



Durham Public Works

Fall Newsletter



October 2024

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – December 7th, 2024

Durham Public Works would like to remind residents of this year's annual Household Hazardous Waste Day, which will be held at the Public Works Facility located at:

100 Stone Quarry Drive

All hazardous waste will be collected by appointment only. To register, call Durham Public Works at:

603-868-5578

This collection is limited to 5 gallons of material per household.

Please see Pg. 4 for more

Durham Public Works

100 Stone Quarry Drive
Durham, NH 03824
603-868-5578
publicworks@ci.durham.nh.us

Richard Reine, Director

Samuel Hewitt, Assistant Director

April Talon, Town Engineer

Shannon Shaw, Assistant to the Director

John Baker, Administrative Assistant



This Issue

Leaf and Brush Collection **P.1**

Fall Project Spotlight **P.2**

Solid Waste and Stormwater **P.3**

Hazardous Waste **P.4**

Septic System Tips **P.5**

Leaf and Brush Collection Program – Begins November 12th

The Residential Leaf and Brush Collection Program begins on Tuesday, November 12th. Please place all items curbside no later than 7:00am during Fall Cleanup. Durham Public Works picks up brush (natural material from trees) first, followed by the collection of leaves. The amount of brush and limbs is limited to one truckload per household.

- Leaves should be placed in paper leaf bags. Plastic bags will not be picked up. Loose leaves **will not** be picked up but may be brought to the Transfer Station at: **100 Durham Point Road**
- Brush should be placed in one direction, bundled and tied with string (no wire please).
- **Brush and limbs must be no greater than 5 feet in length and 5 inches in diameter. No stumps will be accepted.**
- Cutting off small limbs from branches will help maximize each load.
- Backyard composting of your leaves and brush reduces the flow of waste, while at the same time produces valuable organic matter for the soil. It improves your soil and the plants growing in it.



Did you know?

The 2023 program resulted in:

- 41.25 tons (~82,500 lbs) of **brush**.
That's 72.2 truckloads!
- 24.7 tons (~49,400 lbs) of **leaves**.
That's 20.6 truckloads!
- In total:
65.95 tons (~131,900 lbs)
92.8 truckloads!

*****The Transfer Station accepts leaves and brush free of charge year-round during public open hours.*****



MADBURY ROAD

COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT

Fall Project Spotlight

Madbury Road Complete Street Project Phase 1 Streetscape Improvements Continue

Construction began during the middle of June on the Phase 2 Improvements portion of the Madbury Road Complete Streets Project. Durham Public Works and its contractor, G.W. Brooks and Son remain hard at work on improvements to the Main Street to Garrison Avenue corridor which include the construction of stone masonry walls to support the installation of a varying width 8'-10' wide multiuse path (MUP) on the East side of the roadway, reconstruction of the Western sidewalks, new traffic calming measures, inclusive of mid-block ADA compliant pedestrian crossings, decorative lighting, public shade tree installations, a brick amenity belt to buffer the MUP and the roadway, and drainage system upgrades.

To date, the project team has overhauled the entire stormwater collection system which was undersized and contained severely deteriorated corrugated metal pipe and shallow sump catch basins. This portion of the project included the installation of two stormwater media box filters and deep sump catch basins for pollutant treatment. Design considerations were made to reduce the amount of upstream flow to the Pettee Brook culvert, furthering its capability to handle larger storm events.

Overhead utility relocations occurred in conjunction to allow for MUP construction and involved close coordination with Eversource, Comcast, Breezeline, First Light, and Consolidated Communications. Milling of the existing roadway surface to a depth of 4" resulted in the removal of several layers of failing bituminous asphalt before an application of a fresh 2.5" structural binder course pavement course. Additionally, stone masonry retaining wall construction to accommodate the MUP occurred and is nearing completion.

Efforts this Fall will be focused on pedestrian and multi-modal transportation improvements, including MUP construction, decorative lighting installations, sidewalk reconstruction, ADA upgrades, pedestrian bump-outs, and the installation of a center median island refuge at Pettee Brook Lane. Substantial completion for the segment between Pettee Brook Lane and Garrison Avenue is expected by the end of November of this year, with the remaining portion extending to Main Street anticipated early in the 2025 construction season.

Durham Public Works appreciates the patience and understanding of the commuting public and corridor residents during this time. We recognize that this important project is disruptive to normal routines and we remain committed to constructing safe, reliable infrastructure for the Town of Durham and its stakeholders.



Solid Waste Information

Durham Public Works would like to remind residents that the Curbside Refuse and Recycling Collection Program will be altered for the following holidays:

- **Thanksgiving (November 28, 2024):** No collection Thursday 11/28/2024; delayed to Friday 11/29/2024. There will be no commercial recycling collection on Friday 11/29/2024.
- **Christmas (December 25, 2024):** No collection on Wednesday 12/25/2024 – delayed one day for the rest of the week; Wednesday collection on Thursday, Thursday on Friday. No commercial recycling collection on Friday 12/27/2024.

Due to the timing of holidays in 2024, there will be no changes to the normal operating hours of the Transfer Station.

A Permit must be obtained to enter the Raymond A. LaRoche, Sr. Transfer Station and Recycling Center. Permits are valid during the calendar year and expire on the 31st of December. **2025 Transfer Station Permits will be available to residents and property owners by the end of December** at the Durham Public Works office (100 Stone Quarry Drive) and at the Town Clerk Tax Collectors office.

Stormwater Information



Why Does it Matter?

As a Resource....GOOD

- ✓ Mulched leaves or grass clippings on your lawn add valuable nutrients and organic matter. A thin layer of leaves will break down and add much needed organic matter to plant beds.
- ✓ Compost is natural recycling. Compost can be used as a top dressing on your lawn or garden beds reducing or eliminating the need for fertilizer and mulch.

