safety from the Animal Control Officer](#)

ASSESSING

Important Dates from the Assessors Office

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <p>Feb/March</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY23 Income & Expense Forms will be mailed out |
| <p>March 1, 2022</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for filing Forms of List for Personal Property for FY23 • Deadline for filing 3ABC Forms for Charitable Organizations for FY23 |
| <p>April 1, 2022</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline for filing Residential Exemptions & Tax Deferrals for FY22 • FY22 4th Quarter Tax Bills will be mailed out |
| <p>May 2, 2022</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY22 4th Quarter Tax Bills Due • FY23 Income and Expense Forms are Due for all Income Producing Properties |

Please contact the Dedham Assessors Office at **781-751-9130**, or visit their office at the Dedham Town Hall (450 Washington Street, 2nd Floor) if you have any questions.



Upcoming Events at the Council on Aging

Weekly Activities

- Computer Help: Every Friday at 10:00 a.m. (Appointments required)
- VNA Health Clinics (Bi-Monthly): First and Third Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.
- Chess Club: Every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. (RSVP at 781-751-9495)
- Bridge: Every Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.
- Knitting and Crocheting: Every Wednesday at 10:00 a.m.
- Quilting: Every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.
- Mahjong: Every Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.
- Decorative Painters: Every Thursday at 9:30 a.m.
- Watercolor Art Class: Every Thursday at 10:00 a.m.
- RummiKube: Every Thursday at 1:00 p.m.
- Drawing Class: Every Friday at 1:00 p.m.
- **NEW** - Chair Massage: First Friday (monthly) at 11:30 a.m. (Appointments required)

Upcoming Special Events

February 11, 2022: Superbowl Pre-Game Party at 1:00 p.m. (RSVP at [781-751-9495](tel:781-751-9495))

February 14, 2022: Valentines Day Get Together (RSVP at [781-751-9495](tel:781-751-9495))

February 17, 2022: Third Thursday with DJ Rob Blaney at 5:30 p.m.

February 17, 2022: Make your own seasoning mix (Call [781-751-9495](tel:781-751-9495) to sign up).

March 10, 2022: Celtic Angels Ireland Luncheon and Show (Call [781-326-1650](tel:781-326-1650) to sign up)

April 26, 2022: Fenway Park Tour (Call [781-751-9495](tel:781-751-9495) to sign up)