



# Sebago Happenings

Volume 4, Issue 1 WINTER 2012 - Jan., Feb., March

## PROPOSED FIRE AND RESCUE BUILDING

Town of Sebago,  
Maine

Approved by the  
Board of Selectmen

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### HOURS OF OPERATION

#### Town Office

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

#### Transfer Station

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

#### General Assistance

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

By Allen Crabtree, Selectman

The Town of Sebago is fortunate to have a dedicated core of volunteers who respond at all hours of the day and night, in all seasons and weather conditions, to help protect the lives and property of our citizens. The members of the Sebago Fire Department and the Sebago Emergency Medical Service devote countless hours every year to hone their technical skills and respond to medical emergencies, house fires, vehicle accidents, water and ice rescues, and a host of other emergencies.



Sebago has four stations where essential public safety apparatus is housed, but some stations are aging and expensive to maintain and heat. The oldest, Station 2 in East Sebago (initial building 1947), is in serious need of major renovation. Stopgap measures to patch and repair the older stations are not cost effective.

Since 1996 the town has been struggling with how to maintain the effectiveness of



the fire and rescue response to protect the town while reducing operating costs at these stations. A number of different recommendations have been presented at town meetings over the years.

A Fire and Rescue Task Force appointed by the Sebago Board of Selectmen is proposing that the town build a new fire and rescue building that would allow consolidating fire and rescue apparatus from three of the four stations into one facility. This would reduce operating costs and response time, and would allow closing Station 2 and converting Station 3 (North Sebago) and the Rescue building to other needed town functions.

This new fire and rescue building would be located at the sandpit north of East Sebago on Route 114. At the June 2011 Town Meeting Sebago voters approved purchasing a 2-acre site there and doing site development with funds already saved. Preliminary design work and site plan engineering has

been done, and bids will be sought for the site development soon.



Voters will be asked to approve financing for construction of the new building, estimated at \$878,039. The town proposes to finance this with a 15-year bond at about 2.6%. The annual net cost of the new building would be \$51,768/year for 15 years, or a mil rate increase of 14.82¢/year. This would represent an increase in taxes for a \$200,000 home of \$29.64/year for 15 years.

Three public hearings held this year presented the proposed new building to the voters. Meetings of the Task Force are open to the public and the schedule is posted on the town website calendar. Voters are urged to become familiar with the proposal, and will be asked to vote on the new building at a referendum sometime in 2012.



Background information is posted on the town website at: [http://www.townofsebago.org/Pages/SebagoME\\_FireTFMin/](http://www.townofsebago.org/Pages/SebagoME_FireTFMin/)



# From the Doghouse



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

Dear Friends - As most of you know, we have a cat problem. It's not just in Sebago, the issue is statewide. I'm sure most of you reading this know of at least one cat that roams freely, that no one claims but simply produces more offspring. We are going to address the issue and we need your help.

Along with Harvest Hills Animal Shelter,

we are forming a group similar to Friends of Feral Felines to address the issue of "Free Roaming" cats, both feral and domestic. FOFF uses the TNR (Trap Neuter Release) approach. Harvest Hills Animal Shelter (HHAS) is contracted with 19 towns and all ACOs are on board. Cats are a huge drain on the system and if we don't take a proactive approach, we will be faced with a crisis. These cats are also faced with many dangers, such as disease, vehicles, predators and weather, just to name a few.

This mission will require the help of all community members. If you are interested in helping, we will be holding meetings on a regular basis and you're invited. Please contact me at 642-4343 for more information on the many ways you can help, and the details on where and when our next meeting will be held.



**WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN ALL  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

## Contact Information for Shorefront Property Work

By Kirsten Ness  
Water Resources Specialist  
Portland Water District



If you live on a lake, river, or stream, you may or may not know that there are laws regarding projects such as new buildings, cutting trees, constructing driveways, etc. This article will focus on regulations relating specifically to lakes.

When you are considering work on your lake front property on Sebago Lake, there are three main organizations to contact depending on the type of work and the distance from the lake of a project: the town's Code Enforcement Officer (CEO), the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the Portland Water District (PWD).

### Projects within 250 feet of Sebago Lake:

The town enforces Shoreland Zoning laws, which govern the land from the normal high water line of Sebago Lake to 250 ft. inland.

### Projects within 75 feet of Sebago Lake:

The Maine DEP regulates projects involving soil disturbance from the normal high water line of the lake to 75 ft. inland under the Natural Resources Protection Act.

### New and Replacement Septic Systems within 200 feet of Sebago Lake:

Permits are required from the town and Portland Water District for new and replacement septic systems within 200 ft. of Sebago Lake.



### If you need help...call PWD!

PWD also provides help to homeowners in navigating the Shoreland Zoning Act and Natural Resources Protection Act. PWD works with the towns around Sebago Lake and with the DEP. We are certified in Shoreland Zoning and as Local Plumbing Inspectors through the State Planning Office. We are also trained in erosion and sedimentation control for construction projects. If you have a question about a project you would like to do on your shorefront, please call PWD and we will be happy to explain the types of permits you will need and explain whether you will need to follow up with the town's CEO or the DEP or both. For further information, I can be reached at [kness@pwd.org](mailto:kness@pwd.org) or 774-5961 ext. 3336.



