

Sebago Community Shelter



TOWN OF SEBAGO, MAINE

SEBAGO HAPPENINGS



By Allen Crabtree, Selectman



In the event of a natural disaster or other emergency such as a hurricane, ice storm, or forest fire that would force people to temporarily leave their homes, the Town of Sebago is well equipped to house and care for them. The Town Hall had power and water even when power was out all over Sebago after Hurricane Irene. The Town Hall has been designated as the official emergency shelter for the town, and can house 200 people. The shelter is stocked with cots and blankets, as well as food supplies. The building has a fully equipped kitchen, areas that can be used for dining and sleeping, showers and restrooms.

The shelter will be open whenever there is a major storm, such as a hurricane or tornado, that hits Sebago. Whether it is a town-wide disaster, or if someone has lost their home due to a storm and has no place to stay, the shelter will be



opened. If power is out throughout most of the town for more than 24 hours, we will also open the shelter as a place where people can come in and get warm, take showers, recharge their cell phones and fill up jugs with drinking water. If there is a demand, we will also prepare a hot meal for those needing a break from dealing with disaster.

When the shelter is open

often there is no internet service nor cell phone coverage to announce it. So in the future when disaster strikes, in addition to the town website, a notice will be placed on the bulletin board at the Veterans' Park in East Sebago, a large sign will be displayed in front of Station 1 in Mud City, and notices will be placed around town in places where people gather.

If anyone has questions about the shelter, or is interested in joining with their fellow citizens and helping out at the shelter and getting trained, please contact Allen Crabtree at (207) 787-2730 or crabtree@crabcoll.com.



Merci

SPECIAL THANKS!!

Thanks

Special Thanks go out to Sebago resident Linda Horowitz for all of the hard work she has put in on restoring the flower beds at the Town Office and below the Town Hall sign. A few years ago these flower beds were in pretty tough shape, she has worked her magic "green" thumbs in bringing them back to a source of beauty. We get lots

