

# SELECT BOARD, TOWN OF GEORGETOWN

Agenda for Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:00 pm

Hybrid meeting held via ZOOM for public and at the Town Office for SB Members who wish.

Please email [gtwnme@hotmail.com](mailto:gtwnme@hotmail.com) for the ZOOM login info.

\*indicates copy provided to Select Board

**\*INDICATES THE NEED FOR A MOTION TO APPROVE**

**Call to order:**

**Public comment:**

**Items to be added to agenda (if approved by chair and board):**

**Scheduled appointments:**

- 6:15pm – Meeting with the Financial Advisory Committee for the presentation of the proposed 2025-26 Town Budget\*

**Minutes:**

- Minutes of March 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting for review and approval \***\***
- Minutes of April 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting for review and approval \***\***

**Review:**

- March Financials\*

**Assessing items:**

- Bill Van Tuinen will be in Town on 4/23

**Correspondence:**

- State of Maine – Maine Climate Council Update\*
- City of Bath – Upcoming Household Hazardous Waste Information\*
- Town of Georgetown – Updated Transfer Station Brochure\*
- GVFD – May Plant Sale Notice\*
- Maine Municipal Association – Legislative Bulletin\*
- GIEF - Upcoming Event w/Halcyon String Quartet Notice\*

**Continuing Items:**

Receipts for pumping:

Maine Waste Discharge License *renewal* / transfer applications:

Maine Waste Discharge License *approvals*:

PBR / NRPA :

**Board Member / Committee Updates:**

- Mr. Collins:
- Ms. Tudor:
- Ms. Eee

**Town Administrator Update**

**Finance Director Update**

**Fire Chief Update**

### Old Business:

- Upcoming Town Event Determinations
  - Candidates' Night
    - Date? –May 20<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday) ✱
    - Time? – 6pm
    - Location? GCS Gymnasium
    - Hybrid? Yes
    - Moderator? Nancy Kinner

### New Business:

- Approval of an MOU between the Town of Georgetown and Georgetown Central School\*
- Approval of an MOU between the Town of Georgetown and the Georgetown\*
- Determination on whether to schedule a Public Hearing on May 6<sup>th</sup> re: Blueberry Hill Road Easement
- Reschedule May 13<sup>th</sup> Select Board Meeting time ✱  
*Town Administrator Suggestion – May 13<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm*

### Items For Signature:

- Snowplow Contracts (Roads & Municipal Areas)
- *If Approved*, Proposed MOUs

### Public comment:

### Executive Session:

### Adjournment:

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### UPCOMING MEETINGS/ EVENTS:

Financial Advisory Committee	Tuesday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	1:00pm IN PERSON
Select Board	Tuesday, April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:00pm HYBRID
Ad Hoc Town Report Committee	Thursday, April 24 <sup>th</sup>	3:00pm HYBRID
Recreation Committee (Rsched.)	Tuesday, April 29 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm HYBRID
Annual Ordinance Hearing	Tuesday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm HYBRID
Planning Board	Wednesday, May 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm HYBRID
Solid Waste Management Com	Thursday, May 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00pm ZOOM
Conservation Commission	Monday, May 12 <sup>th</sup>	6:00pm ZOOM
<i>Select Board</i>	<i>Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup></i>	<b><i>PROPOSED TO BE RESCHEDULED</i></b>

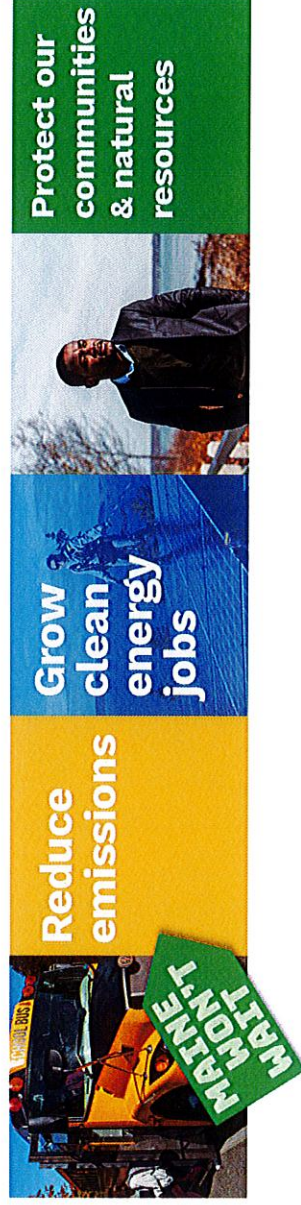


## Last Week's Youth Climate Summit

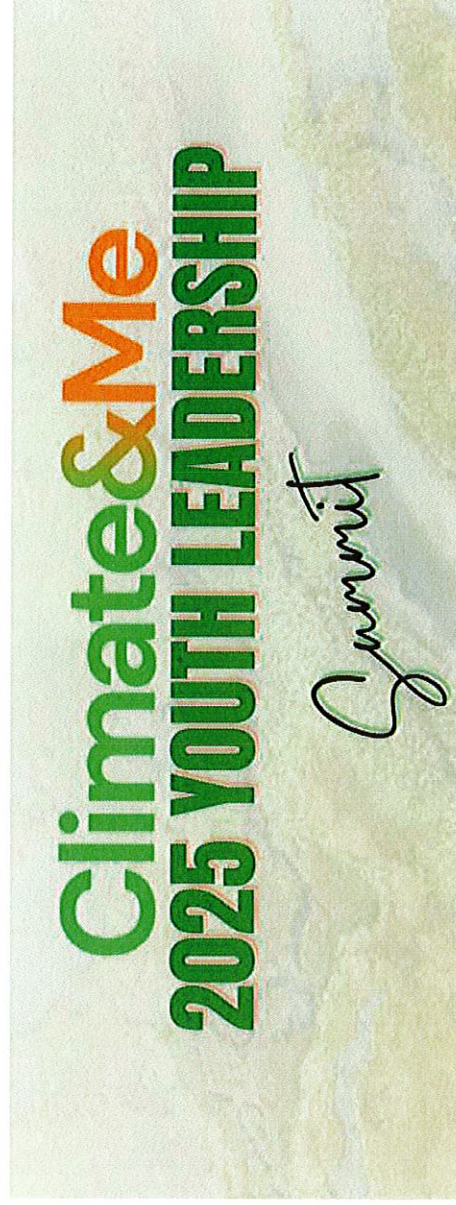
From Maine Climate Council <maineclimatecouncil@maine.gov>

Date Fri 4/11/2025 2:15 PM

To Tyler Washburn <GtwnME@hotmail.com>



Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [LinkedIn](#)!





Dear Tyler,

We are blown away by the success of our first Climate&Me Youth Leadership Summit – a HUGE thank you to all of the students, educators, and guests who joined us in Orono last Friday. **We had over 250 students and teachers from 27 high schools across 12 Maine counties.** It was incredible to see so many empowered students learning to communicate with key partners, start projects at their schools, understand how to engage with their local government on climate, and so much more.









During the breakout sessions, students learned from their peers about climate communication, permaculture ethics and how they apply to climate action, theories of change, what their “eco-personality” is and how to apply that to climate leadership, composting projects, key partner engagement, and more.





