



February 25, 2020 - News for You



TOWN OF FREEPORT

MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

Upcoming Town Council Meetings:

Regular Town Council Meeting
March 3, 2020
6:30 p.m.

Town Council Workshop
March 10, 2020
6:30 p.m.

A full listing of upcoming Town meetings and agendas is available on the Town's website at:
www.freeportmaine.com

The Freeport Sustainability Board is seeking applicants for a Municipal Tree Task Force.

Pending final approval by the Town Council on February 25, 2020, the Municipal Tree Task Force will be responsible for determining the needs of the Town of Freeport in connection with its public tree program. It will be responsible for creating a management plan for public trees and assist in the establishment of standards for the selection, planting, maintenance and removal of public trees, and in the dissemination of news and information on these standards and on the public tree program. The Task Force will meet at least semi-annually.

Individuals who wish to be considered should submit a letter of interest indicating what strengths they would bring to the committee to Johanna Hanselman by March 19th at: jhanselman@freeportmaine.com

Snow Plow Safety Tips for Children & Pedestrians

Keep a safe distance away from the street - Snow plow trucks are very large and require a longer distance to slow down and stop than most vehicles do. It can also be difficult to hear these trucks or any other vehicles approaching when enough snow has accumulated. Make sure you're far enough away from the street to safely perform any activity. When sledding, make sure there isn't a street at the bottom of your sledding hill. Playing in snow piles and building snow forts are always

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Town Manager's Report February 25, 2020

TOWN OF FREEPORT POSTED ROADS – EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 18, 2020

“Road Posting Season” began February 18, 2020, and will continue until either May 1, 2020, or when the weather indicates that the postings can be safely lifted. A full list of all posted roads is available on the Town's website at



www.freeportmaine.com. All heavy vehicles are required to attain a permit to operate on a posted road in Freeport regardless of temperature.

Local roads are posted annually during the time of year when freeze/thaw cycles occur (otherwise known as “frost heave” season!). During this time of year, the road sub-base is softer, and more susceptible to damage from heavy loads. Posting roads to heavy truck traffic helps lengthen the lifespan of a road, reducing the frequency of reconstructions. This in turn saves tax dollars that would otherwise be needed for road reconstruction. Please note that regular delivery trucks such as fuel and garbage pickup are exempt under state law from these postings.

This list is subject to change without notice. For current information or questions contact the Public Works Department (865-4461).

Recycling Facility Inspection Results

We would like to recognize the staff at the Freeport Recycling Facility for the results of their recent annual

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Presidential Primary & Referendum Election
March 3, 2020
Polls Open from 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM

Absentee ballots are available for the March 3, 2020 Presidential Primary and Referendum Election until the close of business Thursday, February 27, 2020. Please contact the Clerk's Office for information regarding requesting a ballot. Sample ballots are available for viewing on the town's website as well as at the Town Clerk's Office.



TOWN OF FREEPORT - MUNICIPAL BULLETIN

Put your Bottles & Cans to Good Use!



Pick up **CLYNK** bags to support Freeport non-profit clubs and organizations at the Transfer Station or Town Hall (Town Manager's Counter). CLYNK bags now available to support the Freeport Field Hockey Team!

Just how easy is it to use CLYNK Bags? Try two steps and you're done. Once you've grabbed a bag to support your favorite local non-profit organization, all you have to do is...

BAG IT - Fill your green CLYNK bag with redeemable containers

DROP IT - Bring it to the local CLYNK redemption containers. Nearby drop locations are available at Hannaford in Yarmouth and Topsham.

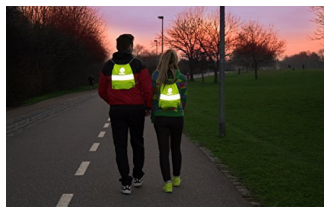
If you are a Freeport non-profit organization or club and would like us to make your CLYNK bags available, contact Suzanne at the Transfer Station (sduplissis@freeportmaine.com) and Johanna at the Town Hall (jhanselman@freeportmaine.com).

Snow Plow Safety Tips for Children & Pedestrians

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fun but don't do these activities near a road as they will make you difficult to see to drivers and snow plow operators.

Be sure to wear bright, visible clothing when walking or jogging - It is difficult for snow plow operators to see pedestrians at night and in white-out conditions. If you must walk or jog on the side of the street, be sure to make yourself visible (wear bright clothing and carry a flashlight) and keep your pets on a close leash as far away from the edge of the road as possible.



Town Manager Report

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inspection. Maine DEP conducted their regular Transfer Station inspection. The Department did not identify any deficiencies or corrective measures during their inspection. We are told that this is a very rare occurrence, which rarely, if ever, occurs at other facilities in the State. This is a testimony to the hard work and attention to detail from our staff that manage such a clean facility. Their behind-the-scenes hard work makes the Town look good compared to our peers!

Maine DOT Incident Detour Routes - I-295

We have received many inquiries recently regarding the lettered "emergency route" signage at the exit 20 and 22 intersections. These signs have been set up by Maine DOT along the I-295 corridor from Portland to Topsham to indicate pre-planned emergency detours for incidents on I-295 that would require closing the highway. If it becomes necessary to close a section of highway, a temporary sign will be set up at the exit, indicating the closure and instructing traffic which lettered emergency route to use to bypass the closed section of I-295. Each detour is letter coded, single letters for northbound, double letters for southbound; consisting of white letters on a green background. On the interstate, a folding sign will be positioned at the exit, and when unfolded, will direct traffic to follow the emergency route. This sign will have black letters on a pink background.

CLYNK bags supporting local non-profits available

You can now pick up CLYNK bags to support Freeport non-profit clubs and organizations at the Freeport Recycling Center and the Town Hall. See the article on the left for details. CLYNK bags are now available at the Town Hall to support the Freeport Field Hockey Team!

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION - Homeowners are eligible for up to a \$25,000 reduction in their permanent residence's property valuation!

If you have owned a home in Maine for 12 months prior to April first, you may apply for this program. You must apply by April 1, 2020 to have adjustments made for the FY21 tax year. (You only need to apply for this exemption once.) Other available exemptions include the **Veteran's Exemption** and the **Blind Exemption**. Forms are available on the town's website or stop in at the Assessor's office for forms or more information.