of compliments from people entering the building and must admit that it is not our doing.

~~~~~**THANKS LINDA!**~~~~~

Special Thanks also go out to our Selectman and General Assistance Administrator Edie Harnden and the unsung heroes that helped in her efforts to raise funds for folks that

may need fuel assistance but "fall between the cracks" of the State's guidelines. Many people made donations for the Yard Sale and put in their precious time to make sure things went smoothly.

**Thanks Edie and everyone that helped with this worthwhile cause.**

### Inside this *Fall* Issue:

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### HOURS OF OPERATION

#### Town Office

- Tuesday - 10:00 am to 7:00 pm
- Wednesday thru Friday - 8:00 am to 5:00 pm

#### Transfer Station

- Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday  
7:00 am to 5:00 pm

#### General Assistance

- Thursday - 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm





# CLERK'S CORNER (Important Reminders)



**2012 DOG LICENSES** - Dog licenses for 2012 are now available. The fee for neutered/spayed dogs is \$6.00, unaltered animals are \$11.00. **All dogs six months or older must be licensed by the end of the calendar year. A late fee of \$25.00 will be charged as of February 1st of each year.** To license a dog, a current **State of Maine Rabies Certificate** must be presented. **A rabies clinic will be held in Sebago at the Old Town Hall building on January 7, 2012.** (See the "Community Calendar" on page 4 for details.)

**2011 TAX BILLS** - The 2011 Tax Bills have been mailed out. If you have not received your bill there is a possibility that we may have an incorrect mailing address for you. Please give us a call at the Town Office (787-2457) to verify your correct mailing address. **Remember that only one tax bill is sent out** in the fall **with two payment stubs. YOU WILL NOT BE SENT A REMINDER NOTICE FOR THE SPRING (MAY 1ST) PAYMENT.**

**HUNTING LICENSES & SNOWMOBILE REGISTRATIONS** - Hunting licenses will be available on December 1, 2011. **You must bring in the prior year information for snowmobile renewals.** If you do not have the prior year information for your snowmobile, please write down the year and number of the sticker that is currently on your machine in order for us to find the correct one. **We will not be able to process your renewal without this information. This does not pertain to new registrations.** Remember - Hunting, Fishing, ATVs, Snowmobiles and Boat re-registrations are also available on-line.



**ELECTION NEWS** - Tuesday, November 8, 2011 (Polls are open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Town Office Building.)

## SAFETY AROUND SEBAGO LAKE - What is a Hazard Tree?

By Kirsten Ness, Water Resources Specialist  
Portland Water District



Trees are an important part of the land around Sebago Lake because they provide many benefits to the landscape. They take up water that flows across the ground during storms, their roots stabilize soil along the shoreline of the lake, and they provide shade to name a few. Because trees are beneficial to lakes, there are rules for tree removal within 250 feet of lakes, including Sebago.

Property owners must maintain a certain number and size of trees along the shoreline, due to Shoreland Zoning regulations. If someone wants to remove a tree that does not meet the regulations, the tree may only be removed if it is a "hazard tree".

A hazard tree is one that is unhealthy and has a target, such as a house. Determining whether a tree is a hazard involves evaluating the health of a tree, whether it has a target, what type of species it is, and what activities (such as construction) have occurred on the site that may have weakened the tree. This evaluation should be done by a licensed arborist.

What to do if you think you have a hazard tree you would like to remove from your property?

~ Call the Code Enforcement Officer and a licensed arborist to determine whether a tree is hazardous.

~ The Portland Water District cannot make a determination on whether a tree is hazardous, but we can provide technical assistance on other Shoreland Zoning regulations, including non-hazard tree removal.



## FROM THE DOGHOUSE (Focus on Pet Safety)

By Bobby Silcott, Animal Control Officer  
ask the ACO @yahoo.com or call 642-4343 (Standish Dispatch)



Residents of Sebago - I hope the summer was enjoyable for you and your furry family members. There have been a rash of dog thefts in Oxford County. According to the local ACO, as many as 20 dogs have been stolen in recent weeks. Most of the missing dogs are Pit Bull types, although a Doberman Pinscher, a chocolate Lab and a yellow Lab are also missing. He said many dogs have been missing for weeks, but owners are reporting them now in fear they might have been taken by people involved in dogfighting. Although, we don't know for sure what or who is behind the thefts, please don't leave your pet tied outside unattended.



I strongly recommend talking to your Vet about micro-chip placement as well. I have had many cases where the animal and their owner were reunited, simply because the animal had a chip.



# ASK THE TAX COLLECTOR



By Michele Bukoveckas, Tax Collector

Dear T.C.: What is the difference between the tax year and the fiscal year?

Dear Tax Payer: The “**Tax Year**” is easy to understand as it’s really one day, April 1st of each year. Maine law refers to the tax year, but many other states call it the tax date. For this article I use the term “tax date”, as I think it is easier to understand. The tax date controls and is used for three primary reasons. 1. Sets the ownership date. 2. Sets the valuation date. 3. Sets the taxable status of property and if any exemptions apply.