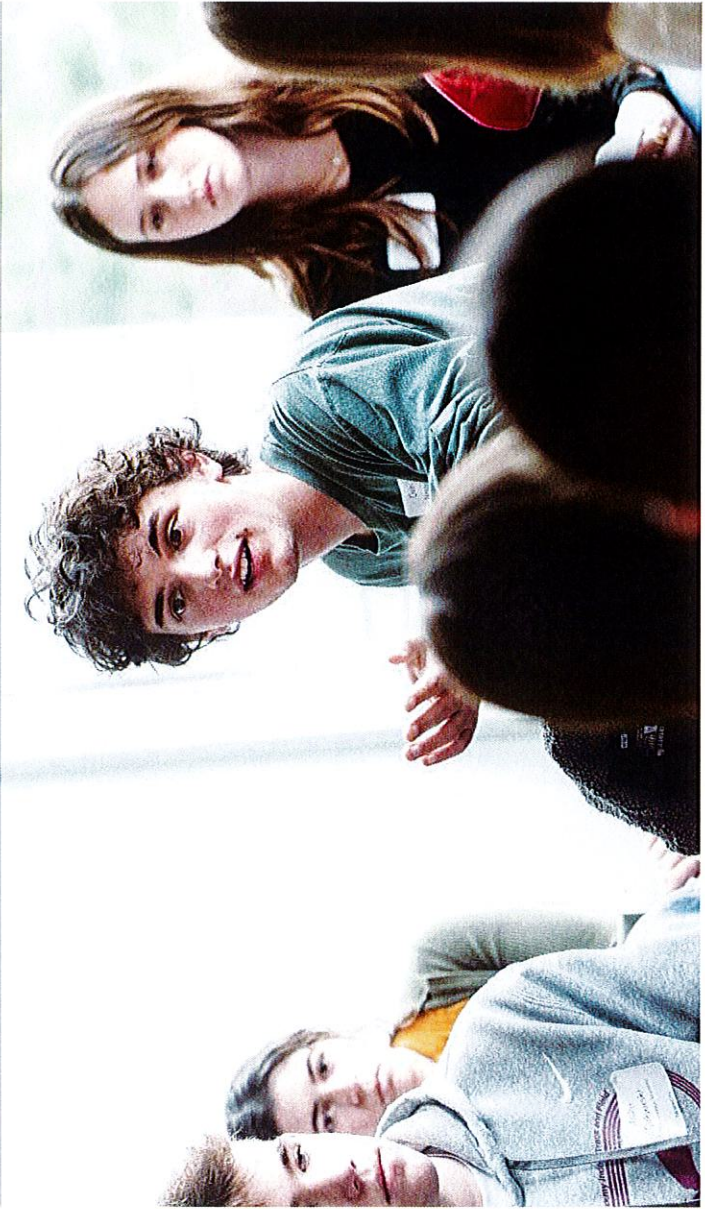
Educators broke out into their own sessions and learned from our partners at the Maine Department of Education, Maine Environmental Education Association, and the Maine Mathematics and Science Alliance about climate education resources and tools. And new connections were made during “climate leadership bingo,” where students crossed off squares on a special bingo card to network with each other and begin new friendships.













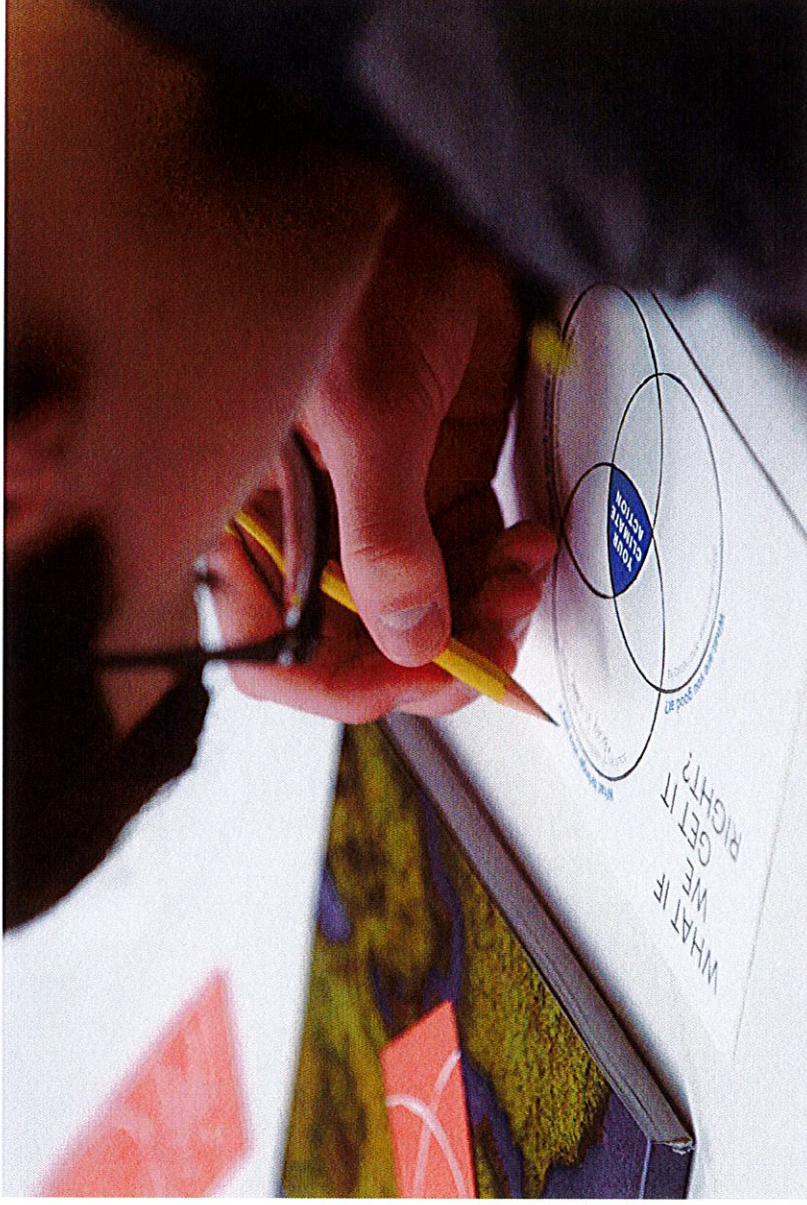




A highlight of the day for me, Summit Coordinator Abigail Hayne, was looking out at the group while Dr. Ayana Elizabeth Johnson chatted with Youth Climate Council Representative Edge Venuti to kick off the summit.