As a source of water pollution....BAD

- × Decaying leaves and grass kill critters in streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands.
- × Yard waste on stream banks smothers natural vegetation.
- × Yard waste dumped near waterbodies contributes to stream algae and odors.
- × Yard waste dumped in or near wetlands or surface waters is against the law!

Water Service Line Inventory Survey

To meet EPA requirements, the UNH-Durham Water System is inventorying the material of all water service lines connected to its public drinking water system.

Water service lines connect the water meter and are often located in the basement or a meter vault.

To assist with the inventory, Durham Public Works kindly requests water system users complete this brief online survey by scanning the QR code or visiting <https://arcg.is/9G1Lb>. The survey includes a link to ways to identify commonly used water service line materials.

This survey requests:

- Address of water service
- Approximate year water service line was installed
- The type of material the service line is made of (up to the water meter), if able to identify
- A photo of the water service line where it connects to the meter

For Questions, contact the Durham Public Works at 603-868-5578

Durham Water Service Line
Inventory Survey



<https://arcg.is/9G1Lb>



**Durham Public
Works**

Household Hazardous Waste Day: December 7th, 2024

The 2024 Household Hazardous Waste Day will be held at the Durham Public Works facility located at 100 Stone Quarry Drive. All hazardous waste will be collected by appointment only, between 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

To register, you must please call Durham Public Works at (603) 868-5578 or e-mail publicworks@ci.durham.nh.us.

This collection is limited to 5 gallons of material per household.

***** NO EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS, RADIOACTIVE WASTE, ASBESTOS, OR INFECTIOUS/BIOLOGICAL WASTE WILL BE ACCEPTED. *****

Consider reducing your purchase of products with hazardous ingredients and read labels thoroughly. Use and store products containing hazardous substances carefully to prevent any accidents at home. Never store hazardous products in anything other than their original containers and never remove labels. Never mix household hazardous waste with other products. Incompatible products might react, ignite, or explode, and contaminated household hazardous waste might become nonrecyclable. Remember to follow any instructions for use and disposal provided on product labels.

Typically, hazardous waste is categorized as ignitable, corrosive, reactive, toxic, or otherwise hazardous. Please check the manufacturer's label.

NOT ACCEPTED AT HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY - LATEX AND OIL BASED PAINTS, ANTI-FREEZE.

These items can be brought to the Transfer Station with your permit throughout the year. Latex paints must be dried out first. Anti-freeze and oil-based paints can be brought to the Transfer Station as is.

Common Household Hazardous Waste:

Household Items

Aerosol Cans (empty aerosol cans are safe to dispose of as regular trash)

Bug Spray • Carpet and Upholstery Cleaner

Drain Openers/Cleaners • Flea and Tick Repellent

Metal or Furniture Polish • Mothballs • Oven Cleaner

Photo Chemicals • Rubber Cement

Toilet/Shower Cleaners

Basement/Garage Items

Car Wax • Adhesives

Brake or Transmission Fluid • Radiator Flush

Carburetor Cleaner • Charcoal Lighter Fluid

Driveway Sealer • Furniture Stripper

Mouse or Rat Poison • Pesticides

Weed Killers • Insecticides

Paint Thinner • Turpentine • Motor Oil

Solvents • Swimming Pool Chemicals

Unmixed Waste Fuels

Diesel fuel • Kerosene • Gasoline

MERCURY— No longer saved for Hazardous Waste Day.

Unbroken Old Thermometers & Old Thermostats - Bring these items to Transfer Station with your regular permit.

Septic System Maintenance Tips

Just because something says its “flushable” doesn’t necessarily mean it’s safe for your septic system. Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed down your toilet.

Getting your septic system pumped doesn’t just help to keep it functioning properly. It also helps your community stay safe by keeping wastewater out of local waterbodies.



DON'T OVERLOAD THE COMMODE

DO



- ✓ Dispose of non-flushable, non-degradable items in the trash can!
- ✓ Only flush human waste and toilet paper

DON'T



- ✗ Flush non-degradable products or chemicals, such as feminine hygiene products, condoms, dental floss, diapers, cigarette butts, cat litter, paper towels and pharmaceuticals

Do your part, be Septic Smart.
More info at Getpumpednh.com



PROTECT & INSPECT YOUR SEPTIC SYSTEM

DO



- ✓ Have your system inspected every three years by a licensed contractor
- ✓ Have your septic tank pumped every three to five years

DON'T



- ✗ Wait for a failure to schedule a septic system pumpout

Do your part, be Septic Smart.
More info at Getpumpednh.com



Did you know that the placement of trees and shrubs on your lawn can affect your septic system?

Water efficiency goes a long way when it comes to your septic system. Small leaks could mean big problems!

SHIELD YOUR FIELD

DO



- ✓ Consult a septic service professional to advise you of the proper distance for planting trees and shrubs, depending on the location of your septic tank

DON'T



- ✗ Park or drive on your drainage field. The weight can damage the drain lines
- ✗ Plant trees or shrubs too close to your drain field. Roots can grow into your system and clog it

Do your part, be Septic Smart.
More info at Getpumpednh.com



DON'T STRAIN YOUR DRAIN

DO



- ✓ Stagger the use of water-generating appliances. This can be helpful if your system has not been pumped in a long time
- ✓ Become more water efficient by fixing plumbing leaks and consider installing bathroom and kitchen faucet aerators and water-efficient products

DON'T



- ✗ Concentrate your water use by using your dishwasher, shower, washing machine and toilet at the same time. Extra water can strain your septic system

Do your part, be Septic Smart.
More info at Getpumpednh.com