Sebago’s “**Fiscal Year**” runs from July 1 to June 30. These dates are important for many reasons, but what is most concerning to property owners is: How much is my tax bill and how is it calculated? This is an example of how it works. 1. You own a home as of April 1, 2011 (ownership date). 2. The Assessor sets the value of your property at \$175,000 as of April 1, 2011

(the valuation date). 3. The property qualifies for a Home-  
stead Exemption (taxable status). The tax rate for Sebago was set at \$13.60 per thousand of valuation for the fiscal year of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

**Therefore:** \$175,000.00 minus \$10,000.00 (for the Home-  
stead Exemption) = \$165,000.00. Multiply by the tax rate of .01360 = \$2,244.00 in property tax for the fiscal year.

Property taxes in Sebago are billed in two installments. In terms of time periods of coverage, the first half bill covers occupancy from July 1–Dec 31, and the second half bill covers occupancy from Jan 1–June 30.

The due date(s) for Sebago property taxes are set each year at Town Meeting. Usually the due date(s) are the first Tuesday in November, and May of the following year: 1st half is due November 1, 2011 and the 2nd half is due May 1, 2012.



## RECREATION DEPARTMENT EVENTS



**BASKETBALL** - \$25 fee/\$40 max per family. Registration forms will be available at the Town Office in October.

**November 14th** - 3rd and 4th grade practices begin.

**November 28th** - 5th–6th grade practices begin.

**December 1st - YOUTH CLINIC** - will be held for **grades 3-6** at Lake Region Middle School, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Presented by Paul True and staff.

**December 1st - COACHES CLINIC** - Lake Region Middle School, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

**Mandatory Coaches Meeting** to follow 7:30-8:30 p.m.



**December 3rd - Mandatory Parent Meeting** - Lake Region High School, 10:00 a.m. **REFEREE CLINIC** - will be held immediately after the parent meeting. If you would like to be trained as a basketball referee, volunteers are always needed. Contact Corinnecdavis@yahoo.com if interested.



**TOWN HALLOWEEN PARTY** - Friday (“Fright Day”), Oct. 28th, 6:00-7:30 p.m. In past years the Sebago PTO and Lake Region High School National Honor Society volunteered to staff the party. The Bounce House has kindly been donated by Bridgton Hayes True Value. If you would like to help out with this party please contact Corinne Davis at (207) 595-8173.



**TOWN CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING** - This event will be held at the Sebago Elementary School. Watch our website for more details.



**ADULT SNOWSHOEING** - Get up, get out and move!! Great winter fun and it’s **FREE!** Residents of Sebago ages 18 years and older may borrow snowshoes from the Town’s Recreation Department. Contact Corinne at (207) 595-8173 if you wish to borrow a pair or two for an outing.



**LINE DANCING** - If you are 18 years or older and are interested in joining us for Line Dancing, contact Corinne at Corinnecdavis@yahoo.com

## DOUGLAS MOUNTAIN CLEAN-UP DAY SCHEDULED



A Douglas Mountain Clean-up Day is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 6th at 9:00 a.m. Anyone willing to help out is welcome to join other volunteers in lower parking lot area. Plan on bringing a “bag” lunch with you and any trail maintenance tools you may have.

**TOWN OF SEBAGO,**  
**MAINE**

406 Bridgton Rd.  
Sebago, ME. 04029

Phone: 207-787-2457  
Fax: 207-787-2760



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[www.townofsebago.org](http://www.townofsebago.org)

**MISSION STATEMENT**

To provide truthful, up-to-date, and educational information on how the community works, in order to provide the opportunity for making informed decisions while also enriching the lives of our citizens that want to live here, prosper, and raise their families.

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
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DENMARK, ME  
PERMIT #2

CARRIER ROUTE  
PRESORT POSTAL PATRON  
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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS**

(Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.)

October 14 & 18  
November 1 & 15  
December 6



**PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS**

(Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.)

October 11  
November 8  
December 13

**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

There are currently two (2) open positions for the Zoning Board of Appeals. If you are interested in

joining, contact Maureen Scanlon at the Town Office at 787-2457.



**ELECTION DAY**

Tuesday, November 8, 2011  
(Polls are open 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
at the Town Office Building.)



**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**



Sunday, November 6, 2011 at 2:00 a.m. daylight savings time ends in the United States (except Hawaii & Arizona). Don't forget to "FALL BEHIND" one hour.



**RECREATION DEPARTMENT EVENTS**

Check out page 3 for details on what is going on for the Recreation Department.



**RABIES CLINIC**

January 7, 2012 at the Town Hall Building from 10:00 a.m. till Noon. Shots cost \$8.00 each. Please bring the most recent rabies certificate to receive a 3 year shot, otherwise a 1 year shot will be administered.



**Dogs must be on a "non-retractable" leash and cats must be in a carrier.**



**WINTER SALT/SAND AVAILABLE FOR SEBAGO RESIDENTS**

Sebago residents and taxpayers may obtain salt/sand from the designated area in the lean-to building located in front of the Public Works Garage (and next to the EMS Bldg.) to use only on their own property located in the Town of Sebago. Contractors shall not obtain or use any town salt/sand for commercial purposes.