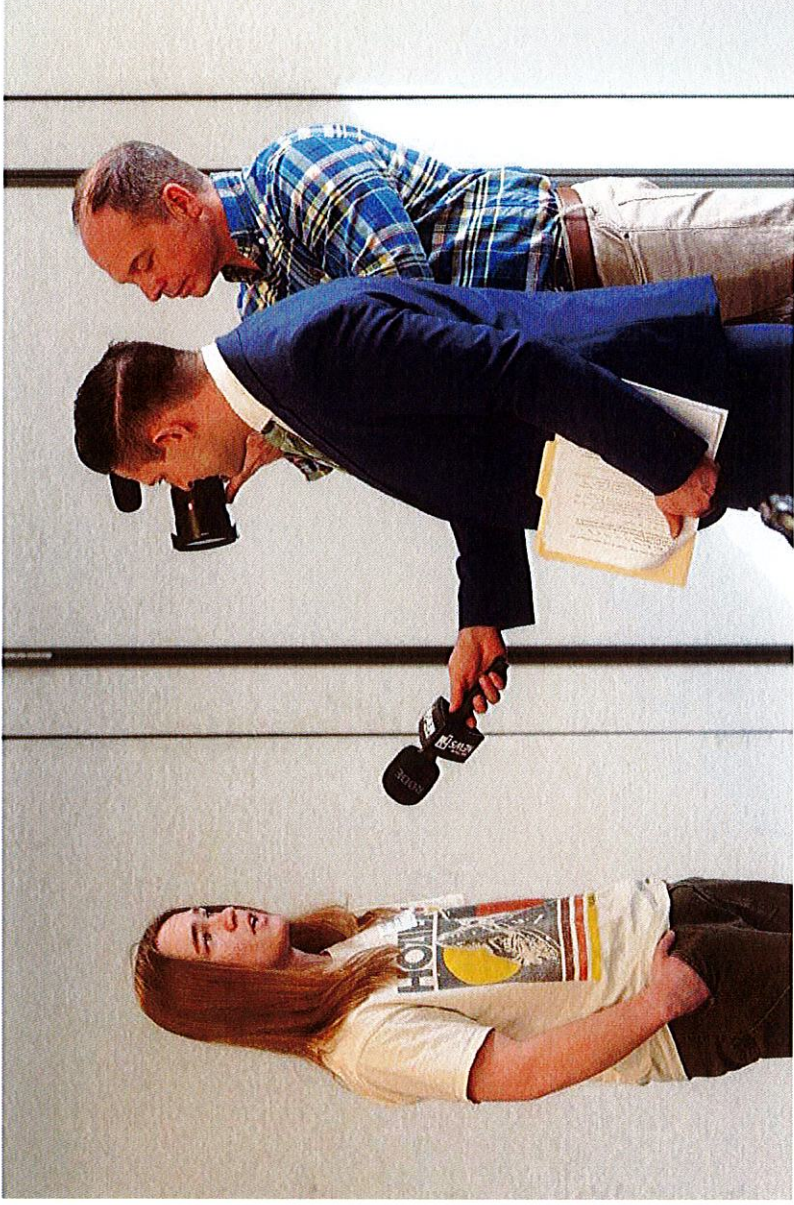






So many people helped to make the day possible: student workshop presenters, partners from the Summit Steering Committee who presented workshops to educators and tabled during the Resource Fair, and colleagues on the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future's climate team. Thank you!



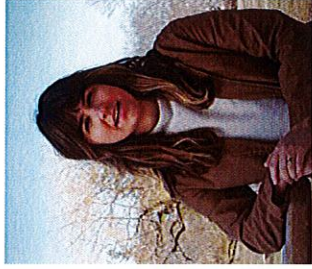


This was not a standalone day: we are committed to supporting continued youth engagement in climate leadership through extended programming and educational offerings. If you couldn't attend the Summit, stay tuned for some upcoming announcements through this newsletter or on the Maine Climate Council's social media channels ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#)).

With gratitude,

Abigail Hayne

Maine Youth Climate Engagement Coordinator



## Upcoming Meetings

- June 10, 2025 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Maine Climate Council
- Sept. 25, 2025 | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m., Maine Climate Council
- Dec. 1, 2025 | 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., Maine Climate Council

*If you were forwarded this message, please consider signing up for our newsletter [here](#).*







GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
**Policy Innovation and the Future**

181 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333  
[Maine.gov/Future | future@maine.gov](mailto:future@maine.gov)

[Click here to update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.](#)

# Do Evil Spirits Lurk in Your Home?

Come to our Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on May 3, 2025

**PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** Registration begins on **April 14** and will continue until all spots are filled

## What Do I Bring??

### From the Workbench:

- ✓ Oil and Latex Paints
- ✓ Stains & Varnishes
- ✓ Wood Preservatives
- ✓ Paint Strippers/Thinners
- ✓ Solvent/Adhesives
- ✓ Lighter Fluid
- ✓ Fiberglass Resins
- ✓ Rubber Cement, Airplane Glue


### From the Garage:

- ✓ Fuels/Gasoline/Kerosene
- ✓ Engine Degreaser
- ✓ Brake/Transmission Fluid
- ✓ Antifreeze
- ✓ Car Wax, Polishes
- ✓ Driveway Sealer
- ✓ Roofing Tar
- ✓ Swimming Pool Chemicals

### From the Yard:

- ✓ Insecticides, Fungicides
- ✓ Chemical Fertilizers
- ✓ Weed Killers
- ✓ Moth Balls
- ✓ Flea Control Products

This Collection is Operated By:  
EnviroServe

 **Proof of residency may be required**

**Hazardous waste from businesses is not accepted at Household Hazardous Waste collection events.** If you are a business with hazardous waste you need to dispose of, please contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Hazardous Waste Staff at (207) 287-7688 or visit [Maine.gov](http://Maine.gov) for information about rules for Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators.

## What Not To Bring!!



### Motor Oil

Empty Containers/Trash  
Commercial or Industrial Waste  
Radioactive Waste, Smoke Detectors  
Infectious & Biological Wastes  
Ammunition, Fireworks, Explosives  
Propane Tanks  
Prescription Medicines/Syringes  
Asbestos  
Flashlight/Alkaline Batteries  
Car Batteries  
Fluorescent bulbs  
55 Gallon Drums of anything  
E-waste (computers, printers, etc.) or  
Televisions



### From the House:

- ✓ Photo Chemicals
- ✓ Chemistry Sets
- ✓ Furniture Polish
- ✓ Floor & Metal Polish
- ✓ Oven Cleaner
- ✓ Drain & Toilet Cleaner
- ✓ Spot Remover
- ✓ Rug & Upholstery Cleaner
- ✓ Lithium/Ni-Cad Batteries
- ✓ Mercury Thermometers

### How Can I Safely Transport These Hazardous Materials???

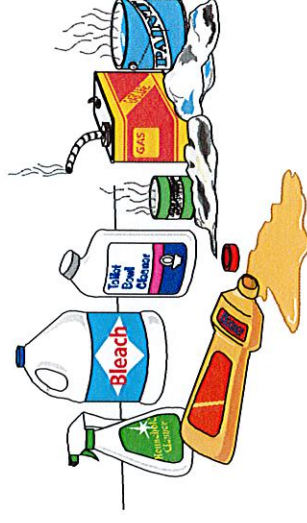
- Leave materials in original containers.
- Tighten caps and lids.
- Sort and pack separately: oil paint, pesticides, and household cleaners.
- Pack containers in sturdy upright boxes and pad with newspaper.
- NEVER MIX CHEMICALS.
- Pack your car and drive directly to the site.
- NEVER SMOKE while handling hazardous material.

**DATE:** Saturday, May 3, 2025

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

**PLACE:** Bath Public Works  
450 Oak Grove Ave  
Bath, ME 04530

FMI: Please call Bath Public Works at 443-8357 or go to [www.cityofbath.com](http://www.cityofbath.com) to register





## Reuse It! Shop the Georgetown Mall

*Satisfaction guaranteed or twice your garbage back!*

You can leave, or take, reusable goods that are in good working order such as furniture, tools, clothes, books, toys, houseware, flatware, dishes, and sewing, hobby, or craft materials.

### Please respect the Mall.

### Keep it neat and safe for children!

*NO food, liquids, flammables, hazardous/toxic chemicals, electronic devices, light bulbs, or sharp objects*

### What is NOT accepted at the TS?

We are a Solid Waste Facility.

We cannot accept liquids of any kind.

A few drops of cooking oil in the bottom of a container are fine, but a gallon of cooking oil is not acceptable.