## MAILBOXES BEWARE!



Often the question arises as to who is responsible for any damage to mailboxes during snow removal. The Town is not responsible for any damage to mailboxes being hit by the plow trucks. The reason is that mailboxes are usually placed in the Town or State right-of-ways. The bottom of mailboxes must be set approximately 54" from ground level to allow a plow wing attachment to pass under it. The upright mailbox post should be set back from the edge of pavement at least 24" with a horizontal support extending outward to allow a mail delivery vehicle to keep its tires on the pavement and still be able to reach the mailbox door. When the mailbox door is in the open position (tilted down), the outer most edge of the door should be plumb with the edge of the pavement.

# SEBAGO BRANCH DUCKERS UPDATE



By Carl Dolloff, President  
Sebago Branch Duckers



Greetings Fellow Snow Lovers, Well, another Maine winter is here again, and its time to think about snowmobiling. As we embark on another winter season in Sebago, Maine the Sebago Branch Duckers would like to extend our welcome to new members that would like to join our club here in town. With each passing year our club has grown and has obtained better equipment to maintain our riding trails. We currently groom approximately 25 to 30 miles of trails. The club owns two SUV vehicles on tracks. Club Member Jim Snow also purchased his own SUV on tracks in order to give the club an extra helping hand. Each of these vehicles tows a drag that is 7 ft. wide by 16 ft. long behind them throughout the countless hours of the night. A lot of volunteer hard work goes on out there to provide excellent trails for our riders. However,

each year we have less help and the maintenance work seems to fall to only a handful of individuals. With so few people helping, the trail work becomes an overwhelming job. So few hands can only keep up with small maintenance jobs on the trails. We also have not had many volunteers helping out with fundraisers for our club. Fundraisers are needed to keep a cash flow coming in to be able to provide fuel for the equipment, and maintain them, lumbers for the bridges and last but not least pay for the costly insurance for our groomers, it all adds up. With all of this having been said, our club needs your help to keep the ball moving. Few hands make heavy work, many hands make light work and a more enjoyable club. Our club meetings are held at the Sebago Town Hall.

The dates for the 2012 season are:

**Club Meeting** - Sat., Jan. 28 - 7:00 p.m.

**Poker Rally** - Sat., Feb. 4. Sign-up at the Sebago Town Hall from 8:00 a.m. till 2:00 p.m., coffee and refreshments will be available.

**Club Meeting** - Sat., Feb. 25 - 7:00 p.m.

**Club Meeting** - Sat., March 24 - 7:00 p.m.

**Club Meeting** - Sat., April 28 - 7:00 p.m.

Membership applications are available at the Town Office. Please feel free to give me a call at 787-3732 if your interested in joining our club and visit our website at [www.sebagobranchduckers.com](http://www.sebagobranchduckers.com). The 2012 Trail Maps will be available for a donation of \$3.00 at Jordan's Store here in Sebago and at the Town Office. We thank you for your consideration and appreciate any support you give to the Sebago Branch Duckers Snowmobile Club.

Remember to ride safe, ride sober, and most of all stay to the right at all times and respect land owners.

**PLEASE JOIN, IT'S LOTS OF FUN!**



**2012 DOG LICENSES:** Dog licenses for 2012 are currently 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.

**ASSESSORS FIELD WORK:** The Town of Sebago will be conducting it's yearly assessing of resident properties earlier than normal this year, starting in the early spring. Employees from John O'Donnell & Associates have permission from the Town to assess properties in the town. **If you have any questions or concerns, please call 787-2457.**



## EMERGENCY RESPONDERS NEED YOUR HELP IN AN EMERGENCY!

By Cindy Wilson, EMT-P

Some people think that in an emergency the only thing you have to do is call 911, but there are several things you can do to help us, help you.

When you dial 911—be prepared to give your address (including the town) and

the phone number where you are located.

Be sure that your house has your address numbers in a visible spot. There will be a delay if we have to ride up and down your road looking for the address.



Have a light on so that we can see the numbers, or flash the outside lights on/off if it is a dark road, have someone wave us down with a flashlight, and have someone waiting for the emergency responders to guide us in.

Put animals in another room, clear a pathway, and have medical information readily accessible.

# Town of Sebago

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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  
PAID  
DENMARK, ME  
PERMIT #2

CARRIER ROUTE  
PRESORT POSTAL PATRON  
ECRWSS



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR



### BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETINGS

(Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.)

January 3  
February 7  
March 6



(Dates are subject to change.)

### PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

(Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.)



January 10  
February 14  
March 13

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

There is still one (1) open position for the Zoning Board of Appeals. If you are interested in joining, contact Maureen Scanlon at the Town Office at 787-2457.



### 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.**

Perhaps you'd rather go snowshoeing.

If you are at least 18 years old and enjoy the outdoors, this activity is designed for you. Snowshoes are available, free of charge, for your use. If you are interested in using a pair or two, contact

Corinne Davis at 595-8173.



### 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.



### RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Just because it is cold outside doesn't mean there is nothing to do in Sebago. Let's get off the couch and get motivated for a few hours and go Ice Skating at the Outdoor Ice

Rink located at the Ball Field Complex behind the Elementary School. This is open to the public during January and February.

