



Sebago Happenings

Approved by the Board of Selectmen



SEBAGO BRANCH DUCKERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB UPDATE

By Judi Damsky Sneider, Club Membership & News Liaison

Today, I'm writing to let you know that, "Yes, we are back"! Why do we make this statement? What happened? How come we fell apart? Possible answers: Did our forefather's age out? Move on? Sell their sleds? Get tired of being the only one working? Did politics or personalities get involved? These all seem like perhaps, reasons, why our membership declined in the past. So, the next question is what do we do now? Dwell on the past and let Mother Nature close the trails, or work hard to preserve the legacy that has been entrusted to this living generation. The trails system is the HEART to many of the town's recreations. I'm sure the Town of Sebago does not want to be known as the **DO NOT GO/GO SLOW AREA** trouble part of the trails.

Let's make Sebago a destination.

This year we have been up and running since the summer with a rejuvenated team of energetic Bucks and Doe's eager to bring new ideas into the mix of the seasoned members. They have been out there attacking the problem areas with a vengeance by widening, re-routing, and placing signage in much needed

areas. Several new members are in the process of completing the coursework and testing for grooming certificates. This year the Maine Department of Conservation's Snowmobile Program is requiring all groomer operators to be certified in order for the Club to qualify for future Capital Equipment Grants. These are the grants the club applies for to be reimbursed for money spent on grooming equipment such as the motorized vehicles that pull the drags and the drags themselves. The DOC plans on auditing all Grant applications. We need to do this right in order to obtain the funding needed to open the trails, operate the equipment and pay for the groomer's insurance. This is a new added burden for the club, but it is a requirement.

We hope you realize that we **STILL NEED YOU** and **WANT YOU, past, present, and future members.** It is your knowledge, energy and equipment that builds the bridges and opens the trails. Remember, we are lucky enough to have the ITS89 in our back yards that leads us to infinity, gracious land owners who have allowed us to use their property, unbelievable

views from our peaks and mountains located throughout our trail system. Let this be the year we kick the season off into the next level of sporting around Sebago.

Here is a list of wants: Anyone that would like free outdoor exercise by working or playing with us. An asset that can be used to help improve the trails such as equipment, materials. Your waste could be our gain. In return, we will have an application waiting just for you. **(YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A SNOWMOBILE RIDER TO JOIN.)**

Club Meetings are held in the lower level of the old Sebago Town Hall building, on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Membership applications are available at the Town Office, or at our meetings; Trail Maps are available at Jordan's Store for a donation of \$3.00. We hope you will join us. Let's all ride responsibly.



HOURS OF OPERATION:

TOWN OFFICE

- Tuesdays - 10am - 7pm
- Wed., Thurs., Fri. 8am - 5pm

TRANSFER STATION

- Tues., Thurs., Sat., Sun. 7am - 5pm

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

- Tuesdays - 1pm - 3pm



INSIDE THIS WINTER - SPRING ISSUE:

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UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE P.W.D.

Submitted by Kirsten Ness,
Portland Water District

WINTER RECREATION SERIES:

PWD is planning monthly winter recreation events to be hosted January thru March, 2015 in the Sebago Lake watershed and PWD service area. Details are still being finalized, so please visit our website for more information in the coming weeks.

FMI: www.pwd.org or Like us on Facebook. Registration required. Call (207) 774-5961 ext. 3320 or sebagolake@pwd.org.



Friends of Portland Water District enjoying some winter recreation fun!

LITTLE LAKE STEWARDS STORYTIME:

The Portland Water District invites preschoolers to join them for inspiring and environmentally-themed stories, games, and crafts. All events are FREE and take place on Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Sebago Lake Ecology Center located at 1 White Rock Road in Standish. Snacks are provided. Donations are accepted and will support local loon preservation.



DATES & THEMES:

- January 23, 2015 - Winter Water!
- February 27, 2015 - Tracks in the Snow
- March 20, 2015 - Who's on the Move?
- April 17, 2015 - Herp Herp Hooray! (Vernal Pools)

Reservations are required.

Call (207) 774-5961 ext. 3319 or sebagolake@pwd.org.

**Don't forget to replace the batteries in your
smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!!**

In the hopes of reaching the moon men fail to see the flowers that blossom at their feet. - Albert Schweiter



CLERK'S CORNER

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOMINATION PAPERS - Will be available in the Clerk's Office during regular hours on March 3, 2015 for the following positions: 1 Selectman, Assessor, and Overseer of the Poor - 3 year term; 2 Budget Committee Members - 3 year term; 1 S.A.D. #61 School Board Member - 3 year term; 1 Potter Trustees Committee Member - 7 year term; 1 Sebago Cemetery Committee Member - 5 year term. Deadline for filing is Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 5:00 pm. You will need to collect no less than 25 signatures but no more than 35. Contact Town Clerk, Michele Bukoveckas at 787-2457 for questions.

- May 5th - The 2nd half of the 2014 Property Taxes are due.** Interest starts accruing on any unpaid balances on May 6th.
- May 12th @ 6:30 pm.** - District Budget Meeting at Lake Region High School
- May 26th (8:00 am. to 8:00 pm.)** - Budget Validation Referendum & Town Elections at the Town Office Building
- June 6th @ 9:00 am.** - Annual Town Meeting at the "Old Town Hall" Building.