Please ask an attendant for a current list of places that accept these items:

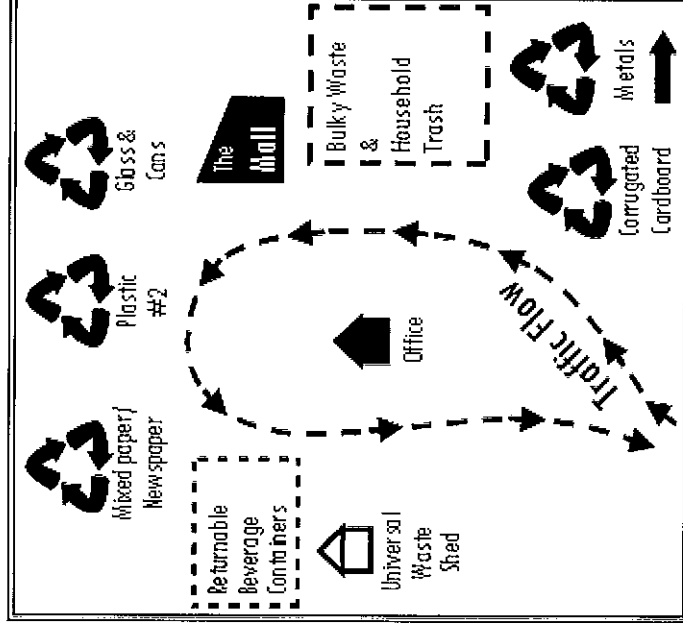
- Corrosive, toxic, or flammable materials such as fuels, motor oil, oil-based paint, paint thinner, aerosol paint, pesticides, pool chemicals, or solvents.
  - All liquid paints: latex, primers, stains, sealers, clear coatings such as shellac or varnish
  - Visit [PaintCare.org](http://PaintCare.org) for information on disposal options
  - Unexploded fireworks or ammunition
  - Refrigerators/dehumidifiers (because they contain refrigerants such as Freon or CFCs)
  - Furniture containing springs; mattresses, box springs, futons, upholstered chairs, sofas, or seat cushions
  - Drywall
  - Tires
  - Lead Acid Batteries (car, boat, lawn tractor)
  - Brush, leaves, tree waste, or fireplace ash
  - Animal carcasses
- Items we accept as trash, but can be recycled elsewhere
- Styrofoam packing peanuts
  - Asphalt shingles
  - Plastic bags - collection bins at large stores

## Recycling in Georgetown Why recycle? It costs less!

Recycling saves you, the taxpayer, money. It costs at least 4 times more to send recyclable waste to the landfill than it does to send it to a recycling facility.

Georgetown pays one flat fee per year for all our recyclables. The annual fee for one year of recycling is less than what we pay each month to send our trash to the Bath landfill. When you throw out recyclable materials with your household waste you are costing yourself, and your fellow taxpayers, money.

## Transfer Station Map



This is a SOLID WASTE FACILITY.

We cannot accept liquids of any kind.

The TS is funded by Georgetown taxpayers and is for use by Georgetown residents only.

## Georgetown Transfer Station and Recycling Center



**The Georgetown Transfer Station**  
64 Bay Point RD Georgetown, ME 04548  
207-371-2148 (*During hours of operation*)  
<http://www.georgetownme.com>

The Transfer Station (TS) is open on Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and select holiday Mondays.

Hours of operation: 9 am to 4 pm

At the discretion of the TS Manager the TS may be closed due to emergency or weather events. If Georgetown Schools are closed it is likely the TS will also be closed.

**A current (green) TS permit sticker is required for entry.** Permit stickers are available at the Town Office on request with proof of residence. Permit stickers must be displayed on vehicles or in their windows to gain access to the Transfer Station. Town Office 207-371-2820. Unauthorized entry or use of the Transfer Station outside of the regular posted hours of operation shall constitute Trespass. Security cameras are in use.

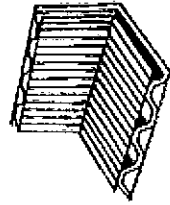
No waste generated outside Georgetown will be accepted.

*Effective April 2025*

# What CAN be recycled in Georgetown? Ask an attendant if you have questions or need assistance

## Corrugated Cardboard Container

- Flattened corrugated cardboard boxes
- Brown paper bags



Corrugated cardboard is a high value commodity. Please help preserve that value by tearing off oil-soaked sections of pizza boxes.

*NO non-corrugated cardboard, NO Styrofoam, NO plastic, NO bags, or other packing materials*

**Metals Area** Please speak to an attendant before driving down to the metal pile.

For safety's sake do not throw metal items across the bulky container into the metal pile.

- Items with engines must be completely empty of oil and gas
- Appliances with exceptions. NO refrigerators or dehumidifiers because they contain refrigerants such as Freon or CFCs. Ask an attendant about proper disposal of items containing refrigerants
- Small metal auto parts, strapping, window frames, screens, satellite dishes, wire, lawn furniture
- Wire lobster traps. Please remove bricks and nets, then crush the trap
- EMPTY and DRY metal paint cans or spray cans
- Please remove as much non-metal material from items before putting them in the metal pile (e.g. vinyl or web straps on a folding chair)

**Cans** - place cans & clean aluminum foil in the barrel labeled tin cans

**Glass** - separate into barrels labeled for clear, green, or other glass. Please discard other colors.

*NO Pyrex, broken glass, windows, or safety glass*

**Please rinse all cans, glass & plastic**

**Plastics** - Please refer to container labels for details.

Place your plastics in the appropriate container. Look for the PET symbol on each item.

Plastics are to be separated into:

- #2 colored
- #2 translucent or neutral (no color, see through)
- Large rigid plastic

*NO Styrofoam, NO foam meat trays,*

*NO plastic bags even if it has a PET number*

*NO returnables*

Please see an attendant regarding seasonal collection of large rigid plastic toys, buckets, and bins.

## Mixed Paper and Newspaper Container

- White or colored paper, magazines, catalogs, flyers, folders, brochures, calendars, junk mail, and envelopes with plastic windows
- Non-corrugated cardboard such as cereal boxes, egg cartons, and pasta boxes with plastic windows
- Newsprint and all inserts included within a newspaper
- Shredded paper CONTAINED in a PAPER bag
- Brown paper bags
- Clean waxed cartons (juice, milk, or ice cream)
- Some books (when in doubt ask an attendant)

*NO plastic bags, plastic wrap, hot beverage cups, Tyvek, aluminumized bags/wrappers, glitter, ribbon, envelopes lined with bubble wrap, or plastic lined or coated bags or boxes.*

**Food waste and plastic or wax coatings or linings contaminate the recyclables and lower their value. Please ask!**

**Tips:** Pre-sort recyclables. This will speed things up at the TS

Compost kitchen waste! This material is heavy and expensive to discard. Your garden will reward you, too.  
<https://www.cityofbathmaine.gov/composting>

## Universal Waste Shed

Universal Waste (UW) must be handled properly by an attendant.

**Universal Waste includes:**

- Electronic devices such as computers, televisions, stereo equipment, printers, DVD/VHS players
- fluorescent bulbs and CFLs
- PCB ballasts from older fluorescent fixtures
- Mercury-added devices such as thermostats or thermometers
- Household batteries
  - rechargeable, single use lithium, or button batteries
  - alkaline or heavy-duty batteries

**Please give Universal Waste to an attendant.**

## Household Hazardous Waste

HHW Collection days typically occur in Bath (May) and Brunswick (October). Preregistration is required.

Please, ask an attendant for details or other options.

Hazardous waste from businesses is not accepted at Household Hazardous Waste collection events. Please contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Hazardous Waste Staff at (207) 287-7688 or visit [Maine.gov](http://Maine.gov) for information about rules for Small Quantity Hazardous Waste Generators.

**The Bath Landfill** will, for a fee, accept many of the items the Georgetown Transfer Station cannot accept.

Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4 PM

Located on Detritus Drive at the north end of High Street in Bath. 207-443-8356

**Casella West Bath ME Transfer Station** will, for a fee, accept many items at 64 Arthur J Reno Sr Rd West Bath off State Road.



# GEORGETOWN FIRE DEPT AUXILIARY

## PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 24, 2025 9:00 am-12:00

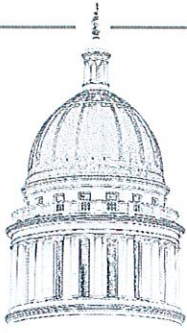
Georgetown Fire Department  
Center Station



Annuals and Perennials

Donations of Plants requested!!

Donations may be dropped off on Friday, May 23, at the Center Station between 3:30 – 5:30. For more information, call 371-2020



# LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

A publication of the Maine Municipal Association • Vol. XLVII No. 12 • APRIL 11, 2025

## We Want it; So, You Do It.

Spring may be here chronologically, but the weather in Augusta was anything but warm for municipal government. This week can be characterized as a litany of public hearings for bills to address the abject failures of municipal government from the point of view of a handful of legislators who are the same people who cannot agree on a single budget document.

In the Housing and Economic Development Committee, a public hearing was held on LD 1184, *An Act to Require Municipal Reporting on Residential Building Permits, Dwelling Units Permitted and Demolished and Certificates of Occupancy Issued*, sponsored by Rep. Gere (Kennebunkport). The bill would mandate municipalities to report on new categories of building permits not usually collected, including numbers of residential units, demolitions, and additions that result in the creation of new housing units, and financial demographic data for the occupants of the resulting residential units and numbers of building permits that are denied. Functionally, it would require municipalities to issue certificates of occupancy or at least follow up on building permits now not required.

Queue the mandate mantra.

Speaking to a lack of accuracy in U.S. Census data, the Department of Economic and Community Development provided that not all communities report data, and the voluntary nature of its collection in the census system means the data is incomplete. A pilot project uncovered that the census data was missing 176 out of 1,700 captured additional housing units. They felt that mandating the information collection was important to measure how municipalities are meeting their housing production goals.

Yes, it is the job of municipal government to produce housing data, rather than a task assigned to the development industry who would be in a much better position to report on the units they build and the financial status of the individuals who either purchase or rent the units.

The preferred model for data collection that inspired the bill was the result of a pilot project in southern Maine, where communities are better resourced and have proximity to university internship programs. A report on the project was submitted by one proponent of the bill which not only misunderstands the code enforcement officer training program process but also uncovered that municipalities do not collect the data they need to determine the growth in housing units year to year.

The resulting suggestion from a proponent of the bill was that punishment of noncompliant municipalities should be considered as other states have adopted a carrot and stick approach. The proponent

shared it should be mandatory because only 88 communities are required to enforce the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code therefore most communities will not provide this work without a mandate. The proponent further noted there is \$800,000 in a budget line for the code enforcement officer program in the Office of the Fire Marshal that should be used for additional training on the mandatory reporting.

How about licensing construction professionals and requiring  
(continued on page 2)

## Correcting the Tort Claims Record

On April 1, LD 1347, *An Act to Increase the Cap on Liability for Government Entities Under the Maine Tort Claims Act*, was printed and referred to the Judiciary Committee. On Monday, five business days later, the bill was scheduled for a hearing, despite a legislative rule requiring the public to be provided at least two weeks' notice of the hearing. On Wednesday, April 9, the public was notified that the work session on LD 1347 would take place the very next day.

As proposed, the bill increases the limitation for the award of damages under the Maine Tort Claims Act from the current \$400,000 to \$1.25 million. In testimony provided in favor of the bill, the Maine Trial Lawyers' Association claimed that there would be no fiscal impact on insurance risk pools, because municipalities and counties are currently paying premiums that anticipate \$5 to \$10 million in payouts but only result in a maximum claim of \$400,000.

With respect to the premiums paid by members of MMA's Risk Management Services (RMS), that claim is blatantly false.

The premiums members of MMA's liability pool pay are simply based on the maximum level of liability, which is currently \$400,000. No smoke, no mirrors, just an honest calculation of the premiums necessary to cover the pool's collective risks. Furthermore, if the 213% increase to the limit proposed in LD 1347 is enacted, the premiums paid by member municipalities' property taxpayers would increase. By how much? RMS staff estimate that premiums could increase by 24%.

Additionally, it remains unknown what issue the bill is seeking to address. Perhaps there are other solutions that could be implemented that would not shift additional burdens onto Maine's property taxpayers.

We will have to wait until a yet to be determined date to learn of the fate of LD 1347, as the Judiciary Committee decided to postpone yesterday's work session.



them to report on what they build? They have one job that is ironically to produce housing; municipalities have a hundred jobs centered on growing and protecting the community.

While shown in their support for the bill, the Greater Portland Council of Governments spoke to the reality of overworked and under resourced municipalities, they estimate that with the right community partnerships in place, the additional burden of collecting the data would range from 30 minutes to two hours per community.

While the time commitment may appear insignificant to some, for those on the ground, it is an additional task being added to the ever growing municipal to do list, with the question of who will pay or what burden will be lifted off municipal shoulders to accomplish the new task remaining unanswered.

MMA predictably flagged LD 1184 as mandate, asked for it to be funded, and pointed to the dearth of code enforcement officers statewide. The need to follow up and amend the types of data collected on building permits, and the inability for municipal government, unless directly involved in the project, to determine the financial status of the owner or occupant was also added to the mix of concerns.

A work session will likely follow sometime next week if the lack of public notice between printing and scheduling maintains its current course.

Another work session was held on a bill that would undermine local ordinances with the intent of reopening the process of ordinance adoption to scrutiny. LD 261, *An Act Regarding the Authority of Municipalities to Regulate Timber Harvesting*, sponsored by Rep. Bunker (Farmington), requires municipalities that adopted timber harvesting ordinances after 1990 to prove that they had engaged with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, invited the department to a public meeting, engaged with a forester in the process, and notified abutters, to a granular degree. Under the terms proposed in the bill, failure to supply the required proof would result in a community having to repeat the process for the adoption of a timber harvesting or related ordinance process by 2029 for the ordinance to be certified by the Maine Forest Service (MFS) as meeting the process standard.

One problematic aspect of the bill is a new requirement that the adoption of an ordinance

be consistent with a comprehensive plan, something not required for a municipal wide ordinance or for those adopted because of shoreland zoning. The shoreland zoning law, 38 M.R.S. § 438-A says that the regulation of timber harvesting in shoreland areas must be in accordance with 38 MRS § 438-B and rules adopted by the MFS pursuant to Title 12, § 8867-B.

Section 438-B establishes three options from which each municipality may choose for timber harvesting standards in shoreland areas, which include: (1) repealing local standards and allowing state law to apply; (2) adopting standards identical to state MFS standards; or (3) retaining current municipal timber harvesting standards that were in effect and consistent with state law on December 5, 2005. The new law would open municipalities to challenges of their adoption process for any ordinance perceived to interact with timber harvesting back to 1990, which includes records of who abutter notices were sent to and confirmation of their receipt from 30 years ago.

During the work session held Thursday, the sponsor removed the comprehensive plan requirement, however the retroactive intent became more transparent. Municipalities are adopting egregious ordinances that interrupt timber harvesting activities such as requiring the road to be frozen to haul out heavy loads on public easements, preventing the use of pesticides and herbicides, and preventing the cutting of timber in the shoreland zone, or restricting the hours of harvest to appease residential neighbors, all entirely within their purview. They can't be challenged on the face or content but if reopened, their process of adoption can be challenged beyond the statute of limitation and declared null and void or require a detailed process to readopt them.