REC. DEPT. ITEMS

SNOWSHOES AVAILABLE FOR FREE USE - If you are at least 18 years old and enjoy the outdoors, this activity is designed for you. This is something that can be enjoyed on your own or with a friend or two. Snowshoes are available, free of charge, by contacting Corinne Davis at 595-8173 or at Corinnedavis@yahoo.com if you'd like to use a pair or two.



EASTER EGG HUNT - This year's Easter Egg Hunt will be held at Sebago Elementary School on Saturday, April 4th starting at 9:00 am. Bring your baskets and see how many eggs you can collect!



FROM THE DOGHOUSE



2015 DOG LICENSES - All dogs six months or older must be licensed by the end of the calendar year.

This is a State of Maine mandated requirement for all dog owners. To license a dog, a **current State of Maine Rabies Certificate** must be presented. The fee for neutered/spayed dogs is \$6.00; unneutered/unsprayed is \$11.00. Although the mandate requires all dogs be licensed by the end of the calendar year, the State does allow a “grace period” which ends January 31st. A late fee of \$25.00 per dog will be charged as of February 1st. So, we are taking this opportunity to remind you that if you haven’t licensed your dog for 2015, don’t forget to do it before February 1st. If you no longer have a dog, please notify our office at 787-2457 so we can update our records.

PET FRIENDLY RAFFLE - Last year for the first time, we were able to encourage folks to license their dogs before the “late fee” was implemented on February 1st by offering free raffle tickets for each dog licensed for a chance to win a “Pet Friendly” gift basket and gift certificate that was donated from Wizard of Paws in Bridgton. This was a great success and we are happy to report that our friend Carol



Reynolds at Wizard of Paws has graciously donated another pet friendly basket valued at \$100.00 towards this worthy cause. Here is a list of what she has included in this year’s basket: (One each) - 5 lb. bag of Live Free premium grain free dog food, Kong floating retriever toy, JW rubber frog toy, Hot Chocolate shampoo, Charlee Bear turkey/cranberry treats, denim leash, rubber ice cream cone toy, Greenies for cats, Assorted cat toys and a certificate for a free nail trim. In addition to this pet friendly basket we are also raffling two Pet Odor Exterminator Candles that have been generously donated from Dr. Mark Beever and his wonderful staff at Sacopee Veterinary Clinic. We’ve got an Orange Lemon Splash and a Cinnamon Apple scented candle and they both smell marvelous.... So, come on down to the Town Office to license your dog(s) and take a free chance to win a special prize.



ANNUAL RABIES CLINIC - If your dog needs a new rabies vaccination before you can obtain a 2015 license, we will be holding the **Annual Rabies Clinic** at the “Old Town Hall” building on January 31st from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. This clinic is limited to cats and dogs only; no puppies or kittens please. Cats must be



in carriers, and dogs must be on a non-retractable leash. The veterinarian also requests no sick or pregnant animals. The cost is \$10.00 per animal. **Please bring the most recent rabies certificate to receive a 3 year shot, otherwise a 1 year shot will be administered.**



Since the Rabies Clinic is being held on the last day before the “dog licensing late fee” will be charged, someone will be present at the clinic to license dogs that reside in Sebago. Although the clinic is open to anyone that needs this service, we can only license dogs that reside in Sebago. If you live in another town, you will have to make arrangements to license your dog in your town.



HOW TO CONTACT THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER - If you encounter a situation that requires the assistance of Sebago’s Animal Control Officer, Jacquie Frye, please contact the Standish Dispatch Office at 642-4343. They will page Jacquie and have her return your call.



“Pets are not our whole lives, they make our lives whole.” - Roger Caras



A SUCCESSFUL “FREEZING FOR HEATING” POLAR DIP

On behalf of the Fuel Fund, I want to thank everyone for their donations and participation in the First Annual Polar Dip this past November. The Polar Dip brought in over \$2,500. This could not have happened without everyone’s help. The girls at the Town Office deserve a lot of credit for putting this together. Michele and Maureen both received gift certificates. Michele’s was for raising the most money and Maureen’s for the best outfit. Both Michele and Maureen collected over \$700 each. Donna deserves credit for all her hard work organizing the event. We had seven participants, the temperature was 38 degrees, the sun was shining bright and the turn out of people to watch was fantastic. Again, thank you all, Edie Harnden, Selectman/General Assistance Administrator





Town of Sebago, Maine

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"Sebago Happenings"
on-line.



Every Season is fun in
Sebago, Maine!!

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
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CARRIER ROUTE
PRESORT POSTAL PATRON
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS

(Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.)

January 6
February 3
March 3 & 17
April 7 & 21



PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

(Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.)



January 13
February 10
March 10
April 14

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. As always, your safety is our concern!



SPRING AHEAD!

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 8, 2015

ASSESSORS FIELD WORK

Just a reminder that every spring the Town of Sebago starts conducting it's yearly assessing of resident properties. Employees from John O'Donnell & Associates have permission from the Town of Sebago to assess properties in the Town. **If you have any questions or concerns, please call 787-2457.**



WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.TOWNOFSEBAGO.ORG