One proponent shared that enrolling their land in the Tree Growth program in a community that doesn't allow harvesting in the shoreland zone did not make sense. Municipalities agree. Timber harvest plans for properties enrolled in tree growth are confidential by statute, not disclosed to municipalities, and must have a plan, prepared or reviewed by a licensed professional forester who should be aware of the local ordinance, outlining how the owner will manage the land for tree growth. If the property falls within a publicly disclosed resource protection zone where timber harvesting is prohibited or

tightly regulated and that is not identified in your confidential plan, that is not a municipal issue, that's a plan issue and potentially a fraudulent plan.

The department who initially advised this was not their bill, pivoted to strongly supporting the elements of retroactivity which would shift the burden of proof of engagement with a forester and the department back to 1990 to municipalities who, at that time, did not have access to the internet. Meanwhile, the department's collection of municipal data would remain in filing boxes as disclosed during the stakeholder engagement session on the bill in 2021.

Rep. Pluecker (Warren), committee co-chair, introduced an amendment during the work session that removes the retroactive opening of the process at the heart of the bill, and provides the department with the necessary authority to directly engage with the 21 remaining communities who they identified had not shared their ordinances with the department, and provided them until 2029 to do so. In turn, the department will make all ordinances publicly available so that operators are able to find the rules in a central location. The amendment was unanimously adopted by the eight committee members present, in the most truly stunning bipartisan vote witnessed to date by staff, on a bill that was not in opposition. An incredibly refreshing change, for which the association is grateful.

Let's end on this high note of open collaboration but stay tuned for future reports of obfuscation at play. If nothing else, it makes for great podcast fodder.

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## LEGISLATIVE BULLETIN

A weekly publication of the Maine Municipal Association throughout sessions of the Maine State Legislature.

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**Editorial Staff:** Kate Dufour, Rebecca Graham, Rebecca Lambert, Amanda Campbell and Laura Ellis of Advocacy & Communications.

**Layout:** Sue Bourdon, Advocacy & Communications

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# HEARING SCHEDULE

For the week of April 14, 2025

**Note:** It appears as though the legislative presiding officers have waived the requirement that bills be advertised for public hearings two weeks in advance; therefore, you should check your newspapers for Legal Notices as there may be changes in the hearing schedule. It is not uncommon at this time of the session to have a bill printed one day and a public hearing scheduled within a couple of days. Weekly schedules for hearings and work sessions can be found on the Legislature's website at: <http://legislature.maine.gov/calendar/#Weekly/>. Below are the public hearings for which we have received notice prior to the publishing of this Legislative Bulletin.

## MONDAY, APRIL 14

**Criminal Justice & Public Safety**  
Room 436, State House, 9:30 a.m.  
Tel: 287-1122

LD 1263 An Act Regarding Penalties for Fentanyl Trafficking When That Trafficking Results in an Overdose Causing Serious Bodily Injury of a Person

1:00 p.m.

LD 1288 An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Maine's Drug Laws Regarding Heroin, Fentanyl and Cocaine

**Environment & Natural Resources**  
Room 216, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-4149

LD 269 Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 375: No Adverse Environmental Effect Standards of the Site Location of Development Act, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

LD 1458 An Act Regarding Compensation Fees and Related Conservation Efforts for Solar and Wind Energy Development and High-impact Electric Transmission Lines Under the Site Location of Development Laws

12:00 p.m.

LD 383 An Act to Facilitate the Consolidation of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Planning Commission into a Single Combined Entity

LD 1111 An Act to Provide Water Service Infrastructure to Fairfield Residents Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

LD 1507 An Act to Require General Public Notification of Oil Terminal Facility Transfer Activities

**Health & Human Services**  
Room 209, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-1317

LD 1487 An Act to Support Community Violence Prevention and Intervention Programs

1:00 p.m.

LD 1367 Resolve, to Study Methods of Gradually Transitioning Individuals from Government Assistance Programs to the Workforce

LD 1416 An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Immediately Take Custody of Persons Sentenced to Mental Health Facilities That May Not Include County or Regional Jails

**Judiciary**  
Room 438, State House, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-1327

LD 1344 An Act to Improve the Response Time to Tenant Mold Complaints

**State & Local Government**  
Room 214, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-1330

LD 1372 An Act to Establish a Special Committee to Review Routine Technical Rules

LD 1388 An Act to Replace the Participation Threshold in Votes to Adopt or Alter a Municipal Charter with a Lower Approval Threshold

LD 1417 An Act to Strengthen the Authority of Local Officials to Enforce Provisions Regarding Dangerous and Nuisance Properties that Constitute a Threat to Public Health and Safety

LD 1517 An Act to Replace Participation Thresholds with Approval Thresholds in Certain School, Municipal and County Measures

**Veterans & Legal Affairs**  
Room 437, State House, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-1310

LD 252 An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact

## TUESDAY, APRIL 15

**Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry**  
Room 214, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.  
Tel: 287-1312

LD 398 An Act to Amend the Definition of "Transient Occupancy" in the Laws

*Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission*

LD 1323 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides and the Use and Sale of Neonicotinoid-treated Seeds

**Appropriations & Financial Affairs**  
Room 228, State House, 1:00 p.m.  
Tel: 287-1635

LD 351 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Build a Warehouse for Goods and Cargo at Bangor International Airport

LD 836 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Upgrade Municipal Culverts at Stream Crossings

**Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services**  
Room 220, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.  
Tel: 287-1314

LD 1413 An Act to Amend Laws Governing Hearing Aid Dealers and Health Insurance to Allow an Exemption to Certain Hearing Examination Requirements

**Housing & Economic Development**  
Room 206, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.  
Tel: 287-4880

LD 1143 An Act to Update Language on Setback Variances for Single-family Dwellings and Variances from Dimensional Standards

LD 1167 Resolve, to Create a Pilot Program to Assist Nonprofit Housing Developers in Rehabilitating Existing Aging Housing Stock for First-time Home Buyers

LD 1181 An Act Regarding the Designation of Short-term Rental Units as Commercial or Residential in Use

LD 1238 An Act to Establish a Small-cap Loan Guarantee Program for Affordable Housing Investments

**Transportation**  
Room 126, State House, 1:00 p.m.  
Tel: 287-4148

LD 1411 An Act to Modify the Laws Regarding Driver's License Applications

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

**Energy, Utilities & Technology**  
Room 211, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.  
Tel: 287-4143

LD 1346 An Act Regarding the Supply of Water to the Town of New Sharon

(continued on page 5)



## Sure, It's Old...But Is It Historic?

At the November 2024 election, voters approved a \$10 million bond to be used for the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) to administer a grant program for the restoration of historic community buildings owned by governmental and non-profit agencies. According to the adopted rules for grant administration governed by 27 MRSA § 505-D(2), applicants for these funds must invest awarded revenue on properties identified in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Here is where the snag lies.

Many buildings on the NRHP must follow strict renovation guidelines using specific materials for restoration. One such historic building, Monmouth Academy, which has been used as a school, has been altered through the years to accommodate the changes in the community. While those renovations resulted in the academy being denied for the NRHP designation, it is identified in the town's comprehensive plan as a property with strong historical significance to its residents.

This issue led Sen. Hickman (Kennebec County) to sponsor LD 1282, *An Act Regarding Eligibility for Historic Preservation Bond Proceeds*, on behalf of his constituents. As written, the bill seeks to add properties that have been designated as historic through a municipal historic preservation ordinance as eligible for grant funding. Although this would open the funding to less than 20 additional communities, it would still omit the Monmouth Academy building since the community does not have a historic preservation ordinance in place.

Kristin Sanborn, vice chair of the Monmouth selectboard, testified in support of the bill but offered an amendment that would enable property designated as historic in a municipal comprehensive plan to also be eligible for grant funding. She argued that a comprehensive plan is approved by voters of a community and reflects their values, which should hold weight when relating to historic designations.

MMA and Rep. Greenwood (Wales) also submitted testimony in support of the proposal in the belief that communities should have input into the history their residents value and would like to preserve, while the MHPC testified neither for nor against the proposed measure.

The MHPC representative stressed to the committee that they are bound by law when administering the grant programs and for those reasons welcome the proposed amendment. However, he also cautioned members that just because a building is old, it doesn't mean that it is historic. For a building to be deemed eligible for the NRHP, historical significance must be documented along with the material requirements discussed earlier.

Committee members requested a copy of the original bill that was passed and the wording of the ballot question from the November 2024 election for review at a work session that has yet to be scheduled.

## IN THE HOPPER

(The bill summaries are written by MMA staff and are not necessarily the bill's summary statement or an excerpt from that summary statement. During the course of the legislative session, many more bills of municipal interest will be printed than there is space in the Legislative Bulletin to describe. Our attempt is to provide a description of what would appear to be the bills of most significance to local government, but we would advise municipal officials to also review the comprehensive list of LDs of municipal interest that can be found on MMA's website, [www.mcmun.org](http://www.mcmun.org).)

### Health & Human Services

LD 1416 *An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Immediately Take Custody of Persons Sentenced to Mental Health Facilities That May Not Include County or Regional Jails* (Sponsored by Sen. Talbot Ross of Cumberland Cty.)

This bill requires that when a court commits a defendant to the Commissioner of Health and Human Services for placement in an appropriate mental health institution, that placement must be immediate and may not be in a county or regional jail.

### Housing & Economic Development

LD 1143 *An Act to Update Language on Setback Variances for Single-family Dwellings and Variances from Dimensional Standards* (Sponsored by Sen. Libby of Cumberland Cty.)

This bill changes references to a "single-family dwelling" to a "dwelling" in the law regarding setback variances. The bill also amends the law governing variances from dimensional standards to allow a variance when there is a practical difficulty, and the property is not wholly located within a shoreland area.

LD 1181 *An Act Regarding the Designation of Short-term Rental Units as Commercial or Residential in Use* (Sponsored by Rep. Gere of Kennebunkport) This bill clarifies that a municipality may require the municipal assessor to assign a land use code to a short-term rental unit that designates the rental unit as commercial in use or residential in use. The bill also defines "commercial in use" as a short-term rental unit that is not claimed as the primary residence of the owner and a "residential in use" as a short-term rental unit that is

claimed as the primary residence of the owner.

LD 1226 *An Act to Protect Consumers by Licensing Residential Building Contractors* (Sponsored by Rep. Roberts of South Berwick)

This bill establishes the nine-member Residential Construction Board, which includes a municipal code enforcement officer, directed to establish licensing requirements for residential general contractors, as well as practice standards that are consistent with the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code.

### Judiciary

LD 1344 *An Act to Improve the Response Time to Tenant Mold Complaints* (Sponsored by Sen. Libby of Cumberland Cty.)

Within 90 days of notice, this bill requires local health officers to investigate complaints of non-surface mold in tenant-occupied units. The bill also provides that if the investigation finds an unhealthy level of non-surface mold, remediation efforts must be initiated by the landlord within five business days of the investigation and requires a local health officer to determine if all surface mold has been remediated. Finally, the bill provides that a tenant may file a complaint under the implied warranty and covenant of habitability laws if the landlord fails to remediate the mold issue within 60 days of the report.

### Labor

LD 406 *An Act to Repeal the Laws Providing for Paid Family and Medical Leave and to Reimburse Taxpayers* (Emergency) (Sponsored by Rep. Morris of Turner)

Retroactive to October 25, 2023, this emergency bill repeals the Paid Family and Medical Leave Act; directs the Department of Labor to refund employers for contributions made to the fund; and requires employers to return to employees related payroll deductions.

LD 1333 *An Act to Make Changes to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program* (Sponsored by Rep. Poirier of Skowhegan)

This bill makes the following changes to the paid family and medical leave benefits program, it: (1) requires an employee to be employed with

(continued on page 6)



# HEARING SCHEDULE (cont'd)

For the week of April 14, 2025

## **Environment & Natural Resources** **Room 216, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.** **Tel: 287-4149**

LD 920 Resolve, to Review Efficiencies in the Licensing of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities by the Department of Environmental Protection

LD 1065 An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste

## **Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services** **Room 220, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.** **Tel: 287-1314**

LD 180 An Act Regarding the Interactions of Pharmacy Benefits Managers and So-called 340B Entities and Reimbursements by Pharmacy Benefits Managers to Pharmacies

LD 1018 An Act to Protect Health Care for Rural and Underserved Areas by Prohibiting Discrimination by Participants in a Federal Drug Discount Program

## **Labor** **Room 202, Cross Building, 10:00 a.m.** **Tel: 287-1331**

LD 406 An Act to Repeal the Laws Providing for Paid Family and Medical Leave and to Reimburse Taxpayers

LD 539 An Act to Repeal the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

LD 575 An Act to Ensure Equitable Access to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program by Removing the Requirement That Leave Must Be Scheduled to Prevent Undue Hardship on the Employer

LD 894 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Paid Family and Medical Leave

LD 952 An Act to Exempt Agricultural Employers and Employees from the Maine Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

LD 1169 An Act Regarding Employer Payments for the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

LD 1221 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Prohibit the Legislature from Using Paid Family and Medical Leave Program Funds for Any Other Purpose

LD 1249 An Act to Delay Payment of Benefits Under the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

LD 1273 An Act to Make Paid Family and Medical Leave Voluntary

LD 1307 An Act to Suspend the Remittance Obligation for Paid Family and Medical Leave Private Plan Users

LDL 1333 An Act to Make Changes to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

LD 1400 An Act to Exempt Certain Public School Districts and Their Employees from the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program

## **Taxation** **Room 127, State House, 1:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1552**

LD 1419 An Act to Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Housing Constructed Off-site Similar to That for On-site Construction

## **Veterans & Legal Affairs** **Room 437, State House, 10:00 a.m.** **Tel: 287-1310**

LD 1422 An Act Regarding Open Primary Elections and Ranked-choice Voting

LD 1431 An Act to Implement an Interstate Voter Registration Cross-check Program

LD 1527 An Act to Require Postage Prepaid Envelopes Be Provided for the Return of Absentee Ballots

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 17**

## **Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry** **Room 214, Cross Building, 1:30 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1312**

LD 1525 An Act to Promote Firewood Banks in Maine

LD 1529 An Act to Enhance the Protection of High-value Natural Resources Statewide

## **Appropriations & Financial Affairs** **Room 228, State House, 1:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1635**

LD 363 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Create the School Capital Improvement Fund

LD 826 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Establish the School Energy Savings Revolving Loan Fund

**3:00 p.m.**

LD 1521 An Act to Require All State Agencies to Provide a Zero-based Budget Once Every 10 Years

## **Criminal Justice & Public Safety** **Room 436, State House, 2:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1122**

LD 740 An Act to Establish a Comprehensive Program to Divert Youth from the Criminal Justice System and Address Their Needs

## **Health & Human Services** **Room 209, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1317**

LD 35 An Act to Strengthen Local Emergency Medical Services by Increasing the MaineCare Reimbursement Rate for Ambulance Services

LD 1429 An Act to Provide Full Reimbursement for Emergency Ambulance Services Provided to MaineCare Members

## **Health Coverage, Insurance & Financial Services** **Room 220, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1314**

LD 1401 An Act to Repeal the Provisions of Law Requiring Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance Policies to Cover the Cost of Towing and Storing Certain Vehicles

## **Housing & Economic Development** **Room 206, Cross Building, 1:15 p.m.** **Tel: 287-4880**

LD 1226 An Act to Protect Consumers by Licensing Residential Building Contractors

LD 1232 An Act to Require Radon Testing for Certain Commercial and Residential Construction

## **Marine Resources** **Room 202, Cross Building, 1:00 p.m.** **Tel: 287-1337**

LD 1595 An Act to Strengthen Working Waterfronts Against Nuisance Complaints Regarding Aquaculture





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## IN THE HOPPER (cont'd)

an employer for 120 days before being eligible to take leave; (2) allows employers to have intermittent leave schedules reviewed by the program administrator; (3) prohibits the taking of paid leave unless the employee simultaneously takes any available unpaid leave; (4) reduces the retroactive application deadline from 90 days to 30 days; (5) requires the program administrator to give five days' notice of an employee's leave being approved; (6) requires the Department of Labor to post on its publicly accessible website the dates by which contribution reports and premiums must be remitted as well as appropriate tax forms that employers with approved private plans must provide to employees taking leave; (7) relieves employers with collective bargaining agreements of the obligation to bargain over the employee's share of the premium; (8) allows employers to correct mistakes in the employee share of taxes for up to three months; (9) establishes a 52-week formula for calculating the 15-employee threshold; (10) changes the applications of penalties against employers from mandatory to discretionary; (11) clarifies that an employee who is taking retroactive paid leave and did not notify the employer for more than five days of the employee's absence is not entitled to be restored to the employee's former position; and (12) clarifies that at no time may an employee receive benefits of over 100% of the employee's wages.

### State & Local Government

**LD 1388 *An Act to Replace the Participation Threshold in Votes to Adopt or Alter a Municipal Charter with a Lower Approval Threshold*** (Sponsored by Rep. Bridgeo of Augusta)

This bill provides that for a new municipal charter, revision, modification or amendment to become effective, the number of votes cast in favor of the question must equal or exceed 15% of the total votes cast in the municipality

at the last gubernatorial election. Currently, the threshold requires that the total number of votes cast equals or exceeds 30% of the total votes cast in the municipality at the last gubernatorial election.

**LD 1417 *An Act to Strengthen the Authority of Local Officials to Enforce Provisions Regarding Dangerous and Nuisance Properties that Constitute a Threat to Public Health and Safety*** (Sponsored by Sen. Libby of Cumberland Cty.)

This bill expands the authority of local municipal health and code enforcement officials to enforce laws pertaining to properties that are dangerous, nuisance or abandoned and that constitute a threat to public health or safety.

**LD 1517 *An Act to Replace Participation Thresholds with Approval Thresholds in Certain School, Municipal and County Measures*** (Sponsored by Rep. Sato of Gorham)

This bill reduces voter participation thresholds necessary for the result of the vote to be valid that impacts school, county, municipal, local electric districts and sanitary districts, including reducing the percentage of total votes cast in the previous gubernatorial election for withdrawing from a regional school unit; bonds issued by county commissioners for economic development; new, revised, modified or amended charters; the appointment of a single assessor; municipal revenue bonds; creation of an urban renewal authority, and deorganization, to name a few.

### Veterans & Legal Affairs

**LD 1527 *An Act to Require Postage Prepaid Envelopes Be Provided for the Return of Absentee Ballots*** (Sponsored by Sen. Bennett of Oxford Cty.)

This bill requires the Secretary of State to provide municipalities with postage prepaid return envelopes along with absentee ballots.



# GEORGETOWN ISLAND EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Presents a **FREE**, all ages, performance



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## THE STORY OF FERDINAND

by  
**Halcyon String Quartet**

# SATURDAY, MAY 10; 4-5PM

Robinhood Free Meetinghouse-210 Robinhood Rd, Georgetown

Free copies of  
Munro Leaf's  
beloved  
children's book  
*The Story of  
Ferdinand* will  
be given to  
each family!

The Halcyon  
String Quartet  
combines music,  
story, and  
illustration in their  
family-friendly  
musical  
performance  
of *The Story of  
Ferdinand*.

This show  
features folk  
classics, pop  
songs, and  
nostalgic tunes  
from childhood.  
They'll get be sure  
to get everyone  
clapping and  
snapping along!

Join GIEF for this  
FREE community  
event celebrating  
literature, music,  
and culture.

***FREE popcorn  
and light  
refreshments  
will be served.***



## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between  
The Town of Georgetown  
And  
The Georgetown Community Center

**This agreement is in effect July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this agreement is to establish working procedures between the Town of Georgetown and the Georgetown Community Center in regard to the playground structure and outdoor play area, which sit on Town-owned land managed by the Conservation Commission. The Playground location is on tax map 13U-003

**Contact Person:** Georgetown Community Center Board President-Mark Donovan (207) 841-0125

### **Respective Responsibilities under this agreement include:**

#### Georgetown Community Center Board

- The playground will be inspected on an annual basis and the inspection will be kept on file at the Town Office. (Mark Donovan will do – May 1 of each year)
- The Georgetown Community Center will ensure that adequate insurance exists and covers the use of the playground and any structures that have been erected in the play space area. (GCC is covered under the Town policy)
- The Georgetown Community Center will cover the costs of tree removal identified by the playground inspection every year and approved by the Conservation Commission. (Mark will identify and remove at any time of year)
- The Georgetown Community Center will provide and maintain proper signs for safety. This includes a sign for crossing Old School House Road and safety rules for using the playground structure. (this is in process)
- The Georgetown Community Center will cover the cost of any playground structure maintenance. (agreed)

This **Memorandum of Understanding** shall be reviewed and revised by **the Town of Georgetown** and reviewed by the Conservation Commission and the **Georgetown Community Center** on an as needed basis, or at least annually.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Select Board

Signed: Mark Donovan Date: 4-8-2025  
President of Board of the Georgetown Community Center

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between The Town of Georgetown And The Georgetown Central School

**This agreement is in effect once signed until June 30, 2026**

Purpose: The purpose of this agreement is to establish working procedures between the Town of Georgetown and the Georgetown Central School in regards to the school's project adventure course, which sits on Town owned land and managed by the Conservation Commission. The **Course location is on map 3 U lot 33**

Contact Person: Georgetown Central School Principal, 207-371-2160.

### **Respective Responsibilities under this agreement include:**

#### Town of Georgetown

- The town of Georgetown will permit the Georgetown Central School to have access to the trail systems and maintain a covered structure, at the location described above.
- The Town of Georgetown will maintain public trails on Town land. Georgetown Central School
- The Georgetown Central School will provide adequate insurance that covers students and staff when using the trail system.
- The Georgetown Central School will cover the costs of tree removal on, near or around the covered structure.
- The Georgetown Central School will regularly inspect the covered structure to ensure the building is in safe condition.
- The Georgetown Central School will remove all Project Adventure Course elements and return the site to a natural state.

This **Memorandum of Understanding** shall be reviewed and revised by the **Town of Georgetown** and reviewed by the Conservation Commission and the **Georgetown Central School** on an as needed basis, or at least annually.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Select board

Signed: Kathryn Miller Date: 4/4/25 Principal  
Georgetown Central School